



November 30, 2006

Cynthia Howse
State Office of Historic Preservation
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, CA

Re: Old Pasadena National Register District

Dear Cynthia:

Enclosed please find an amended National Register application for the Old Pasadena Historic District. The application is being submitted on behalf of the City of Pasadena. Since the district was listed in 1983, it has undergone a renaissance, which has involved a variety of changes. The purpose of the amended application is to address those changes, which include the demolition of contributing as well as noncontributing buildings, the construction of new noncontributing buildings, the addition of new contributing buildings, adjustments to the boundaries, and the expansion of the period of significance. Finally, many of the contributing buildings have been rehabilitated according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, which have been adopted by the City. Pursuant to our discussion, rather than revising the old application in a piecemeal fashion, I have prepared a new fresh application. The new application borrows much of the text for the statement of significance and descriptions directly from the old application. Where necessary or appropriate; however, the text was expanded and updated based upon additional research. Following is a summary of the changes that have occurred:

Eleven of the original contributing buildings have been demolished. They include:

41 South Delacey
101 South Fair Oaks
251 South Fair Oaks
255 South Fair Oaks
85 West Green
135 West Green
26 South Pasadena
195 North Raymond
130 South Raymond
24 East Union
40 West Union

Four of the original noncontributing buildings have been demolished. They include:

25-27 West Colorado
86-90 West Colorado
77 South Fair Oaks
20 West Green

Two buildings on the edge of the old boundary have been picked up as new contributors: 80 West Dayton, 108-112 South Delacey and 330 South Fair Oaks. Both were constructed during the period of significance, reflect the historic context, and retain their physical integrity. In addition, the boundaries have been adjusted to exclude noncontributing buildings on the edge of the district.

Although the boundaries have been adjusted only slightly, there are now more resources in the district for two reasons. First, the old application sometimes counted multiple side-by-side buildings as one building with a range of addresses. For example, two buildings at 165-175 were counted as one building, but are now counted as two at 165 and 175. Another example is 33-45 South Fair Oaks. These three buildings were originally counted as one noncontributing building. They are now counted as two noncontributing buildings (33-35 and 43-47) and one contributing building (37-39). Second, about twenty noncontributing buildings have been constructed within the district, mostly on vacant and surface parking lots that were identified in the old application. There are now very few surface parking lots remaining in the district.

The period of significance for the district originally extended to 1930, although there were several buildings constructed after that date that were included as contributors: the Santa Fe Train Station at 222 South Raymond (1936), the Armory at 145 North Raymond (1932), the Pasadena Labor Temple at 42 East Walnut (1932), the commercial building at 161 West Colorado (1903/1936), and Jake's Diner at 40 West Colorado (1947). The 1936 Boston Building at 35-39 North Raymond; however, was identified as a noncontributing building. The period of significance has been expanded to 1936, to actually reflect the buildings included in the original application. Furthermore, the Boston Building has been changed from a noncontributing to a contributing building based upon a fine rehabilitation in 2005. Jake's Diner has been changed from a contributing to a noncontributing building based upon a large addition made in 1991, as well as the fact that it still post-dates the period of significance.

It is my understanding that the State Historic Resources Commission at their next available meeting will review the application and that all of the property owners need to be noticed. As such, I am providing you with the names and addresses of the property owners on four sets of labels.

If you have any questions regarding the application, do not hesitate to contact me at 323-221-0942. Emily Stadnicki, the planner for the City of Pasadena with whom I have been working on the application can be reached at 626-744-4343.

Sincerely,

Teresa Grimes
Senior Architectural Historian