

Rodriguez, Jane

From: Bruckner, Richard
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2008 4:30 PM
To: Cronin, Jeff; Johnson, Kevin; Clark, Erin; Rodriguez, Jane
Subject: FW: Pasadena Heritage letter regarding the Glenarm Steam Plant nomination
Attachments: glenarm letter to council.pdf

From: Christine Lazzaretto [mailto:christine@pasadenaheritage.org]
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2008 3:35 PM
To: Bogaard, Bill; Robinson, Jacque; McAustin, Margaret; Holden, Chris; Haderlein, Steve; Gordo, Victor; Madison, Steve; Tyler, Sid
Cc: richard.koshalek@artcenter.edu; patricia.oliver@artcenter.edu; george.falardeau@artcenter.edu; pperry@allenmatkins.com; Bruckner, Richard; smossman@pasadenaheritage.org
Subject: Pasadena Heritage letter regarding the Glenarm Steam Plant nomination

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Councilmembers:

Please find attached a letter from Pasadena Heritage regarding the historic monument nomination for the Glenarm Steam Plant, which I am forwarding to you on behalf of Sue Mossman.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine Lazzaretto
Preservation Director
Pasadena Heritage
626-441-6333 x17
Saving our Past for the Future

No virus found in this outgoing message.

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Version: 7.5.516 / Virus Database: 269.19.1/1219 - Release Date: 1/11/2008 10:19 AM

01/14/2008

Item 6.B. 7:30 P.M.

1/14/2008

751 South Saint John Avenue
Pasadena, California 91105-2918
Telephone: 626-441-6343
Facsimile: 626-441-9977

P A S A D E N A H E R I T A G E

Mayor Bogaard and Members of the City Council
City of Pasadena
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, California 91109

Re: Glenarm Steam Plant Historic Monument Nomination

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Members of the City Council:



On behalf of Pasadena Heritage, I am writing to respectfully request your support for the designation of the Glenarm Steam Plant as a Pasadena Historic Monument. We greatly appreciate your recent support for our landmark nominations for three other PWP facilities, and are pleased to bring this nomination forward with the unanimous support of the Preservation Commission.

The Glenarm Steam Plant facility that qualifies for Historic Monument status includes the 1928 building with its 1932 addition, both of which are remarkably intact and stand proudly at the southern border of the city. The electric fountain, constructed in 1938 as an innovative cooling system for the building, is also included as an important and extant historic feature. Because of the significance of this building to the City's history, and the importance of the interior features in conveying that history, both exterior and interior features are included as part of this Historic Monument nomination. The interior features identified are the original Grueby tile, the light fixtures, clock, control panels, crane, and railing. The spatial relationships of the turbine hall and boiler room, and visible equipment, including the turbines, are also identified as character defining features.

We understand that the inclusion of some existing equipment, especially the turbines, has been a concern expressed by Art Center College of Design representatives, given the college's possible future use of the building. Pasadena Heritage supports the concept of a new use for the Steam Plant as part of Art Center, and it is clearly understood that almost any adaptive reuse of the building will require changes to the interior.

Our intention with this nomination is not to freeze the building in time, but instead to recognize and document its importance to the city and ensure that any future use will not obscure its historic character. We understand and acknowledge that some alterations and possible removal or relocation of some of the historic features, most notably the turbines, may be necessary for a successful adaptive re-use of the Glenarm Steam Plant. Preservation laws recognize that change is necessary, and we agree that in order for old buildings to remain a vital part of contemporary life, they must be allowed to do so.

It is important to note that the nomination process is not meant to determine what future changes to an historic building might be appropriate; instead this process is meant to fully document those features that exist at the time of the nomination. Once a comprehensive rehabilitation/adaptive re-use plan for the building is submitted, then a careful analysis of the impacts on historic fabric can be undertaken by the City staff and the authors of any

environmental studies. At that time, a variety of options for any particular historic feature can be considered.

We believe the nomination reflects that the Glenarm Steam Plant is a unique and remarkable place. In addition to its architectural significance, the Steam Plant was very important to the development of the City of Pasadena. In 1906, unhappy with Southern California Edison Company's service and prices, city leaders made the bold move to establish a municipal power plant to run the city streetlights. On May 3 of that same year, the citizens passed a \$125,000 bond issue to pay for the construction of the first plant, becoming one of the earliest cities to make this progressive decision. The City constructed a small steam plant on Glenarm Avenue which began operation in July of 1907. This plant generated enough electricity to allow the City to officially terminate its contract with Edison, and by 1909 service was expanded to include residential and commercial customers. Southern California Edison retained facilities in Pasadena and tried to compete with the municipally-owned utility until 1920, when they finally sold their business to the city.

The power department continually expanded its capacity which resulted in a series of new and upgraded facilities at the Glenarm site. The original Mission Revival style building was taken out of service in 1947 and later demolished. The nominated building is Bennett & Haskell's 1928 plant (designed as an addition to the western side of the original plant) which remained in service until 1966, and its 1932 addition which was shuttered in 1978. The fact that the City of Pasadena owned its own utilities allowed it to offer better service to the residents, and to better adapt as the city's needs and population grew.

The Glenarm Steam Plant represents the confidence and commitment of early Pasadenans, and it is typical of Pasadena that the design and quality of this functional building is more elegant and more finely crafted than would be expected of a power plant. We respectfully request that you approve our nomination of the Glenarm Steam Plant as a Pasadena Historic Monument, including all of the relevant interior features. We look forward to working with the City and Art Center as their plans progress for this historic building so that a successful project can emerge that meets Art Center's and the City's goals while still reflecting its original history and character.

Sincerely,



Susan N. Mossman
Executive Director

cc: Richard Koshalek, Patricia Oliver, George Falardeau, Patrick Perry,
 Richard Bruckner

Rodriguez, Jane

From: Lou Levasa [lou@ksmarchitecture.com]
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2008 2:45 PM
To: Rodriguez, Jane
Cc: Christine Lazzaretto; Kelly Sutherlin McLeod; Sue Mossman
Subject: Letter of Support - Glenarm Steam Plant
Importance: High
Attachments: KSM Ltr of Support - Glenarm.pdf

Hello Ms. Rodriguez,

Please find attached a letter of support from Kelly Sutherlin McLeod.

If you are unable to open the file, please contact me immediately @ 562.427.6697, or reply to this e-mail.

Thank You,

L. V. Levasa
Office Manager



KELLY SUTHERLIN McLEOD

Integrity at Work

www.ksmarchitecture.com

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Long Beach, CA. 90807
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NOTICE: This e-mail is a PRIVATE communication and may contain privileged or other confidential information. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the e-mail originator at **Kelly Sutherlin McLeod Architecture, Inc.** - (ksm@ksmarchitecture.com), immediately or call our office at (562) 427-6697, and delete the message and any attachments without copying or disclosing the contents. Thank You.

01/14/2008

Item 6.B. 7:30 P.M.



KELLY SUTHERLIN McLEOD

January 14, 2008

Dear Mayor Bogaard and Members of the City Council:

As a restoration architect with many years of experience working on historic buildings in Pasadena, I am pleased to support Pasadena Heritage's nomination of the Glenarm Steam Plant as an historic monument.

Sincerely,

Kelly Sutherlin-McLeod, AIA
President, Kelly Sutherlin McLeod Architecture, Inc.