



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Historical Resources Board

DATE ISSUED: June 25, 2007 REPORT NO. HRB-07-035

ATTENTION: Historical Resources Board
Agenda of June 28, 2007

SUBJECT: **ITEM # 12 – San Diego Armed Services YMCA National Register Nomination**

APPLICANT: Marie Burke Lia on behalf of Armed Services YMCA, owner

LOCATION: 500 W. Broadway, Centre City Community, Council District 2

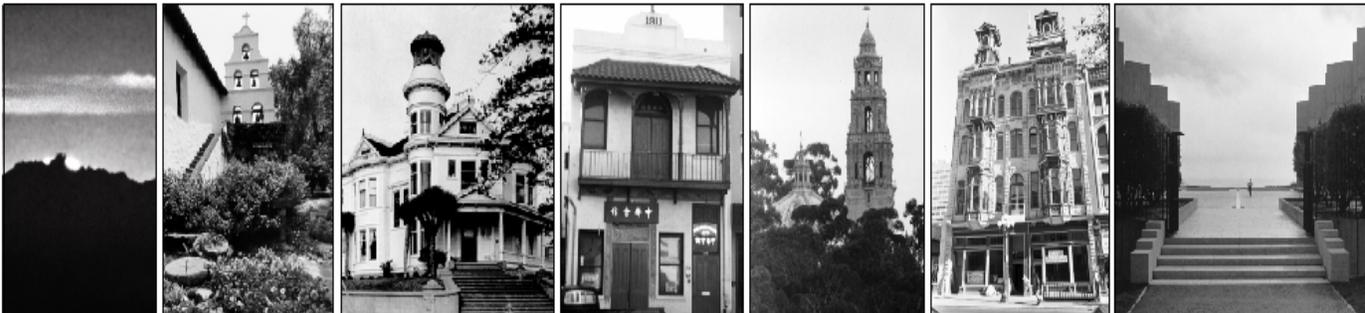
DESCRIPTION: Review the nomination of the San Diego Armed Services YMCA for listing on the National Register and provide comments to the Office of Historic Preservation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Provide comments in support of listing the San Diego Armed Services YMCA on the National Register of Historic Places.

BACKGROUND

This item is being brought before the Historical Resources Board during a 60-day review and comment period, pursuant to the Certified Local Government (CLG) Agreement between the City of San Diego and the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), prior to the State Historical Resources Commission's action on the nomination of the San Diego Armed Services YMCA to the National Register of Historic Places. The San Diego Armed Services YMCA was designated a historical resource by the Board on January 25, 2001 and listed in the Register as HRB #455.



A copy of the Resolution is attached to this report. The designation of the San Diego Armed Services YMCA was based on its significant community history and its architectural significance as an excellent example of Italian Renaissance style architecture, designed by Master Architect Lincoln Rogers.

ANALYSIS

The HRB-designated San Diego Armed Services YMCA was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, at the request of the current property owner, under National Register Criteria A and C for its importance to San Diego's social history and its distinctive and significant architectural style, designed by Master Architect Lincoln Rogers. The building's historical significance stems from its central role during WWII and continuing contributions to San Diego's citizens and servicemen. The YMCA played a unique and extraordinary role in providing a variety of religious, physical, cultural and educational, social, and outreach programs to San Diego's military personnel and citizens from the mid-1920s through the early 1980s.

The Armed Services YMCA was the subject of a phased Historic Preservation Rehabilitation project, certified by the National Park Service as complying with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards on August 5, 2005. The conversion of the facility, designed to serve military personnel, to a comfortable, affordable hotel required almost no change to the building's character defining architectural features.

CONCLUSION

Staff recommends that the Board provide comments to the Office of Historic Preservation in support of listing the San Diego Armed Services YMCA on the National Register of Historic Places, as it embodies a distinctive and significant architectural style, designed by Master Architect Lincoln Rogers, and as it played a significant role in San Diego's social history associated with the Armed Services and servicemen, particularly during WWII.



Cathy Winterrowd
Senior Planner/Program Coordinator

- Attachments:
1. Applicant's National Register Nomination Form, under separate cover
 2. Resolution designating the YMCA as HRB Site #455, dated January 25, 2001
 3. Historic and Current Photos