



Save Our Heritage Organisation
Protecting San Diego's architectural and cultural heritage since 1969

Thursday, September 19, 2019

City of San Diego
Chair McCullough, Historical Resources Board & staff
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: September 26, 2019 agenda - Items 5, 6, and 7

Chair McCullough, Board members & staff,

Item 5: 2453 Curlew Street – Save Our Heritage Organisation concurs with staff that this Arts and Crafts era bungalow is significant under Criterion C and warrants designation.

As noted in the staff report, this bungalow was originally stucco and, although the current stucco coat appears to have been from the 1970s, the texture is consistent with what was originally on the house and maintains the integrity of this resource (see historic images within the consultant report on pages 60 and 91). Additionally, the boxed eaves and skim coat on the porch floor do not detract from the material or architectural integrity of this resource. Also, immediately adjacent is a designated resource, 2465 Curlew, at the corner of Curlew and Laurel streets.

Item 6: 4515 Ladera Street – SOHO concurs with the staff report that this Modern Post and Beam style house is significant under Criteria C and D. Retaining a strong degree of integrity, 4515 Ladera Street is significant under Criterion C, for exhibiting distinctive characteristics of the style, and under Criterion D, establishing Richard Lareau as a Master Architect in the City of San Diego. This is a notable example of Lareau's work, specifically as one of his earlier residences of the Post and Beam style that expresses the quality of his design aesthetic.

Item 7: 3925-3927 Illinois Street – SOHO concurs with the staff report that this Arts and Crafts era bungalow is significant under Criterion C and warrants designation. SOHO also asserts that the rear Arts and Crafts era duplex is eligible for designation under Criterion C, as a good example that represents a duplex building form in this style.

The front bungalow (#3925) retains integrity of location, design, and workmanship, and, as stated in the consultant's report, possesses all the character-defining features of a standard Craftsman style residence. SOHO strongly disagrees with the consultant report's irrelevant assertion that since this bungalow "does not possess elements of the more unique, elaborate styles," it is insignificant. On the contrary, more modest, yet still intact homes, must be recognized through designation as well, to ensure that all societal classes are represented within the historic built environment. This bungalow is an excellent example of the style and retains strong integrity. The minimal changes to the rear façade do not detract from the significance of this resource and the building must be reviewed prior to the unpermitted changes, such as removal of the chimney and rear window replacement.

SOHO also agrees with the consultant's report that the Arts and Crafts era rear duplex retains integrity of location and workmanship, in addition to several of the character defining features for this style. SOHO further asserts that as a rear secondary residence, this building also illustrates integrity of design, material and feeling. The addition of a second entry door (for another unit within), along with a walkway to the garage roof, speaks to the evolution and need for additional housing, not a lack of integrity as the original material, design, and workmanship are still visibly present. Last, this duplex exhibits various Arts and Crafts era features including the low pitch roof, exposed rafter tails and decorative beams, and horizontal shiplap siding. This building is an excellent example of the duplex building form in this style and retains strong material and design integrity. The HRB needs to be consistent in their review, despite this resource being located at the rear of the lot.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Coons", written over a thin vertical line.

Bruce Coons
Executive Director
Save Our Heritage Organisation