

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 4:00 p.m. Thursday of the week prior to the meeting, which are not integrated by reference or exhibit in the Staff Report.
- **“Secondary Submissions”**: Compliant submissions received after the Initial Submission deadline up to 24-hours prior to the Commission meeting are contained in this file and bookmarked by the case number.
- **“Day of Hearing Submissions”**: Compliant 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.

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INITIAL SUBMISSIONS

The following submissions by the public are in compliance with the Commission Rules and Operating Procedures (ROPs), Rule 4.3a. Please note that “compliance” means that the submission complies with deadline, delivery method (hard copy and/or electronic) AND the number of copies. The Commission’s ROPs can be accessed at <http://planning.lacity.org>, by selecting “Commissions & Hearings” and selecting the specific Commission.

The following submissions are not integrated or addressed in the Staff Report but have been distributed to the Commission.

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

SECONDARY SUBMISSIONS



523 West Sixth Street, Suite 826
Los Angeles, CA 90014

213 623 2489 OFFICE
213 623 3909 FAX
laconservancy.org

May 30, 2025

Cultural Heritage Commission
Attn: Denise Otero
200 N. Spring St., 10th Floor, Room 1010
Los Angeles, CA 90012
chc@lacity.org

**Re: CHC-2025-1064-HCM
Terminal Island “Furusato” Tuna Street Buildings**

Dear Members of the Cultural Heritage Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the Los Angeles Conservancy in support of the Historic-Cultural Monument nomination of the Terminal Island “Furusato” Tuna Street Buildings and ask that you favorably recommend for HCM designation. These two modest commercial buildings, originally home to Nanka Dry Goods Store and the A. Nakamura Company Grocery Store are a symbol of the resilience of the Terminal Islander community. They teach an important lesson about one of the United States’ darkest chapters, where the Japanese American community was forcibly removed from their homes and businesses and incarcerated in remote concentration camps.

The buildings survive against all odds, most notably the U.S. Navy’s bulldozing of the majority of the Japanese American Fishing Village in 1942, but also the repeated efforts by the Port of Los Angeles to diminish all other industries on Terminal Island other than international trade. It is important to remember that after returning from Manzanar and other camps, many of the original Terminal Islanders returned to the general vicinity, settling in San Pedro, Long Beach and Wilmington, and working in the fishing and cannery industries. Though the two buildings were altered in the late 1940s, those Terminal Islanders working on Terminal Island would continue to recognize the properties. They have remained part of the collective memory even after all these years – among those original Terminal Islanders and their descendants.

In the past year, the Conservancy has engaged with the Terminal Islanders Association on plans by the Port of Los Angeles to demolish the two buildings. We support their efforts to honor and interpret the role of the Terminal Islander community on ‘Furusato,’ but it is important the buildings survive as a physical reminder. If the physical structures are lost,



there would be little indication of the once vibrant community on the island. Due to this apparent threat, the National Trust recognized the site as one of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places in May of 2025. This follows the Trust's prior listing of all of Terminal Island as in 2012, due to repeated threats against Terminal Island's greater context.

In the future, the task of rehabilitating and reactivating the buildings will prove difficult, but a strong coalition has emerged to support the process, including Asian & Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation (APIAHIP), who provided early support and technical assistance. The historic buildings have deferred maintenance, but are simple vernacular buildings that can be easily adapted. Combined, the two buildings have a footprint of only 3,600 ft², inclusive of the narrow alley that runs between them. We do not believe of the structures will impede or inhibit the productivity of the surrounding area, which is largely undeveloped or underutilized, and could open up incentives such as the State Historical Building Code.

Finally, we express sincere gratitude to Councilmember McOsker, who initiated this designation in recognition of the site's historic value. The nomination will contribute to the diversity of the Cultural Heritage Ordinance, where less than 3% of designated HCMs have an associated Asian American & Pacific Islander context. It is important that the City of Los Angeles takes an active role in the designation due to the historic injustices against the Japanese American community here, and the initiation was an important step towards restorative justice.

We thank you for receiving our feedback, and ask that you recommend these two buildings for designation as a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument.

About the Los Angeles Conservancy:

The Los Angeles Conservancy is the largest local historic preservation organization in the United States, with nearly 5,000 member households throughout the Los Angeles area. Established in 1978, the Conservancy works to preserve and revitalize the significant architectural and cultural heritage of Los Angeles County through advocacy and education.

Sincerely,



Andrew Salimian
Director of Advocacy

cc: Tim McOsker, Council District 15





Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

terminal island

1 message

Bbboom99 <bbboom99@aol.com>
To: "chc@lacity.org" <chc@lacity.org>

Tue, Jun 3, 2025 at 4:23 PM

please preserve the terminal island buildings! It's an important part of our history here in the south bay, telling the story of WWII and the Japanese who lived here.

Please preserve it! We need more historic preservation, and more opportunities for learning about the past.

Thank you,
Laura Mueller
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA



National Trust *for*
Historic Preservation®

June 3, 2025

Cultural Heritage Commission
Attn: Denise Otero
200 N. Spring Street, 10th Floor, Room 1010
Los Angeles, CA 90012
chc@lacity.org

Re: CHC-2025-1064-HCM Terminal Island “*Furusato*” Tuna Street Buildings

Dear Members of the Cultural Heritage Commission,

I write to you on behalf of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in support of the Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM) nomination of the Terminal Island “*Furusato*” Tuna Street Buildings and ask that you favorably recommend the buildings for HCM designation. As the nation's leading public-interest organization dedicated to preserving America's diverse historic places, the National Trust recognizes the power of place to revitalize communities, create healthier environments, and promote a more humane and just civil society.

On May 7, 2025, the National Trust was honored to include the two surviving Tuna Street buildings—originally home to the Nanka Shoten Dry Goods Store and the A. Nakamura Company Grocery Store—on our 2025 list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places. For nearly 40 years, the 11 Most Endangered Places program has been the premier advocacy campaign of the National Trust, highlighting the threats facing our nation's greatest treasures and bringing public attention to preserve cultural landmarks that are meaningful to their communities.

The National Trust previously included the entirety of Terminal Island on our 11 Most Endangered Places list in 2012. Following that designation preservationists led by the Los Angeles Conservancy and the Terminal Islanders Association successfully encouraged the Port of Los Angeles to include preservation and reuse recommendations in the Port's Master Plan. It is deeply disappointing that the Port is now considering demolition of these two physical structures of Japanese American heritage to use the land for container storage.

We recognize and respect the importance of the Port of Los Angeles as an economic engine for the city and the entire region. But we also recognize and respect the significance of these two properties as representative of both the tightly knit Japanese American immigrant community that left an indelible mark on Los Angeles' culture and

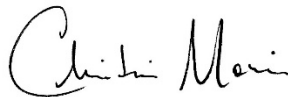
identity, and the dark and profoundly relevant chapter of our country's history that negatively affected tens of thousands of Japanese American families and generations of their descendants. This history cannot be forgotten and it should not be erased.

The National Trust firmly believes that historic places have the power to tell complex and difficult stories that define us as a nation. These places have been handed down to us from previous generations to educate us, ground us, and inspire us. Once they are gone, they cannot be made whole again. Designation of the "*Furusato*" Tuna Street Buildings as a Historic-Cultural Monument will establish formal recognition of this irreplaceable history, while also creating the opportunity for Terminal Island descendants and survivors to pursue positive preservation solutions that honor their shared heritage, communicate their history to new generations, and align with the Port's larger goals and mission.

We would like to express our gratitude to Councilmember McOskey, who initiated this designation in acknowledgement of the enduring value of this place to tell the stories of the Japanese American immigrants who built livelihoods, industries, and community at Terminal Island, and as an act of restorative justice for all those who were stigmatized and forcibly incarcerated.

The National Trust respectfully asks that you recommend the "*Furusato*" Tuna Street Building for designation as a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument. Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Christina Morris".

Christina Morris

Senior Director of Preservation Programs, Los Angeles



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Terminal Island "Furusato" Tuna Street Buildings

1 message

Claudia Culling <cculling@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 4, 2025 at 8:51 AM

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

I submit this letter of support for the designation as an Historic Cultural Monument of the last two remaining buildings from Terminal Island's Former Japanese American Fishing Village.

Before World War II, Terminal Island was home to over 3,000 Japanese Americans who built a thriving fishing industry and close-knit community known as "Furusato" meaning hometown. In 1942, residents were forcibly removed and not allowed to return for nearly 20 years.

The site was named this year as one of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places.

Please help preserve this important historic site by designating it as an Historic Cultural Monument.

Claudia Culling



June 3, 2025

Cultural Heritage Commission

Attn: Denise Otero

200 N. Spring Street, 10th Floor, Room 1010

Los Angeles, CA 90012

chc@lacity.org

Re: CHC-2025-1064-HCM — Terminal Island “Furusato” Tuna Street Buildings

Dear Members of the Cultural Heritage Commission,

On behalf of Asian & Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation (APIAHIP), I write in strong support of the nomination to designate the Terminal Island “Furusato” Tuna Street Buildings as a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM).

As a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of historic places significant to Asian and Pacific Islander American communities, APIAHIP recognizes the exceptional significance of the Tuna Street Buildings—not only to the history of Los Angeles, but to the larger narrative of Asian American immigration, exclusion, incarceration, and resilience in the United States.

These two modest buildings—the former Nanka Shoten Dry Goods Store and A. Nakamura Company Grocery Store—are among the last remaining physical traces of the prewar Japanese American fishing village that once thrived on Terminal Island. Their survival, against the compounded forces of wartime displacement, federal demolition, postwar redevelopment, and now the pressures of port expansion, makes them rare and irreplaceable cultural resources.

Terminal Island holds national significance as one of the earliest and most unique Japanese immigrant fishing communities in the country. The forced removal of over 3,000 Japanese Americans from Terminal Island following Executive Order 9066 remains one of the clearest local examples of the federal government’s mass incarceration of its own citizens. Yet, even after their release, former residents and their descendants continued to rebuild their lives in nearby neighborhoods such as San Pedro, Wilmington, and Long Beach, maintaining deep ties to the fishing industry and the site that once was their home.

These buildings carry layered meaning: as places of enterprise, of community gathering, of forced erasure, and of enduring cultural memory. Their preservation serves not only to recognize the contributions and sacrifices of the Terminal Islanders, but to confront a painful chapter of U.S. history that remains highly relevant in today’s climate of rising anti-Asian sentiment. Without these tangible reminders, the story risks being abstracted or lost altogether.

As our local and national partners, Los Angeles Conservancy and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, have already emphasized, HCM designation offers a crucial path forward—one that allows space for the Terminal Islanders Association, descendants, advocates, and the Port of Los Angeles to pursue creative solutions for adaptive reuse and interpretation, without precluding the Port's long-term operational needs. These structures are small, adaptable, and occupy a footprint that does not materially impact port operations, while their potential educational and commemorative value is immeasurable.

We commend Councilmember McOskey's leadership in initiating this nomination as an act of historic recognition and restorative justice. Currently, less than 3% of Los Angeles HCMs reflect Asian American or Pacific Islander histories. The designation of the Tuna Street Buildings would be a meaningful and necessary step toward addressing this longstanding underrepresentation.

We respectfully urge the Commission to recommend the Terminal Island "Furusato" Tuna Street Buildings for HCM designation. Thank you for your consideration and your commitment to preserving the full breadth of Los Angeles' diverse cultural heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "HUY PHAM". The letters are slightly slanted and connected in a casual, cursive-like style.

Huy Pham
Executive Director
Asian & Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation (APIAHiP)
info@apiahip.org | (206) 414-9161 | Headquarter: Seattle, WA



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Tuna Street

1 message

ne bellamy <bellamy.nathan@gmail.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Tue, Jun 3, 2025 at 3:41 PM

Hello. I feel we must work with the port on saving the buildings and street for future generations to know our history. There has to be a way to work with the port to not destroy the buildings and street.

Thank you.

nbellamy



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

GREATER PAGE TEMPLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

1 message

cece18@netzero.net <cece18@netzero.net>
To: CHC@lacity.org

Sun, Jun 1, 2025 at 6:01 AM

It would be the most wonderful thing to have Greater PAGE TEMPLE Christ Church to be nominated as a Historical Cultural Monument and I support it wholeheartedly.
Cecelia Wright



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

GREATER PAGE TEMPLE

1 message

Denise Smith <denise@cosmicmicrotech.com>
To: chc@lacity.org

Tue, Jun 3, 2025 at 3:35 PM

Oh MYGOODNESS. THE Greater Page Temple is gorgeous and a wonderful community asset---from the past---to the future with your help.

Please recognize the building's architectural significance and important layered history, including the contributions of its African American congregations and the church's namesake Bishop L.C. Page.!!!

Denise and Steve Smith

DAY OF HEARING SUBMISSIONS



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

Terminal Island Building Conservation

1 message

Christina Han <starrynite1023@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 4, 2025 at 8:03 PM

To: chc@lacity.org

Hello, I am writing in support of conserving the remaining Japanese American buildings on Terminal Island. The country and this state has never adequately addressed the atrocities they committed against Japanese Americans during the Second World War. Even prior to the start of the War, Japanese Americans were treated deplorably and as a person of Japanese descent, I am extremely worried that our history will be completely eradicated. Please do your part in saving the little that is left of what our ancestors have contributed to this country, state, and Los Angeles County.

Thank You,
Christina H.



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

In Support of the HCM Designation for the Tuna Street Buildings

1 message

Hope <hopeanderson09@gmail.com>
To: chc@lacity.org
Cc: councilmember.mcosker@lacity.org

Thu, Jun 5, 2025 at 12:52 AM

Dear Council Members:

I am writing to urge your support of the HCM Designation for Terminal Island's *Furusato* Tuna Street Buildings. They are an important part of our city's Japanese-American history, and all the more significant because LA's Issei and Nisei neighborhoods are disappearing.

Two Japanese-American communities near me, one in East Hollywood and the other in Silver Lake, are largely gone, while Little Tokyo is mainly a commercial district. For the Japanese-American community and Los Angeles as a whole, saving the Tuna Street Buildings would preserve immigrant history for future generations.

As a longtime Los Angeles Conservancy member whose academic field was 19th and early 20th century Japanese immigration, the Tuna Street Buildings mean a great deal to me. But everyone, regardless of ethnicity or background, should appreciate their cultural and historical importance to Los Angeles.

Very truly yours,

Hope Anderson
www.hopeandersonproductions.com
<https://hopeanderson.substack.com>
hopeanderson09@gmail.com
(323) 957-6967



Planning CHC <chc@lacity.org>

HCM Nomination of Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ

1 message

Max Phillips <mjp9550@gmail.com>
To: "chc@lacity.org" <chc@lacity.org>

Wed, Jun 4, 2025 at 4:33 PM

Cultural Heritage Commission
[200 North Spring Street](#)
[Los Angeles, CA 90012-2601](#)

Dear Commissioners,

The Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ (GPT) is an example of the late Gothic revival style, completed in 1913 by architects John C. Austin and Woodbury C. Pennell. The church has been the site of films, music videos, and television shows from the silent era through modern times.

Of the three Cultural Heritage Ordinance Criteria, the GPT satisfies all three: it is (1) identified with important events, (2) associated with the lives of historic personages, and (3) it embodies the distinctive architectural characteristics. The church was founded as the West Adams Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopalians being a "powerful religious, political presence in Los Angeles" in the early twentieth century; the University of California was primarily founded by the same demographic group who founded the West Adams Methodist Episcopal Church and the two were "affiliated" into the "early 20th century according to page thirteen of the HCM application. In other words, the church is a significant part of the history of U.S.C. and therefore of Los Angeles. Afterwards, under the direction of Bishop L.C. Page, the building became a historically significant site of the Church of God in Christ.

While the church contains a time capsule, anyone who enters feels as if the entire building is itself one. The intricacy and elegance of the interior woodwork is breathtaking and of a quality that is rarely if ever reached by current developers in the Los Angeles area.

The Greater Page Temple deserves HCM designation.

Sincerely,

Max Phillips
Charles Victor Hall Tract
[2903 S. Halldale Avenue](#)
[Los Angeles, CA 90018](#)



2263 SOUTH HARVARD BOULEVARD • HISTORIC WEST ADAMS • LOS ANGELES, CA 90018 • 323-735-WAHA (323-735-9242)

June 4, 2025

Cultural Heritage Commission
Barry Milofsky, President
200 N. Spring Street, Room
Los Angeles, CA 90012

ATT: Denise Otero

RE: Greater Page Temple, CHC-2025-2725-HCM, Agenda Item No. 7

Via email

Commission President Milofsky and Commissioners:

WAHA is absolutely thrilled that the nomination for the Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ is before you today. We write in strong support of the nomination (and effort) to designate this beautiful building as a Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument.

Ten years ago this month, in June 2015, Greater Page Temple opened its doors for a WAHA tour of Sugar Hill, inviting our tour visitors to see this beautiful Gothic Revival church designed by John C. Austin. We worked with church members and leadership alike, and appreciate their strong stewardship of this lovely sanctuary complex.

Greater Page Temple is one of the most beautiful churches in the Historic West Adams District. Equally important, it also tells the stories of multiple layers of West Adams history.

It has been home to a number of religious denominations. It started out life as a prominent Methodist Episcopal congregation, then became the quarters of an activist African American Missionary Baptist denomination, and for the past 50-plus years it has been the home of Greater Page Temple Church of God in Christ.

In 1903, soon after the exclusive West Adams Heights was laid out and the tract's first mansions were occupied, Methodist Bishop J. M. Hamilton announced the establishment of the West Adams Heights Methodist Episcopal Church, to be housed in a residence that Hamilton himself was building near the corner of Adams and La Salle. The Bishop's expectation was that within a year a "fine new church" building – anticipated to be funded by wealthy patron Frederick Rindge – would be built on the lots adjoining his property. Unfortunately, Rindge died intestate in 1905, not yet having set aside the money. A year later, his former partners George Ira Cochran, Dr. W.W. Beckett and Charles I.D. Moore (the developers of West Adams Heights), announced that the money was found and architect hired.

The congregation managed to build the Sunday school portion of their planned structure, but then faced a new shortage of funds that stopped them from finishing the building. Finally, in early 1912, with new funding from Cochran and other executives of the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company, the congregation announced new plans to complete the Gothic church. Cochran, Moore and Beckett held leadership positions through the 1930s, but the congregation was dwindling.

Soon, the congregation sold their church building to the Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church, led by the Reverend H. B. Charles, Sr. Pastor Charles, Sr. was visible in local civic affairs and the civil rights movement. He and his church were regularly featured in the pages of African American newspapers and *Jet* magazine. In 1953, Governor Goodwin J. Knight spoke at Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church, in an event that brought together religious leaders and Hollywood entertainers. The following year, the church hosted a Negro History Week event that included a presentation on important African-American composers. On February 28, 1960, the Rev. Martin Luther King gave his speech, “*Going Forward by Going Backward*,” at Mount Sinai.

When Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church moved, in 1963, to another church building located about ten blocks west on Adams Boulevard, the church trustees sold this building to Bishop Lucius C. Page and the current Church of God in Christ (COGIC) denomination.

Lucius Page had arrived in Los Angeles in 1943, establishing his congregation in a tent erected on the corner of Jefferson and San Pedro. Before that time, the Mississippi native had headed up COGIC’s Evangelical Department, and had led COGIC churches in Arkansas and Tennessee. By 1959, Bishop Page’s congregation was domiciled at 1545 West 35th Place, on the corner of Denker Avenue. In a lifetime of preaching, Bishop Page was said to have won more than 10,000 souls.

The Applicants have traveled a long road to complete the HCM nomination for Greater Page Temple, and WAHA sincerely hopes you will not just take it under consideration this week but also vote soon for its designation as a Historic Cultural Monument that reflects not just the hand of a master architect, but the history of our community over time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jean Frost
Vice President, West Adams Heritage Association

Laura Meyers
Communications Director, West Adams Heritage Association

communications@westadamsheritage.org