

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THIS FILE

Submissions by the public in compliance with the Commission Rules and Operating Procedures (ROPs), Rule 4.3, are distributed to the Commission and uploaded online. Please note that “compliance” means that the submission complies with deadline, delivery method (hard copy and/or electronic) AND the number of copies. Please review the Commission ROPs to ensure that you meet the submission requirements. The ROPs can be accessed at <http://planning.lacity.org>, by selecting “Commissions & Hearings” and selecting the specific Commission.

All compliant submissions may be accessed as follows:

- **“Initial Submissions”**: Compliant submissions received no later than by end of day Monday of the week prior to the meeting, which are not integrated by reference or exhibit in the Staff Report, will be appended at the end of the Staff Report. The Staff Report is linked to the case number on the specific meeting agenda.
- **“Secondary Submissions”**: Submissions received after the Initial Submission deadline up to 48-hours prior to the Commission meeting are contained in this file and bookmarked by the case number.
- **“Day of Hearing Submissions”**: Submissions after the Secondary Submission deadline up to and including the day of the Commission meeting will be uploaded to this file within two business days after the Commission meeting.

Material which does not comply with the submission rules is not distributed to the Commission.

ENABLE BOOKMARS ONLINE:

**If you are using Explorer, you need will need to enable the Acrobat  toolbar to see the bookmarks on the left side of the screen.

If you are using Chrome, the bookmarks are on the upper right-side of the screen. If you do not want to use the bookmarks, simply scroll through the file.

If you have any questions, please contact the Commission Office at (213) 978-1300.

SECONDARY SUBMISSIONS



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Support Continuing Meetings Online

1 message

Nyla Arslanian <nyla@discoverhollywood.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Thu, Sep 30, 2021 at 3:19 PM

Dear Commissioners,

While it has been in the interest of the health and safety of participants, it took the emergency of a pandemic to truly bring citizen participation to this city. As one who has made the trip to City Hall on many occasions, it's obvious that, prior to March 2020, this was not possible for many people. I have seen where well-funded entities have filled all city hall seats to testify on their behalf. Further, once there, to provide a one or two minute testimony meant many hours of travel and waiting for an item to be heard. With new technology at long last there is a means to provide the opportunity to easily participate in city government.

I support and applaud you bringing this resolution forward for consideration and strongly support its approval.

Best regards,

Nyla





Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Saving historical buildings in Los Angeles

1 message

Ashley McCall <ashley.mccall@gmail.com>
To: "chc@lacity.org" <chc@lacity.org>

Tue, Oct 5, 2021 at 6:26 PM

Commission President Milofsky:

As a Los Angeles, I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 N Virgil Ave](#) as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. The buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the only two extant examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

What we see far too often in this city is investors purchasing historic properties and either tearing them down outright or gutting them, wholly separating them from their historical value, in order to rent at higher rates, thereby displacing the tenants currently living in them. While I may not be able to help the tenants not be displaced, I implore you to help save some of LA history. We forget too easily in this city.

Thank you.

Ashley McCall



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Protect the Japanese American Legacy in Los Angeles

1 message

Cindy Lin <cindyslin91@gmail.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 8:16 AM

Hello,

I am a resident of Los Angeles and I strongly urge you to designate 560 and [564 N Virgil Ave](#) as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments, adopting the staff report. The buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the only two extant examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

Thanks,
Cindy Lin



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Ozawa boarding house Virgil Ave. I visited in my youth as i lived 2 houses up from the Ozawas backyard at 551 N. Commonwealth ave. THE OZAWA FAMILY was seminal to the anchoring of the Local culture and area. Playing in the mutual backyards of all the Ozawa properties was an educational & recreational delight. WE were the "J-Flats"

1 message

Gordon Burns <burnsup@gmail.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Sat, Oct 2, 2021 at 9:51 AM

Area culture and development. The Ozawas were king pins at the corner of Virgil & Clinton, Where you could catch the 42 Temple bus or the #4 3rd st bus. The boarding house was just one of the Holdings. Please make this an official monument. We know it as the "J-Flats "Area. Sincerely Gordon Bruce Burns

--

"Always be Kruisin"--Gordon Burns AKA Pathfinder
[4028 Slate Ct.](#)
[Santa Rosa, CA 95405](#)
cell: (707) 292-4518



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Make 560 & 564 N Virgil Historic-Cultural Monuments!

1 message

Hailey Niswanger <hailey@haileyniswanger.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Tue, Oct 5, 2021 at 3:32 PM

Dear Commission President Milofsky,

I have recently learned of the profound history of the Japanese boarding homes of N Virgil Ave. As a Los Angeles resident, I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 N Virgil Ave](#) as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. The buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the only two extant examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood. I hope you choose to honor this resilience!

Thank you!

Hailey Niswanger



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Support for 564 and 560 Virgil Ave

1 message

Virginia Swenson <virginia.swen@gmail.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Tue, Oct 5, 2021 at 10:02 PM

Dear Commission President Milofsky,

As a resident of Los Angeles, I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 N Virgil Ave](#) as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. The buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the only two extant examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

All the best,
Virginia Swenson



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

560/564 Virgil Boarding House HCM1 message

Yukio & Lilian Kawaratani <yklk31@gmail.com>

Thu, Sep 30, 2021 at 7:57 PM

To: chc@lacity.org

Commissioners:

I am a director with the Little Tokyo Historical Society and quite familiar with Japanese American history, as I have lived it for ninety years.

The Japanese boarding houses were an extremely important element for Japanese immigrants in Los Angeles history and must be preserved.

There are so few examples remaining and these rooming houses appear to be in good condition. They must be preserved to recognize their value to Los Angeles and Japanese American history into the future.

Please vote to assure their preservation.

Yukio Kawaratani

DAY OF HEARING SUBMISSIONS

RESOLUTION

A Resolution to continue holding the Cultural Heritage Commission meetings via teleconference and/or videoconference, under Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(B)-(C).

WHEREAS, the Cultural Heritage Commission (hereafter “Commission”) is committed to preserving public access and participation in meetings of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, all Commission meetings are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 –54963), so that any member of the public may attend and participate as the Commission conducts their business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020 remains active; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 remains a public health concern in Los Angeles, with high levels of community transmission.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(B)-(C), the Commission finds that holding Commission meetings in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that based on this finding in satisfaction of Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(B)-(C), the Commission will continue to conduct its meetings via telephone and/or videoconference.



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

CHC10-07-21, Agenda Item 6: Oil Can Harry's, 11502-06 W. Ventura Bl., Studio

1 message

Adriene Biondo <adrienebiondo@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 7, 2021 at 4:13 AM

To: CHC@lacity.org

Cc: Adrian Fine <afine@laconservancy.org>

Dear Commissioners,

I strongly support the nomination of the former Oil Can Harry's building at [11502-06 W. Ventura Bl.](#) in Studio City.

Oil Can Harry's is a significant historic site with important ties to the community, and is highly regarded as one of our country's longest operating LGBTQ+ bars. The club originally opened during the 1950s as The Zomba Room, transitioning to Oil Can Harry's in 1968. Protecting patrons and hosting countless fundraisers during the AIDS crisis, Oil Can Harry's was devoted to raising awareness and providing much-needed medical supplies.

Though the business closed its doors during the Covid pandemic, the building and sign retain a high degree of integrity, appearing very much as they did in photos showing Oil Can Harry's in its early years.

I look forward to Oil Can Harry's official designation as a proud LGBTQ+ symbol and historic San Fernando Valley landmark.

Sincerely,

Adriene Biondo
Chair Emeritus
Los Angeles Conservancy Modern Committee

[17125 Lisette St.](#)
[Granada Hills, CA 91344](#)



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Richard Adkins of Hollywood Heritage Inc., letter regarding Agenda Item #6 - proposed monument Oil Can Harry's

1 message

Richard Adkins <rikalad@aol.com>

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 8:04 PM

Reply-To: Richard Adkins <rikalad@aol.com>

To: "chc@lacity.org" <chc@lacity.org>, "lambert.giessinger@lacity.org" <lambert.giessinger@lacity.org>

October 7, 2021

Honorable Commissioners,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Hollywood Heritage Inc., I would like the Commissioners to support the designation of Oil Can Harry's discotheque and bar as a local landmark. As the last of the first of LGBTQ community gathering places in the San Fernando Valley, its survival bears witness to the struggle of that community for the last half-century.

I can personally attest to its importance to the gay community as I was a frequent patron at this historic establishment. I had lived in the valley since 1959, but wasn't aware of the gay rights movement except for what I read in mainstream magazines or saw on television. Additionally, depictions of gay people in movies always had them as weak or evil. Those depictions delayed my own coming out by years. I learned of Oil Cans through a copy of "The Advocate," newly published after the Black Cat Tavern riot of 1967. I drove by many times before venturing in. I was greatly surprised – and relieved that the location was not the dark and foreboding locale I had been preparing for. It was like any other dance club, other than at this one, there were mostly men dancing with men, few of whom matched the media impression of disturbed gay people. It was different from the world outside, although that world would frequently intrude.

Psychiatrists across the U.S. still classified homosexuality as a mental disease and people could be committed and treated against their will. At Oil Can Harry's and many other bars in Los Angeles and Hollywood, police would frequently come in and review the activities. If you were holding hands or worse yet, caught kissing another patron, you could be arrested. I witnessed it numerous times. While protests and marches increased the visibility of the gay community, it would be decades before they would be able to express themselves without fear of losing their families, their homes, and their jobs. But they could go to Oil Can's to feel they were part of a community.

The building is a superior example of a unique use by a specific minority. From an "off the beaten path" nightclub in the late 1930s to a burlesque house into the 1960s, Oil Can Harry's has the same profile as many gay establishments. It was a less desirable building with a bad reputation transformed into a gay bar. It became a destination for the entire gay community, including Hollywood. It was joined by other gay establishments along Ventura Blvd. ALL of which have closed. It lasted through neighborhood protests, police harassment, and the loss of patrons to the AIDS crisis.

Attitudes – and laws have drastically changed along with the introduction of the internet and the mainstreaming of the gay community into American life leading to the closure of gay establishments in the U.S. and internationally. We need sites like this which can remind us that progress has been made. Oil Can Harry's is well-qualified to be a monument to the history of the LGBTQ community it served so well for 50-plus years. Please consider making this monument a reality.

Sincerely,

Richard Adkins,

Hollywood Heritage, Inc.

10/7/21, 8:11 AM

City of Los Angeles Mail - Richard Adkins of Hollywood Heritage Inc., letter regarding Agenda Item #6 - proposed monument Oil C...



oil can harry support.docx

15K



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

CHC10-07-21, Agenda Item 7: Mission Hills Bowl, 10430 N. Sepulveda Bl., Mission Hills

1 message

Adriene Biondo <adrienebiondo@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 7, 2021 at 3:49 AM

To: CHC@lacity.org

Cc: Adrian Fine <afine@laconservancy.org>, "Rahimi, Borzou" <brahimi@crala.org>

Dear Commissioners,

I enthusiastically support the nomination of the former Mission Hills Bowl building, designed in 1957 by architect Martin Stern, Jr.

This bowling alley was a part of my childhood growing up in the San Fernando Valley, and I remember it as Citrus Bowl in a setting of walnut groves, with the Sunkist citrus processing plant nearby. Citrus Bowl was one of the earliest examples I can remember of a modern bowling center that operated 24 hours a day, included a place for kids to play while their parents bowled, and offered a game arcade, full-service dining restaurant, and coffee shop.

This rare and wonderfully exuberant Googie style 1950s bowling alley is an important contributor to the postwar architecture, car culture, and development of the San Fernando Valley. Its elegant design brought sophistication to the suburbs and has become an icon of mid-century modern Googie architecture that is copied time and again in modern culture.

Architect Martin Stern, Jr., well known for his transformative work on Las Vegas' famed commercial strip, the tower design of the Sands Hotel and the Mint, and Los Angeles' beloved Ship's Coffee Shop, so much of which has been erased over time, masterfully handled the design of the former Mission Hills Bowl with a flair that can still be appreciated today in a 21st century modern retail setting.

I hope to see the Mission Hills Bowl become the San Fernando Valley's next Historic-Cultural Monument.

Thank you,

Adriene Biondo
Chair Emeritus
Los Angeles Conservancy Modern Committee

17125 Lisette St.
Granada Hills, CA 91344



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

CHC10-07-21, Agenda Item 7: Mission Hills Bowl, 10430 N. Sepulveda Bl., Mission Hills

1 message

Adriene Biondo <adrienebiondo@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 7, 2021 at 3:49 AM

To: CHC@lacity.org

Cc: Adrian Fine <afine@laconservancy.org>, "Rahimi, Borzou" <brahimi@crala.org>

Dear Commissioners,

I enthusiastically support the nomination of the former Mission Hills Bowl building, designed in 1957 by architect Martin Stern, Jr.

This bowling alley was a part of my childhood growing up in the San Fernando Valley, and I remember it as Citrus Bowl in a setting of walnut groves, with the Sunkist citrus processing plant nearby. Citrus Bowl was one of the earliest examples I can remember of a modern bowling center that operated 24 hours a day, included a place for kids to play while their parents bowled, and offered a game arcade, full-service dining restaurant, and coffee shop.

This rare and wonderfully exuberant Googie style 1950s bowling alley is an important contributor to the postwar architecture, car culture, and development of the San Fernando Valley. Its elegant design brought sophistication to the suburbs and has become an icon of mid-century modern Googie architecture that is copied time and again in modern culture.

Architect Martin Stern, Jr., well known for his transformative work on Las Vegas' famed commercial strip, the tower design of the Sands Hotel and the Mint, and Los Angeles' beloved Ship's Coffee Shop, so much of which has been erased over time, masterfully handled the design of the former Mission Hills Bowl with a flair that can still be appreciated today in a 21st century modern retail setting.

I hope to see the Mission Hills Bowl become the San Fernando Valley's next Historic-Cultural Monument.

Thank you,

Adriene Biondo
Chair Emeritus
Los Angeles Conservancy Modern Committee

17125 Lisette St.
Granada Hills, CA 91344



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

560 and 564 N Virgil

1 message

Amanda Perkins <amandaperkins13@gmail.com>
To: "chc@lacity.org" <chc@lacity.org>

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 12:46 PM

Dear Commission President Milofsky,

As a Los Angeles resident I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 N Virgil](#) Ave as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. The buildings are RARE examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the ONLY TWO examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood. They need to be protected.

Amanda Perkins



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

560 and 564 Virgil

1 message

Brendan Coates <brendan.emerson.coates@gmail.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 10:27 AM

Dear Commission President Milofsky,

As a resident of East Hollywood, I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 N Virgil Ave](#) as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. These are items 4 and 5 on the agenda for tomorrow's (Thursday, October 7) meeting.

The buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the only two extant examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history.

Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

Thank you for your time.

-Brendan



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

564 560 Virgil Ave1 message

Charles Staunton <hello@virgilnormal.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 11:26 AM

Dear Commission President Milofsky

As a resident of East Hollywood I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 North Virgil Avenue](#) as Los Angeles Historic - Cultural Monuments. The buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the only two extant examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. I have had several friends stay there over the years.

They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

Thank You
-Charlie

Virgil Normal
[4157 Normal Ave.](#)
[Los Angeles, CA](#)
[90029](#)
(323) 741-8489



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

564 560 Virgil Ave1 message

Charles Staunton <hello@virgilnormal.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 11:26 AM

Dear Commission President Milofsky

As a resident of East Hollywood I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 North Virgil Avenue](#) as Los Angeles Historic - Cultural Monuments. The buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the only two extant examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. I have had several friends stay there over the years.

They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

Thank You
-Charlie

Virgil Normal
[4157 Normal Ave.](#)
[Los Angeles, CA](#)
[90029](#)
(323) 741-8489



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Designating 560 and 564 N Virgil Ave as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments

1 message

Lisa Crawford <lisa.n.crawford@gmail.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 1:07 PM

Dear Commission President Milofsky,

As a resident of East Los Angeles (Silver Lake), I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 N Virgil Ave](#) as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. I'm advised that the buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses. They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

I only learned about J Flats and the history of the Ozawa family recently. I believe that structures with historical and cultural significance of this type are part of what makes our city unique and special, and that it behooves us to preserve monuments to where our city and people have been and meant to one another.

In addition, I believe that the disgusting treatment of Japanese Americans during the internment practices of the Second World War should motivate us to preserve not only all records of their mistreatment but historical evidence and artifacts of their resilience and contribution to American society. It's my understanding that the buildings on N. Virgil and the history of the Ozawa family would reflect this.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa

Lisa Crawford

[2854 Rowena Avenue, Apt. 10](#)

[Los Angeles, CA 90039](#)

213-453-6559



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Ozawa Boarding house Monument

1 message

Luis Penate <lpenate1@g.ucla.edu>
To: "chc@lacity.org" <chc@lacity.org>

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 11:21 AM

Dear Commission President Milofsky,

As a 20 year resident and tax payer of Los Angeles, I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 N Virgil Ave](#) as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. The buildings are rare examples of pre-war Japanese boarding houses, and the only two still existing in entire city that were used in both the pre- and post-war periods.

It's important that as a 21st century multicultural city, Los Angeles protect historical sites that reminds us of the mistakes of the past to prevent them from happening in the future. Given the horrific history of racial targeting, forced removal, imprisonment and destitution, Angelinos of Japanese descent are owed for this history to be acknowledged and not hidden. The Ozawa site is of special importance because it is not only a living testaments of the evil of the past, but of the historical and present resilience of Japanese American Angelinos.

They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

Thank you,

Luis Penate

--

Luis Peñate

He/Him/His/Luis

Co-President of Students of Color for Public Health

Population Health Advocacy Training Program Fellow

GUM Graduate Mentor

MPH Candidate

UCLA Fielding School of Public Health

Department of Community Health Sciences



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Support for designation of 564/560 Virgil Ave as Historic Cultural Monuments

1 message

Carolyn Englar <cenglar@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 5:24 PM

To: chc@lacity.org

Dear Commission President Milofsky,

As an East Hollywood resident, I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 N Virgil Ave](#) as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. The buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the only two extant examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

Thank you for your time, and I hope to see these buildings designated as historic cultural monuments.

Carolyn Englar
cenglar@gmail.com
Pronouns: she/her/hers



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Support for designation of 564/560 Virgil Ave as Historic Cultural Monuments

1 message

Carolyn Englar <cenglar@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 5:24 PM

To: chc@lacity.org

Dear Commission President Milofsky,

As an East Hollywood resident, I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 N Virgil Ave](#) as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. The buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the only two extant examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

Thank you for your time, and I hope to see these buildings designated as historic cultural monuments.

Carolyn Englar
cenglar@gmail.com
Pronouns: she/her/hers



-PLEASE VOTE YES--560/ 564 Virgil Boarding House HCM Nomination-2 messages

Vivian Matsushige <v.matsushige@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 3:34 PM

To: chc@lacity.org

Cc: Lindsay Mulcahy <lmulcahy@usc.edu>

TO: the HCM Committee

I am writing in support of designating the Virgil Boarding House as a Historical Cultural Monument.

My name is Vivian Matsushige. I am a retired Psychiatric Social Worker having worked for the LACO Dept. of Mental Health for over 30 years.

I am 77 years old, and am a proud 3rd generation former resident of the Virgil Japanese-American neighborhood. Also known as J-Flats. My grandfather first settled in the area approximately 1925. He was part owner of a garden supply shop on Virgil in 1942 when family was removed from the area during WWII to Heart Mountain Wyoming concentration camp where I was born. As soon as it was considered safe, my family moved back to the East Hollywood area. I attended Dayton Height Elementary School, Virgil Junior High, and graduated from Belmont HS. We lived at [332 N. Juanita Avenue](#). This is south of the Hollywood (101) FWY which split the community and I watched the freeway being built.

My grandfather was very active in what used to be the Hollywood Independent Church on Lexington Ave. West of Virgil Ave. I attended Hollywood Christ Presbyterian Church. My father attended Thomas Starr King and Marshall High while his elder sister attended Belmont HS.

My mother who lived originally in East Los Angeles attending Garfield HS moved to the area with her family. She worked a sewing machine operator worked for a short time behind the Fujiya Market on the corner of Virgil.

I was the same school age as Irene Ozawa, who was the 2nd daughter of George & Shizuka Ozawa. I remember playing at the Boarding House with very fond memories of the entire family. As young as I was, I was aware somehow of the important contribution they made to support Japanese American workers and the community.

Although I now live in Pasadena, my cohorts from the neighborhood have regular reunions, rekindle our relationships. Some of us still support the remaining institutions such as the Hollywood Japanese Cultural Institute on Middlebury Ave, and the Hollywood Christ Presbyterian Church on Clinton Ave.

The Neighborhood community was like a nest of care for me that protected me from a lot of the prejudice against Asians during that time. It wasn't until I attended UCLA as an undergraduate that I came face to face with discrimination and exclusion from the mainstream of society.

Once again, I hope that the committee will PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of the application of the Ozawa Boarding House as a cultural monument.

Vivian Matsushige

dale kunitomi <oildale99@msn.com>

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 6:57 PM

To: Vivian Matsushige <v.matsushige@gmail.com>

Cc: "chc@lacity.org" <chc@lacity.org>, Lindsay Mulcahy <lmulcahy@usc.edu>

Viv,

What a nice letter of support for the Ozawa boarding house!

I could feel your emotion in your words.

Dale

Sent from Dale's iPad Air (2016)

805/233-2610

On Oct 6, 2021, at 3:34 PM, Vivian Matsushige <v.matsushige@gmail.com> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Support for Designating the J-Flats as Historic Cultural Monuments

1 message

Jovita Angel <jovita@cadre-la.org>

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 2:28 PM

To: chc@lacity.org

Good afternoon,

I am writing to urge you to listen to the community and preserve the Ozawa buildings by designating them as Historic-Cultural Monuments. As Los Angeles continues to grow, the history of our city must not be forgotten and lost in the name of development. The Ozawa buildings have been providing housing services for Japanese tenants and should continue to do so. Thank you for your time.

My name is Jovita Angel and I grew up in the city of Los Angeles and want to see the community's history preserved.

--

Jovita Angel

CADRE [Community Asset Development Redefining Education]

8410 South Broadway

Los Angeles, CA 90003

www.cadre-la.org

Redefining parenting in South LA schools



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Public Comment Letter for CHC Meeting Agenda Items 4 and 5

1 message

Fukutomi-Jones, Jennifer <JFJones@glendaleca.gov>

Thu, Oct 7, 2021 at 9:22 AM

To: "chc@lacity.org" <chc@lacity.org>

Cc: "Imulcahy@usc.edu" <Imulcahy@usc.edu>, "bcurranjr@gmail.com" <bcurranjr@gmail.com>

Dear Mr. Williams –

Can the following letter be read and/or shared with members of the Cultural Heritage Commission?

Thank you!

Good Morning President Milofsky, Cultural Heritage Commission Members and City Staff –

My name is Jennifer Fukutomi-Jones, and I am the Principal Arts & Culture Administrator with the City of Glendale, as well as the granddaughter of George and Shizuka Ozawa. Today I am writing in support of Agenda Items 4 and 5 to recommend that the City Council consider and declare the Ozawa Boarding House property a Historic-Cultural Monument.

My family arrived in Los Angeles during the turn of the century, with the goal of pursuing a better life for their children as so many countless immigrants have. They oversaw the management of the Ozawa Boarding House with the goal of providing Japanese immigrants (like themselves) with a welcoming and safe place to rest their bodies as they transitioned to their new American life. The Ozawa Boarding House was known throughout the Japanese-American community as a place which had delicious food, warm beds and a family-like environment which made the boarders feel at home. My mother, aunts and uncle all worked at the Boarding House as children, and grew up sweeping the floors, setting the dining tables and washing dishes. The boarders became like extended family members as they all sat together to eat their meals and share about their days. I vividly remember hearing stories about my grandparents, specifically my grandmother who woke up every morning at 4:00AM, curling over my grandfather's sleeping body in bed, in order to wake up before everyone and cook the daily meals for the boarders. As the first to rise and last to go to bed, my grandmother's life's work was in the boarding house. She was a beloved member of the community who graciously opened her arms to anyone who sought refuge. My grandparents were not financially wealthy people, but they were abundant in kindness, empathy and love, and constantly strove to be active civic members of their community.

During World War II, my family was sent to Heart Mountain Internment Camp in Cody, Wyoming, and were forced to leave their home and business due to unjust racial discrimination. This was a devastating blow to my family, but since the Ozawa family was so well respected within the community, my family was able to re-claim both their home and business when they returned after the war due to the kindness and advocacy of local community members. We were fortunate to have had the opportunity to return back to the Ozawa Boarding House, but so many Japanese-Americans were not as lucky, and hundreds were left stranded without a home, struggling to make ends meet. My grandparents were the embodiment of the American dream, and the countless boarders, families and friends who walked through those doors each represented the universal goal of wanting to provide a better life for their families.

Due to the rapid gentrification in the Virgil Ave. corridor, it is imperative that the Ozawa Boarding House be distinguished as a Historic Cultural Monument in order to acknowledge the immigrant communities who pursued the American dream. Artists such as Samantha Helou have sought to honor, preserve and acknowledge the history of J-Flats, and highlight the families who attributed to its' rich cultural history.

I would also like to thank Brian Curran and Lindsay Mulcahy for their tireless efforts in advocating for the Ozawa Boarding House as a Historic Cultural Monument within Council District 13. My family and I are incredibly grateful for the research, attention to detail and care in which you have shared our family's history.

Thank you for your time.



Jennifer Fukutomi-Jones, Principal Arts & Culture Administrator

City of Glendale | Library, Arts & Culture | 222 E. Harvard St. Glendale, CA 91205

E: jfjones@glendaleca.gov | O: 818-937-7808 | www.glendaleartsandculture.org



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Designation of 564 and 560 Virgil Ave as Historic Cultural Monuments

1 message

Sam <snn@earthlink.net>
To: chc@lacity.org

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 9:47 PM

Dear Commission President Milofsky,

As a resident of Los Angeles, I encourage you to adopt the staff report and designate 560 and [564 N Virgil Ave](#) as Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments. The buildings are extremely rare examples of prewar Japanese boarding houses, and the only two extant examples in the entire city that were used in both the pre and postwar periods. They represent early residential patterns that generated the thriving Madison / J Flats Japanese American community, helping to reassert the role of Japanese and Japanese American laborers into Los Angeles' history. Created by and for Japanese Americans, the buildings are a testament to the Ozawa family's resilience and a network of solidarity and interdependence across the neighborhood.

Best, Sam N