



October 28, 2019

**2019 OCT 28 PM 12: 39**

Pasadena City Council  
City of Pasadena  
100 North Garfield Avenue  
Pasadena, California 91101

**CITY CLERK  
CITY OF PASADENA**

RE: Designation of Landmarks  
873 N. Hill Ave. & 180 S. San Rafael Ave.

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council:

Pasadena Heritage appreciates the thorough staff reports prepared by Planning Staff and recommends that the City Council approve both designations of the properties at 873 North Hill Avenue & 180 South San Rafael Avenues as landmarks. We were happy to have taken part in site visits when the properties were being considered by the Historic Preservation Commission, and can attest to the quality and significance of each building. The following letter is reflective of the opinions we expressed during the Commission process.

Both houses tonight exemplify Pasadena's rich architectural heritage. The first, a 1913 Colonial Revival by renowned Pasadena architect Sylvanus Marston, is an obvious landmark due to its architectural pedigree. Marston is one of Pasadena's most important local architects, and this house exudes the care and detail he put into his designs. The garage is so thoughtfully executed that it might even have been eligible in its own right. The second property is yet another excellent example of Mid-century Modern architecture designed in the "Pasadena Style" or "USC Style" Modernism. Built in 1959 by Smith and Williams, the house is light, airy and elegant. It balances Eastern and Western design languages, and the relationship between inside and outside in an exquisite composition. It is certainly a stellar example of post-and-beam construction.

We would like to commend the homeowners for their decision to designate the properties as landmarks. Both homes were recent purchases, and yet the homeowners quickly pursued landmarking to recognize their commitment to preservation. It is the continual preservation process in Pasadena that makes our city unique, and we are excited to see two new homes added. For these reasons, Pasadena Heritage wholeheartedly supports the landmarking of 873 North Hill Avenue & 180 South San Rafael Avenues and would like to thank you for your commitment to protecting historic places.

Sincerely yours,

Susan N. Mossman  
Executive Director

Andrew Salimian  
Preservation Director

CC: Mark Jomsky, City of Pasadena  
Amanda Landry, City of Pasadena  
Rodrigo Pelayo, City of Pasadena

**10/28/2019  
Items 13 & 14**