



Planning & Community Development Department

180 South San Rafael Avenue Application for Landmark Designation

City Council Meeting
October 28, 2019





180 South San Rafael Avenue

Planning & Community Development Department





Project Summary

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- Built in 1958
- Designed by locally significant architects Whitney Smith and Wayne Williams
- Original and Current Use as a single-family residence
- Nomination submitted by current owner
- Qualifies for Landmark under criterion C
 - > Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a locally significant Mid-Century Modern style
 - > Additionally, the property is a Significant work of Smith and Williams
- Historic Preservation Commission recommended approval of the designation at the August 20, 2019 meeting.



Recommendation & Effects

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- HPC and staff recommendation: Approve designation of 180 South San Rafael as a Landmark
- Effects of historic designation:
 - > Future protection of exterior features from inappropriate alteration or demolition
 - > Eligible to apply for Historic Property Contract (Mills Act)
 - > Eligible to use State Historical Building Code
 - > Potential variances from current Zoning requirements



Historical Overview

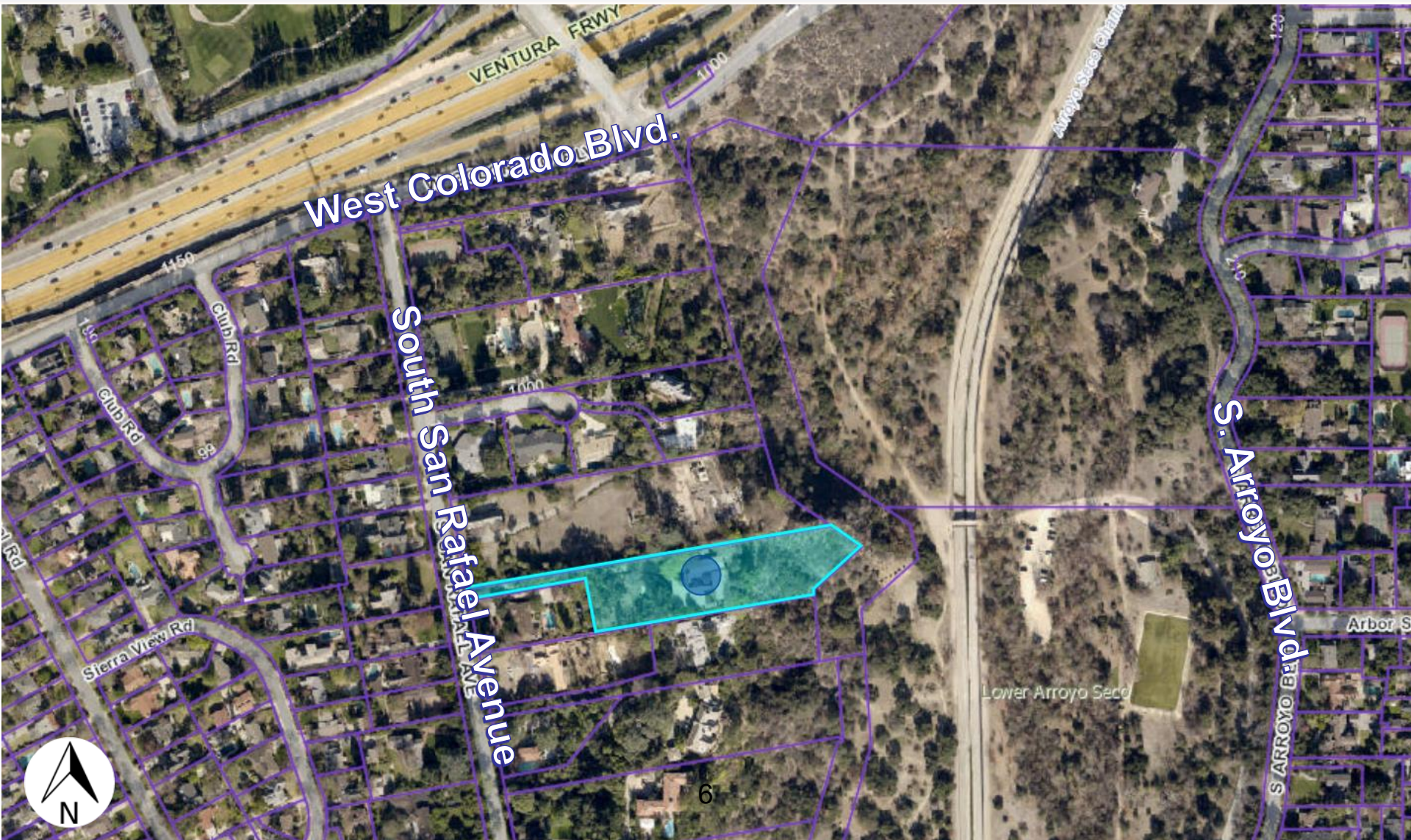
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- **Represents Context of Cultural Resources of the Recent Past**
 - > Period of Significance: 1935-1965
 - > Minimalist in designs stressed functionalism and were devoid of regional characteristics and nonessential decorative elements
 - > Pasadena modernism reflects Arts & Crafts period influence in materials
- **Pasadena Style & USC School of Architecture**
 - > Impact on the built environment of Pasadena in Post-War era
 - > Buff, Straub & Hensman
 - > Smith & Williams
 - > Ladd & Kelsey
- **Mid-Century Modern Style**
 - > One or two-story configuration
 - > Simple geometric forms
 - > Expressed post-and-beam construction, in wood or steel
 - > Unadorned wall surfaces
 - > Exterior panels of wood, stucco, brick or stone
 - > Flush-mounted metal frame full-height and clerestory windows
 - > Exterior decks and patios
 - > Little or no exterior decorative detailing
 - > Flat roof with wide overhanging eaves and cantilevered canopies



Project Location and Adjacencies

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West Elevation (Current)

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West Elevation

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West Elevation (Details)

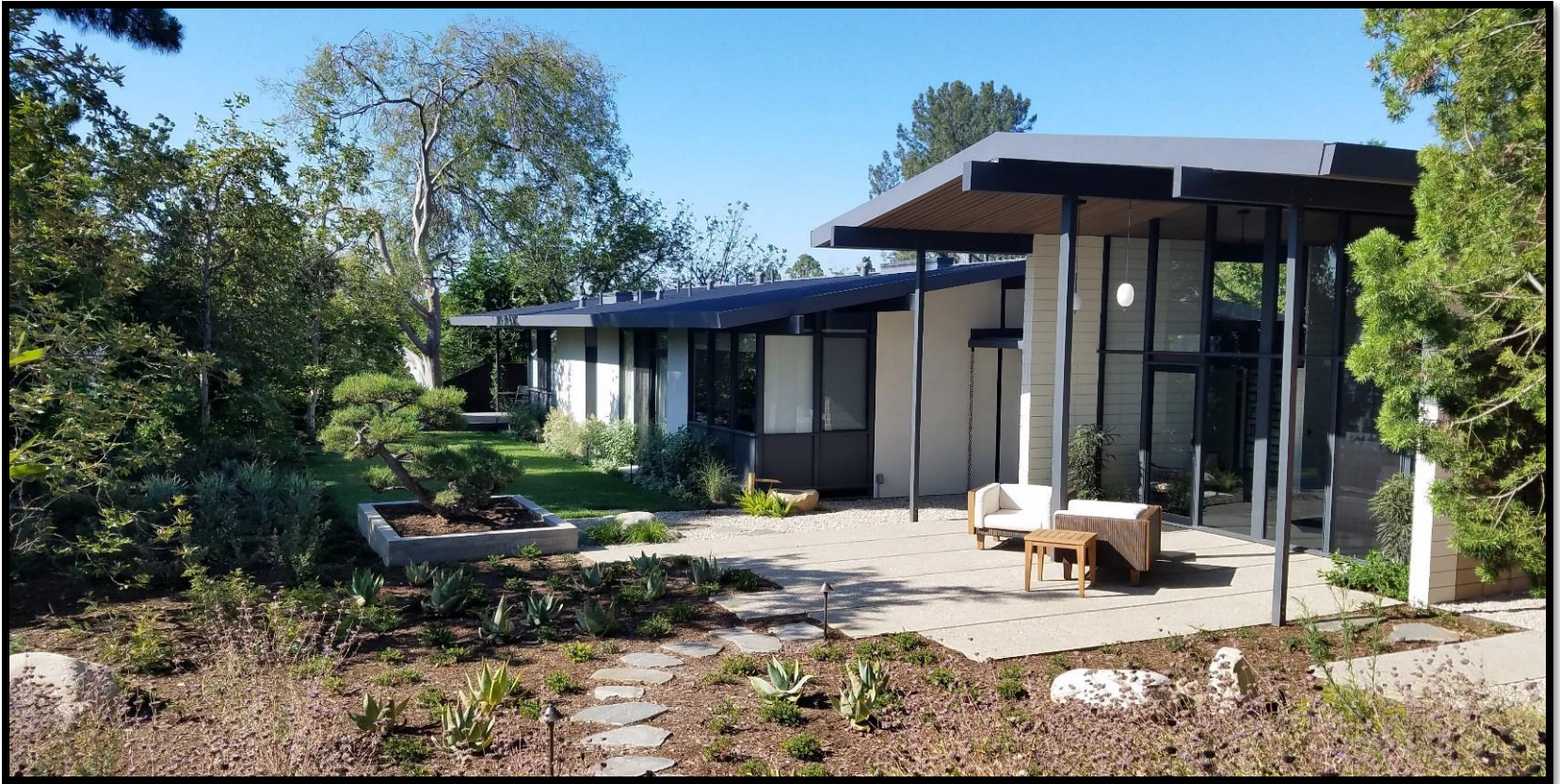
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East Elevation

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East Elevation

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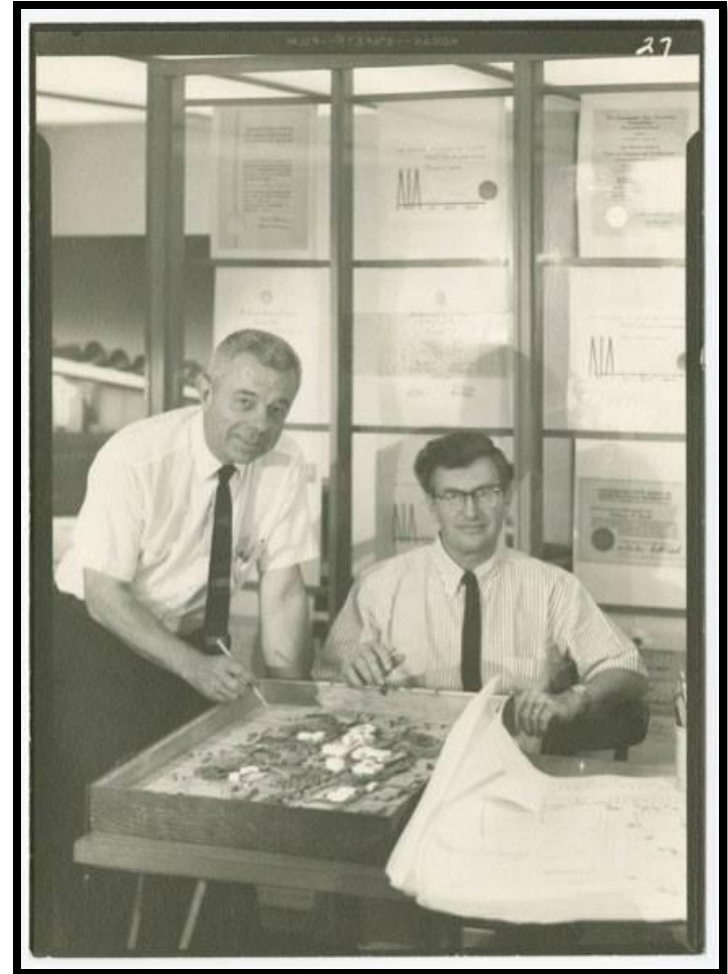


Smith and Williams, Architects

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Whitney Smith and Wayne Williams

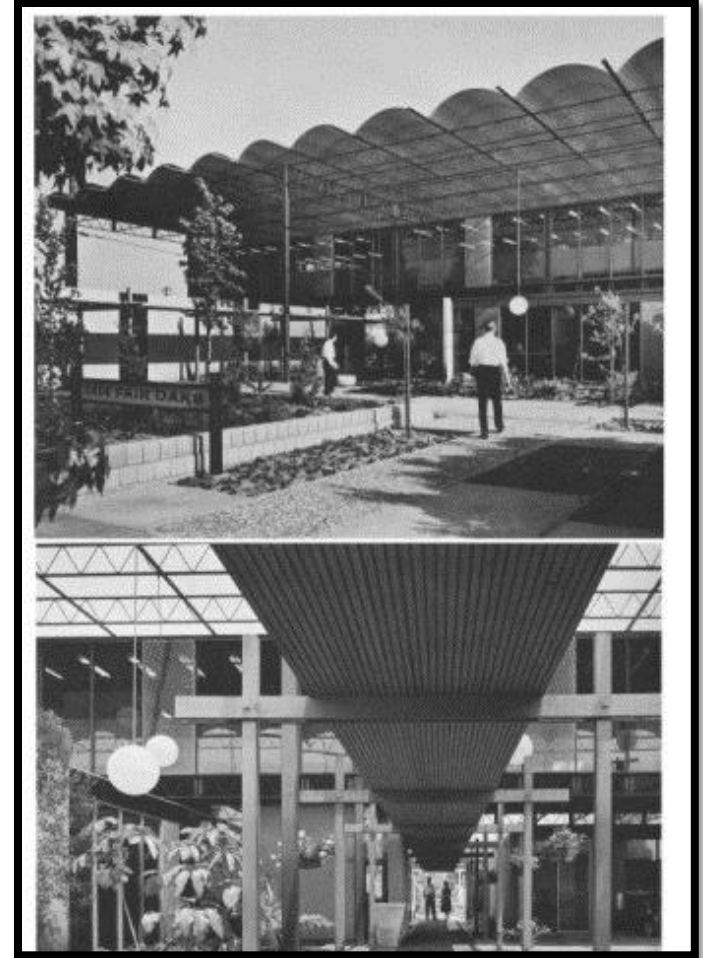
- > USC School
- > Prolific in region
- > Community Facilities Planners Building at 1414 S. Fair Oaks is listed by the Southern California Chapter of the AIA as one of the most significant examples of Los Angeles architecture constructed between 1947 and 1967.





Smith and Williams – Notable Works

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PASADENA



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