



Agenda Report

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Date: June 9, 1989

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Cultural Heritage Landmarks - Approval of

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors authorize the Chairman to execute declarations designating the following three properties as Pasadena Cultural Heritage Landmarks:

1. 1 Mayview Lane
2. 750 North Fair Oaks Avenue
3. 1757 North Lake Avenue (Westminster Presbyterian Church)

BACKGROUND:

Under the Cultural Heritage Ordinance, all landmark applications are reviewed by the Cultural Heritage Commission prior to submission to the Board of Directors for designation. The Cultural Heritage Commission has reviewed the following applications and has unanimously found all three properties to meet landmark criteria as described in Section 2.75.130 of the P.M.C.

1. This 1909 Craftsman house (1 Mayview Lane) is one of the finest remaining examples of Craftsman architecture within its neighborhood setting. It is the work of designer Benjamin Marshall Wotkyns, who played an important role in the early development of the city. The building meets landmark criteria sections A, D and E. (Public hearing 4/5/88.)
2. The Decker House, 750 North Fair Oaks Avenue, meets landmark criteria sections A, D, E and I as one of only a few remaining 19th century residences along North Fair Oaks. Built in 1892, this two-and-a-half story Victorian with a wrap-around porch is significant in the history of the City for its overall character and value as an architectural resource. (Public hearing 10/4/88.)
3. Westminster Presbyterian Church, built in 1928, was designed by the well-known firm of Marston and Maybury and is important in both local and state history. It

MEETING OF 6/27/89

AGENDA ITEM NO. VI-B-6

301-1

is an outstanding example of Gothic Revival church design and architectural quality, and is a visual landmark because of its 150-foot belltower. It meets landmark criteria sections A, B, C, D, F, G and I. (Hearing 4/5/88)

All three of these applications are from the Northwest, fulfilling a commitment in the Northwest Plan to increase landmark designation in that area.

Consent letters from the property owners accompany the landmark applications.


FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no impact on the General Fund.

HOUSING IMPACT:

There will be no impact on housing.

Respectfully submitted,



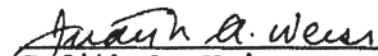
for DONALD F. MCINTYRE
City Manager

Prepared by:



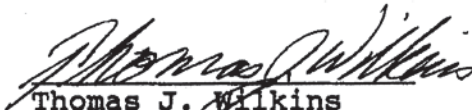
Ann Scheid, Senior Planner

Concur:



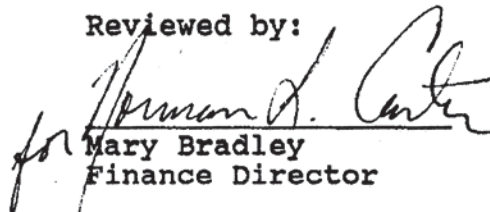
Judith A. Weiss
Assistant City Manager

Approved:



Thomas J. Wilkins
Acting Principal Planner

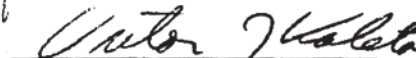
Reviewed by:



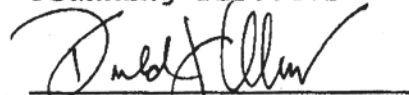
Mary Bradley
Finance Director



Anne F. Odell
Planning Director



Victor Kaleta
City Attorney



for Donald H. Nollar
Director, Planning, Housing
and Development Services Department

Urban Development Company



Thomas D. Scott
Chief Executive Officer
(818) 793-6343

750 N. Fair Oaks Avenue
Brenner Park
Pasadena, California 91103

December 16, 1987

Linda Dishman, Senior Planner
Urban Conservation Department
100 N. Garfield Avenue
P.O. Box 7115
Pasadena, CA 91109-7215

Dear Ms. Dishman:

I am interested in applying for "Landmark Status" for the Victorian house I own at 750 N. Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena. I would appreciate your providing whatever application forms or information is necessary to complete this process.

Respectfully,

Thomas D. Scott
Thomas D. Scott

TDS:sis

Commercial & Residential Real Estate Investors

City of Pasadena Cultural Heritage Landmark Application

Identification Data:

1. Name of Property: Decker House
 2. Address: 750 North Fair Oaks Avenue
 3. Construction Date: 1892; 1959-Hamburger stand added, front yard
 4. Architect / Designer: None
 5. Builder: Richard Woods
Thomas Scott
 6. Present Ownership — Name: 750 North Fair Oaks Avenue
Address: Urban Conservation office staff
 7. Form Prepared By — Name:
Address:
Phone Number:
-

Significance

Explain the significance of the structure utilizing the Landmark criteria
(Section 2.46.060 of the Pasadena Municipal Code)

The Decker House meets the Cultural Heritage Landmark criteria contained in Section 2.46.060 of the Pasadena Municipal Code. It is significant in the history of the city for its overall character and value as an architectural resource (Section A); its exemplification of a particular architectural style and way of life important to the city (Section D); as one of the best remaining examples of a particular architectural style within its neighborhood context (Section E), and for its massing, and beauty of its Queen Anne details, which make it a noteworthy visual feature within its neighborhood (Section I).

Built in 1892, the Decker House is one of only a few remaining nineteenth century residences along North Fair Oaks, a street which is both in a City redevelopment area, and zoned for general industrial uses, where new construction has largely supplanted the original middle class residential buildings that lined the street before and after the turn of the century.

Cultural Heritage Landmark Application, Page 2

Description

Describe the present appearance including alterations, landscaping, and relationship to surroundings.

The Decker House is a two-and-a-half story Victorian design, of frame construction, with both shiplap (first and second floors) and shingle cladding (attic gables). It sits atop high brick and concrete foundations, is asymmetrically-organized both in plan and elevation, and is surmounted by a steeply-pitched hipped roof with front and side-facing gabled sections. A key identifying feature is a large wrap-around porch which extends across the entire front facade and a portion of the south facade. The porch has a fake mansard roof (clad with fishscale shingles), and features narrow turned wood Queen Anne-Style posts (with bracketed capitals), a frieze of closely-spaced vertical stickwork, and a simple stickwork balustrade. The porch is reached by concrete (replacement) steps from both the front and south side of the house paired at the southwest corner of the building. Other identifying features include paired and solitary double-hung sash (plain trim), and the attic gable treatment, with its alternating bands of sawtooth and fishscale shingles, and 32-light sash. A fast food stand was built at the front of the lot (1959), and
(See continuation)

Historical Background

Document the history of the structure through previous owners, uses, and associations.

The historical importance of the Decker House is suggested by a notice found in the Pasadena Evening Star, on October 15, 1892, indicating that Richard Wood was then in the process of building a "fine ten room house," and that its construction reflected a residential building trend of the period.

Frank and Anna Decker resided here between 1902 and 1935, and Anna Decker alone between 1935 and 1937. Frank Decker was clerk for the G.W. Witherell Billiard Hall before opening his own cigar shop at 39 East Colorado in 1910. In his book, Pasadena - Historical and Personal, J.W. Wood also mentions Frank Decker as being a talented member of the first baseball team organized in Pasadena (1882).

Bibliography

List major sources of information.

Pasadena Evening Star, October 15, 1892.
Pasadena City Directories, 1900-1940.
Tax Assessment Records, 1892-95.
J.W. Wood, Pasadena - Historical and Personal.

Cultural Heritage Landmark Application Continuation Sheet

DESCRIPTION -- Continued

porch access redesigned, but otherwise, the property retains its design integrity.

