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MOTION

Section 22.171.10 of the Administrative Code provides that the City Council, the Cultural Heritage Commission, or the Director of Planning, may initiate consideration of a proposed site, building, or structure as a Historical-Cultural Monument. The Cultural Heritage Commission, after reviewing and investigating any such Council-initiated designation, shall approve or disapprove in whole or in part the proposed inclusion and submit a report upon such action to the Council. In addition, Section 22.171.12 of the Administrative Code provides that there shall be a temporary stay of demolition, substantial alteration or removal of any such proposed location or structure pending designation.

The Oswald Bartlett House, located at 1829 N. Kenmore Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90027, appears to be a significant historic resource in the Los Feliz neighborhood and for the City at-large. It was built in 1914, designed by Master Architect Albert C. Martin, Sr., whose career and legacy have had a significant influence upon Los Angeles' built environment. Martin designed Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments No. 90, Saint Vincent de Paul Church, 621 W. Adams Boulevard (1923); No. 566, May Company Wilshire, 6067 Wilshire Boulevard (1939); No. 873, Higgins Building (with A.L. Haley), 108 W. 2nd Street (1910); and, as part of a three-person team, No. 150, Los Angeles City Hall, 200 N. Spring St (1928). Martin also designed these buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places: Million Dollar Theater, 307 S. Broadway (1917), The Inn at Furnace Creek in Death Valley National Park (1927), and the Ventura County Courthouse in Ventura, CA (1912).

The Oswald Bartlett House contributes to the community in three ways: First, it is a rare example of a single-family residence designed by Master Architect Albert C. Martin. Second, it is a unique example of an Arts and Crafts movement, Colonial Revival style building. Third, it is a rare, significantly intact representative and reminder of the historic development and character of the neighborhood.

The Oswald Bartlett Home sits on one and one-half parcels that have recently been approved for Small Lot Subdivision per Ordinance No. 176,354 into six, single-family lots. The Initial Study for the project (ENV-2013-1858-MND) did not properly identify potential impacts to Cultural Resources, claiming "Less than significant impact" without the benefit of a cultural resource survey. The Initial Study improperly cited the lack of existing designation or recognition of the structure as a historic resource as evidence the structure was not a potential historic resource.

The Oswald Bartlett House appears to be significantly intact, and the unique blend of Arts and Crafts movement influence in a Colonial Revival residence creates an unusual and striking building. The distinctive "hipped-gable" roof has an integrated eyebrow dormer directly above the entrance. The entrance is then covered by a shallow portico that extends to just one side of the building, All of which highlight the unusual and unique asymmetry of the home. Examples of Albert C. Martin-designed, single-family homes are rare. This particular specimen provides valuable insight into Martin's career as its eclectic style and significant Arts and Crafts influence runs counter to the character of most of his known works.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council initiate consideration of the Oswald Bartlett Home, located at at 1829 N. Kenmore Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90027, as a City Historic-Cultural Monument under the procedures of Sec. 22.171.10 of the Administrative Code, and instruct the Planning Department to prepare the Historic-Cultural Monument application for review and consideration by the Cultural Heritage Commission.

I FURTHER MOVE that after reviewing the application, the Cultural Heritage Commission submit its report and recommendation to the Council regarding the inclusion of the Oswald Bartlett Home in the City's list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

PRESENTED BY



TOM LABONGE
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY



GIL CEDILLO

AUG 08 2014



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