

Google Groups

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**Fwd: Council file 17-01-0156**

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Sharon Dickinson

Apr 4, 2017 7:48 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **Alan Takeda** <takedatango@gmail.com>  
Date: Mon, Apr 3, 2017 at 5:00 PM  
Subject: Council file 17-01-0156  
To: Sharon.dickinson@lacity.org  
Cc: Julie Tave <juliectave@gmail.com>

As a Japanese American, the Hannah Carter Garden holds special memories. I would take my mother here for special moments. The koi pond, tended foliage, stone walkway, and zen architecture creates a special world. The unusual altitude, cascading waterfall, and moon-viewing platform only add to this serenity. Words cannot describe this quiet ambience filled with special emotions.

As you meet tomorrow to determine the garden's fate, please remember that there are too few places of cultural significance, and the Hannah Carter Japanese Garden can educate us in ways that matter.

Sincerely,

Alan Takeda  
Evening Dean, retired  
Golden Gate University

## Google Groups

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**Fwd: Council File 17-0156- the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J. Carter Japanese Garden**

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**Sharon Dickinson**

Apr 4, 2017 7:50 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**From: **Bel Air Association** <info@belairassociation.org>

Date: Mon, Apr 3, 2017 at 5:18 PM

Subject: Council File 17-0156- the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J. Carter Japanese Garden

To: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, shawn.kuk@lacity.org

Cc: councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org, councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, paul.koretz@lacity.org, Daniel Love &lt;danlove378@gmail.com&gt;, Maureen Levinson &lt;booboo90@earthlink.net&gt;, Leslie Weisberg &lt;lesliewb@me.com&gt;, Jamie Meyer &lt;jamieg1313@aol.com&gt;, rmrastros@gmail.com, Marcia Wilson Hobbs &lt;marcia@marciahobbs.com&gt;

Dear Chairman Huizar and Honorable members of the Planning and Land Use Committee,

On behalf of Daniel Love, president of the Bel-Air Association, please find attached a letter of support for the application for Historic Cultural Monument designation of the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J. Carter Japanese Garden. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

**Alexandra Benavidez****Executive Assistant****Bel-Air Association**

100 Bel-Air Road

Los Angeles, CA 90077

(310) 474-3527



Bel-Air Association, 100 Bel Air Road, Los Angeles, CA 90077  
Phone: 310-474-3527 Email: [info@belairassociation.org](mailto:info@belairassociation.org) Website: [www.belairassociation.org](http://www.belairassociation.org)

April 3, 2017

LA City Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee

Councilmember Jose Huizar, Chair

Sent via Email: [Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org](mailto:Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org)

Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson

[Shawn.Kuk@lacity.org](mailto:Shawn.Kuk@lacity.org)

Councilmember Gilbert A. Cedillo

Councilmember Mitchell Englander

Councilmember Curran D. Price

LA City Planning Land Use Management Committee:

Los Angeles City Hall

200 North Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Council File 17-0156 - the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J. Carter Japanese Garden**

Dear Chairman Huizar and Honorable Members of the Planning and Land Use Committee,

The Bel-Air Association supports Historic Cultural Monument designation of the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J. Carter Japanese Garden. In our efforts to support the evolution of Bel-Air within a framework of rapid growth and development, we believe it equally important to thoughtfully sustain properties that characterize unique examples of the architectural or artistic history of Los Angeles. The Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J. Carter Japanese Garden is just such an example of an unparalleled and irreplaceable artistic landmark. We recommend that the Los Angeles City Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee approve the application for Historic Cultural Monument designation of the property.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Love

President

Bel-Air Association

## Google Groups

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**Fwd: Council File 17-0156 The Ethel Guiberson/ Hannah Carter Japanese Garden**

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Sharon Dickinson

Apr 4, 2017 7:35 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **Marcia Hobbs** <marcia@marciahobbs.com>  
Date: Sun, Apr 2, 2017 at 5:21 PM  
Subject: Council File 17-0156 The Ethel Guiberson/ Hannah Carter Japanese Garden  
To: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, shawn.kuk@lacity.org, Faisal Alserri <faisal.alserrri@lacity.org>, "shawn.bayliss@lacity.org" <shawn.bayliss@lacity.org>  
Cc: Dan Love <baassociation100@gmail.com>, Bel-Air Association <baa@belaironline.org>

To the Members of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee:

It is my hope that you will complete the process to save this historically important garden by designating it as a Historic Cultural Monument.

The garden has been a very quiet but important site for decades under the care of Gordon and Ethel Guiberson who brought specialists over from Japan to do the original design on this special hillside plot. They also were responsible for some of the antique statuary that was especially chosen for and flown from Japan to be installed on the site.

When Hannah and Edward Carter purchased the home on Siena Way they took over stewardship of this unique site with the statuary by Japanese "Heritage Stonemasons", and allowed public visitation---especially from scholars from around the world. Mr Carter, who was a Regent of the University of California, made the decision that the best way to preserve the garden for future generations was to bequeath it to the University and that it be managed by UCLA in perpetuity. All was fine until Mrs Carter passed away, when UCLA decided that they had the right to sell it, though the legal documents indicated otherwise. There followed three years of legal back and forth in a court in Alameda county---and eventually UCLA moved the statuary out one day without warning and put the house and garden up for sale.

Mrs. Carter's children tried to fight legally, but the expenses became quite onerous----and UCLA, which was experiencing some financial cuts was not cooperative. In the end there has been a detente between the university and the Carter family and we find the garden and its contents in your hands for preservation for the future.

It is my fervent hope that you will designate the site as a Cultural Monument Tuesday. I wish I could be there to plead in person, but a surgery intervened.

Thank you,  
Marcia Wilson Hobbs  
Chair of the Bel Air Association

## Google Groups

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**Fwd: Council File 17-0156 The Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden**

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Sharon Dickinson

Apr 4, 2017 7:51 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **I. Sandler** <isandle@earthlink.net>  
Date: Mon, Apr 3, 2017 at 5:51 PM  
Subject: Council File 17-0156 The Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden  
To: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, shawn.kuk@lacity.org

April 3, 2017

**RE: Council File 17-0156 The Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden**

From: Irene Sandler  
11809 Gwynne Ln.  
Los Angeles, ca. 90077

To: The LA City Council Planning and Land Use Committee  
Councilmember Jose Huizar, Chair  
Councilmember Gilbert A Cedillo  
Councilmember Marqueece Dawson  
Councilmember Mitchell Englander  
Councilmember Councilman Curren Price

Los Angeles City Hall  
200 No. Spring St.  
Los Angeles, Ca 90012

email to sharon.dickinson@lacity.org and shawn.kuk@lacity.org

To Chairman Huizar and Honorable Members of the Planning and Land Use Committee,

I support the designation of Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument to the list of Los Angeles Historical Cultural Monuments.

This garden is a unique and special jewel within our City

Because of the Garden's noteworthy design and designer, its being the first Japanese Garden built in Southern Ca. after World War II, its terraced hillside location within walking distance from UCLA, its ability to calm the soul...These are reasons alone for preserving it in perpetuity.

Our historic cultural monuments give us the message that some gifts from the past remain to inspire the gifts in our future. The Guiberson/Hannah Carter Garden is a living treasure both for today and for tomorrow. It is an integral part of the history of Los Angeles. Please preserve it!

Sincerely,  
Irene Sandler

## Google Groups

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### Fwd: 17-0156

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**Sharon Dickinson**

Apr 4, 2017 8:00 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **Stephen Twining** <belaircpa90077@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Apr 3, 2017 at 7:38 PM

Subject: Re: 17-0156

To: Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org, shawn.kuk@lacity.org

The Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden should be entered in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments by the City of Los Angeles. Please copy and distribute to all PLUM committee members. Stephen C. Twining, President Emeritus Bel-Air Beverly Crest N.C.

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11693 San Vicente Blvd. #131

Los Angeles, CA 90049

310 472-6091 Fax 310 476-5842

belaircpa90077@gmail.com

## Google Groups

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### Fwd: CF 17-0156, Save the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden!

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Sharon Dickinson

Apr 4, 2017 7:35 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **Lois Becker/Mark Stratton** <loismark@gmail.com>  
Date: Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 4:08 PM  
Subject: CF 17-0156, Save the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden!  
To: Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>, shawn.kuk@lacity.org

Dear Sharon,

Attached please find my letter in support of saving the Guiberson/Carter Garden.

Lois Becker

April 1, 2017

LA City Council Planning & Land Use Management Committee:  
LA City Hall  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

*Via Email to Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org*

**re: Council File 17-0156, the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden**

To Chairman Jose Huizar and the Members of the PLUM Committee:

I write in support of the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J. Carter Japanese Garden's designation as a City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument.

Los Angeles is a complex organism, the sum of many parts. Too often it is portrayed as a sunny, sprawling wasteland, a place where "there is no there there." But in reality, it is a city with a rich inner life. The trick is that you have to find it and assemble it yourself, a bit here, a bit there. L.A. is full of places of interest, hidden jewels scattered across a vast metropolitan area, just waiting to be discovered. These places give texture and variety to our city and make L.A. a deeply rewarding place to live and explore. For many years the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J. Carter Japanese Garden was one of the loveliest of these hidden treasures.

I urge you to put it on the list.

Respectfully,



Lois Becker  
3100 Corda Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90049



## Google Groups

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**Fwd: Council File 17-0156, the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden"**

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**Sharon Dickinson**

Apr 4, 2017 7:36 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **Judy Horton** <jhorton@jmhgardendesign.com>  
Date: Mon, Apr 3, 2017 at 6:33 AM  
Subject: Council File 17-0156, the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden"  
To: "sharon.dickinson@lacity.org" <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>, "shawn.kuk@lacity.org" <shawn.kuk@lacity.org>

Dear Sharon & Shawn – I have attached my letter supporting the HCM designation for the garden. All best,  
Judy

*Judy M. Horton**136 ½ N. Larchmont Bl. Ste. B**Los Angeles, CA 90004**323 462-1413**323 440-9846 cell**jhorton@jmhgardendesign.com*

To: Planning and Land Use Management Committee, Los Angeles City  
Sharon Dickinson, PLUM Committee Legislative Assistant  
Shawn Kuk, Greater Los Angeles Area - Planning Director for the Office of  
Councilmember Jose Huizar, PLUM Committee Chairperson

From: Judy Horton

Re: Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden HCM designation

Date: April 2, 2017

Dear Planning and Land Use Management Committee,

I am writing in strong support of the designation of the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden as a Historic-Cultural Monument for the City of Los Angeles.

Since the late nineteenth century, Southern California home owners, designers, and gardeners have taken inspiration from Japanese landscape design to create a rich legacy of Japanese-style gardens. In 2007, while a board member of the California Landscape & Garden History Society, I produced a 3-day conference, "California Japanese-Style Gardens: Tradition & Practice" that explored Los Angeles' rich legacy of Japanese-style gardens. The conference was co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Conservancy, the Japanese American National Museum, and the Garden Conservancy. Participants saw what I considered to be our most significant Japanese-style gardens: the UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden, the Huntington Japanese Garden, the Storrier Stearns Japanese Garden, and the James Irvine Garden

After UCLA closed and announced plans to sell the Hannah Carter Japanese Garden in 2011, I represented the California Garden & Landscape History Society in the coalition of garden and preservation organizations formed to advocate for the garden's preservation and continued public access.

I hope that you will affirm the Cultural Heritage Commission's recommendation to designate the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden as a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument. This garden is an important part of the historic and cultural heritage of the City of Los Angeles and should be recognized and protected.

Thank you for your consideration.

Judy Horton  
2659 N Beachwood Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 90068  
[jhorton@jmhgardendesign.com](mailto:jhorton@jmhgardendesign.com)  
323 462-1413

Google Groups

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**Fwd: RE; Council File 17-0156 Hannah Carter Japanese Garden**

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Sharon Dickinson

Apr 4, 2017 7:39 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **Haydi Sowerwine** <haydi@villagetechnolutions.org>  
Date: Mon, Apr 3, 2017 at 11:39 AM  
Subject: RE; Council File 17-0156 Hannah Carter Japanese Garden  
To: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Ms Dickinson,

Please find attached a support letter for The Garden.

Thank you for your attention to this.

Hannah Sowerwine  
daughter of Hannah Carter

home 650-853-1713    haydi@villagetechnolutions.org    cell 650-464-7123

VTS Website Looma Video Looma Brochure SafaPani Video

Hannah Sowerwine  
999 Olive Street  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

April 2, 2017

Planning and Land Use Management Committee  
"Council File 17-0156, the Hannah Carter Japanese Garden"

I, Hannah Sowerwine (daughter of Hannah Carter), am writing on behalf of my siblings, Jim Caldwell, Anne Caldwell, Jonathan Caldwell and Julie Tave to thank you for considering adding The Hannah Carter Japanese Garden to your list of Historic-Cultural Monuments for the City of Los Angeles. Unfortunately, none of us will be able to attend this important meeting. Please be assured that this is not for lack of interest. We also deeply appreciate Adrian Fine of the LA Conservancy and numerous LA area 'Friends of The Garden' who continue to support the process of adding The Garden to the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments, City of Los Angeles.

As you may have read in the earlier Commission meeting notes, my mother was devoted to the garden and its needs. Until she moved to the Bay Area (in her 90's) she still delighted in 'going to the garden' and inviting groups of all kinds to come to visit. We hope many of you have had an opportunity to visit and truly understand what a treasure the garden is.

We hope you will vote to take this additional step toward declaring it a Historic-Cultural Monument.

Sincerely,

Hannah Sowerwine  
(eldest daughter of Hannah Carter)  
haydi@villagetechnologies.org  
650-853-1713

## Google Groups

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### **Fwd: Council File 17-0156, the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden**

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**Sharon Dickinson**

Apr 4, 2017 7:34 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **Lois Becker/Mark Stratton** <loismark@gmail.com>

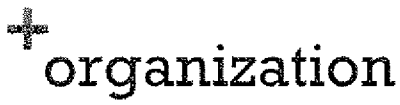
Date: Sat, Apr 1, 2017 at 4:04 PM

Subject: Council File 17-0156, the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden

To: Sharon Dickinson <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>, shawn.kuk@lacity.org

Attached please find my letter in support of making the Guiberson/Carter Japanese Garden a Historic-Cultural Monument. Please distribute to all members of the PLUM Committee. Thank you.

Mark Stratton



Mark Stratton  
3100 Corda Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

April 1, 2017

LA City Council Planning & Land Use Management Committee:  
Councilmember José Huizar, Chair  
Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson  
Councilmember Gilbert A. Cedillo  
Councilmember Mitchell Englander  
Councilmember Curren D. Price  
LA City Hall  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

*Via Email to Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org*

**re: Council File 17-0156, the Guiberson/Carter Japanese Garden**

To Chairman Jose Huizar and Honorable Members of the PLUM Committee:

I am writing to ask that the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J. Carter Japanese Garden be put on the list of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments.

This is a time of great and necessary changes in our urban and social landscape. But as we build what is in many ways a new city, it is more vital than ever that we preserve the treasures from our past. They give us context, link us to our history and to each other. The Guiberson/Carter Japanese Garden is a living work of art, a testament to our city's strong ties with Japan, and an irreplaceable part of the living, evolving organism that is Los Angeles. I want this exquisite garden preserved in perpetuity. Naming it a City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument is step one.

Sincerely,

*Mark Stratton*  
Mark Stratton

## Google Groups

**Fwd: Council File17-0156EhtelGuiberson?Hannah Carter Gardens**

Sharon Dickinson

Apr 4, 2017 7:43 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **BETTE BILLET** <bettebillet@ucla.edu>  
 Date: Mon, Apr 3, 2017 at 2:04 PM  
 Subject: Council File17-0156EhtelGuiberson?Hannah Carter Gardens  
 To: isandler@earthlink.net, sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, shawn.kuk@lacity.org

Dear Ms.Dickinson and S.Kuk,Please support the preservation of these gardens by enetering them into the list of Historic Cultural Monuments. Bette Billet

On Apr 1, 2017, at 7:31 PM, Haydi Sowerwine <haydi@villagetechnologies.org> wrote:

Thanks Stephanie and Irene for followup.

I will be sending a letter on behalf of the family to the two women indicated below. None of us will be able to attend. We wish to thank you for your ongoing interest, support and possible attendance.

Haydi

On Mar 31, 2017, at 8:41 PM, Barbanell <Barbanell@aol.com> wrote:

Just a few more hurdles to go in order to protect and preserve the garden "in perpetuity"...!

**From:** "I. Sandler" <isandle@earthlink.net>  
**Date:** March 31, 2017 at 10:31:36 PM EDT  
**To:** Irene Sandler <isandle@earthlink.net>  
**Cc:** Adrian Fine <afine@laconservancy.org>, George Shakespear <gshakespear@gardenconservancy.org>, Barbanell Stephanie <Barbanell@aol.com>  
**Subject:** **Save Hannah J Carter Garden:YOUR Help is Needed NOW**  
**Reply-To:** "I. Sandler" <isandle@earthlink.net>

Dear Supporter of the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J Carter Japanese Garden (so named in LA City documents),

If you want to preserve the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J Carter Garden, you can help to make this happen!

This can be achieved by having the the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden, located at 10619 West Bellagio Road, entered in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments by the City of Los Angeles.

I hope you (and your interested friends/Boards) will email a short letter ASAP to the members of the LA City Council PLUM (Planning and Land Use Management) Committee, requesting that those members vote in favor of making the garden a Historic Cultural Monument (HCM).

In the Subject Line, please refer to "Council File 17-0156, the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah

Carter Japanese Garden"

Below are the 2 addresses to which your PLUM letter(S) should be e-mailed (by the day before the April 4 Meeting).

Send to both

[sharon.dickinson@lacity.org](mailto:sharon.dickinson@lacity.org) (Sharon Dickinson is the PLUM Committee Legislative Assistant)

and

[shawn.kuk@lacity.org](mailto:shawn.kuk@lacity.org) (Shawn Kuk is the Greater Los Angeles Area - Planning Director for the Office of Councilmember Jose Huizar, PLUM Committee Chairperson.)

If you can attend the PLUM Meeting, that would be great! Details:

Planning and Land Use Management Committee, Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 2:30 PM  
NEW LOCATION: John Ferraro Council Chamber, Room 340, 200 North Spring St., LA 90012

We have supported the efforts of Save the Hannah Carter Japanese Garden, hoping to stop the sale of the garden by UCLA to the highest bidder. After multiple costly legal battles with the University of California Board of Regents and with UCLA representatives, Hannah Carter's family agreed to a settlement, whereby the Garden would be preserved by the purchaser and UCLA for a period of 30 years. The Garden has already been purchased, but UCLA must make sure it is protected and preserved for those 30 years. The LA Conservancy and Garden Conservancy groups, the Caldwells, as well as other dedicated individuals, have never given up on *preserving the Garden in perpetuity*. Let's do our part!

There are two steps left:

1. A Los Angeles City Council Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUM) Hearing to approve the Historic-Cultural Monument designation on Tuesday, April 4, 2017. Your letters will help!

2. A City Council Meeting, yet to be scheduled...dependent upon the outcome of the April 4 PLUM Meeting... to approve the Historic-Cultural Monument designation. Letters to the City Council, referring to the same file number, will also help!

If you would like to see the correspondence from the LA Conservancy requesting Community support, please let me know; and I'll forward that to you.

Thanks for your interest and your help,

Irene Sandler, Accidental Activist  
One of the supporters of Save the HCJ Garden

home 650-853-1713    [haydi@villagetechsolutions.org](mailto:haydi@villagetechsolutions.org)    cell 650-464-7123

VTS Website Looma Video Looma Brochure SafaPani Video



Google Groups

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**Fwd: Council File 17-0156, the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden**

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**Sharon Dickinson**

Apr 4, 2017 7:41 AM

Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

From: **R. Michael Rich** <rmr@astro.ucla.edu>  
Date: Mon, Apr 3, 2017 at 11:56 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Council File 17-0156, the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden  
To: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

Dear Los Angeles City Council and Councilman Koretz,

Please find attached my Letter requesting your support for the Guiberson/Carter Garden to join the Los Angeles City Historic/Cultural Monuments. Thank you kindly for your support and consideration.

Dr. R. Michael Rich, Ph.D.



R. MICHAEL RICH  
DIVISION OF ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS  
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY  
430 PORTOLA PLAZA  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90095-1547  
PHONE: (310) 794-5337

4 April 2016  
Planning and Land Use Committee  
Los Angeles City Council

**In re: Ethel Guiberson/Hannah Carter Japanese Garden**

Dear Council Members:

I write to request that you support the addition of the Ethel Guiberson/Hannah J Carter Japanese Garden to the list of Los Angeles Historic/Cultural Monuments. The garden is a treasured part of our community, but it is also uniquely historical, saving important artistic treasures and special landscape. The garden is a priceless work of art, containing site-specific installations of sculpture, structures, and plant material. The garden was designed by famed landscape architect Nagao Sakurai of Tokyo (Imperial Household Agency), and garden designer Kazuo Nakamura of Kyoto, and built at a cost of \$1,000,000 in the 1960s. Note that the Imperial Household Agency maintains Japanese gardens and architecture for the Emperor and Royal Family of Japan. The garden was restored after 1980s floods by the late and much honored UCLA professor Koichi Kawana. I respectfully argue that the garden as a whole is a work of art and irreplaceable piece of cultural heritage, and plead for Los Angeles to classify it as an HCM.

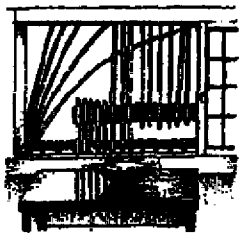
Many structures in the garden- the main gate, bridges, garden house, and family shrine- were built in Japan and reassembled at the garden. Included are many antique structures and objects acquired in Japan, like a 1000 year old Buddha carving and a spectacular five tiered Pagoda, along with a spectacular collection of carved stones. This garden is a time capsule of prewar Japan and a unique treasure. I have enclosed supporting documentation, including a detailed brochure describing the garden. Please examine these materials if you have any question.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Michael Rich".

R. Michael Rich  
Research Astronomer, Adjunct Professor of Astronomy, UCLA  
rnr@astro.ucla.edu

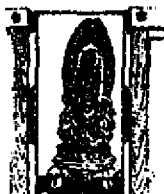
8. The garden house is located away from the center of the Garden, shielded by black bamboos and pines. Deliberately inconspicuous, its purity is intended as a sanctuary from the complex world. The garden house may also be used for the tea ceremony or *cha-no-yu*. A tea ceremony is limited to five people, hence the size of the house. The stone water basins, or *tsukubai*, are for ritual washing before entering. A dry streambed of white stones runs beneath the house. At its source behind the house is a symbolic arrangement of 16 carefully chosen large stones in an area especially conducive to intense meditation.



9. Behind the garden house is the Hawaiian garden. It contains five species of tree ferns and 25 other fern varieties, as well as seven classes of palms. Various tropical vines and epiphytes, including aroids, orchids, and bromeliads are also present. The pool is used as a nursery for baby *koi*.



10. Like the main gate, the *bokoro* or family shrine is made of Cryptomeria wood and the roof is Cryptomeria bark. The materials are deliberately left unpainted to mellow with age. The antique hand-carved Buddha inside the shrine is decorated with gold leaf. The two stone lions were carved in China during the 18th century.



11. The outdoor sunken bath might be found at a Japanese mountain resort. Being a volcanic country, Japan has many hot springs. Here appropriate volcanic rocks placed above the bath and the pebbled walk below suggests a spring-fed stream. The camellias near the bathhouse bloom in winter and spring.



12. The moon-viewing deck is authentic except for the modern furniture. The part of the Garden near the main entrance is more exuberant than the relatively controlled areas to the right. The general plan of the Garden is supposed to embody the cycle from wild youth to sedate maturity in a sequence arranged in a counterclockwise order.



13. Fine *bonsai* are displayed in the former barbeque area, an amusing cultural hybrid showing Japanese craftsmen's adaptability to California ideas. Here a modern serving counter is decorated with old chrysanthemum and camellia patterns. The pavement is pebbled in a pattern representing the legend of the leaf, the butterfly, and the family.



1. The main gate is in the style of the famous Ichida estate in Kyoto. The wood is Cryptomeria, a Japanese relative of the redwood, the proper material for sacred structures. The black slate was quarried in the mountains near Nara. The bamboo fence is a classic type first used in the 17th century.



2. The first bridge inside the gate is a natural stone from Kyoto. On the right side of the first flight of steps is a stone carved more than 1,000 years ago showing the Buddha seated in 16 different positions of worship; 16 signifies immortality.

3. A focal point of the garden is the pool with colorful *koi* swimming among water-lilies. Some of these *koi* are as old as the garden itself. *Koi* can live for more than 200 years. Near the pool are Japanese maples with red and purple foliage.



4. Each of the pines by the pool has a special name and role. The view-perfecting pine overhangs the smooth pebble beach. By the round stepping stones is the stretching pine. Below and to the right of the waterfall is the cascade-screening tree. Above and to the left of the waterfall is the principal tree or upright spirit.



5. At the base of the view-perfecting pine is the rugged dedication stone or *raibai soki*, the spiritual center of the garden. The big flat stone by the smooth pebble beach is the thinking stone. In the pool are the crane and tortoise islands.

6. The two large rectangular stepping stones, like those at the Heian Shrine in Kyoto, are called devil-casting stones. If you take this zig-zag path across the pool, a pursuing devil may fall into the water and drown. The round stepping stones are old millstones. The noisy bamboo device, perpetually filling with water and spilling over, is a wild boar chaser.



7. The *stupa*, a five-tiered pagoda, stands above white stones representing Buddha's bones. There are five elements—sky, wind, fire, water, and earth; and five cardinal virtues—humanity, justice, politeness, wisdom, and fidelity. Above the *stupa* stands a deciduous spring-flowering Chinese magnolia.



**AESTHETICS:** The complex aesthetic values of traditional Japanese gardens stem mainly from Zen Buddhism. Among Zen concepts expressed in garden design are: asymmetry and a preference for the imperfect and for odd numbers; naturalness and an avoidance of the forced and artificial; hiding part of the whole to achieve profundity with mystery; a quality of maturity and mellowness that comes with age and time; tranquility, simplicity, and austerity.

The teahouse became a major element in Japanese gardens in the 16th century, when the tea ceremony became another way of Zen. The path to the teahouse was designed to be traversed slowly, giving participants a mood of tranquil otherworldliness.

## ***UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden***

In 1959 Gordon G. Guiberson decided to create a Japanese garden on his Bel-Air estate. He and his wife hired famed landscape architect Nagao Sakurai of Tokyo and garden designer Kazuo Nakamura of Kyoto. Construction took over a year and a half and was completed in 1961. Guiberson dedicated the Japanese garden to his mother, Ethel L. Guiberson.

Chair of The Regents of the University of California Edward W. Carter and his wife Hannah purchased the estate in 1965. That same year, they donated the garden to UCLA. In 1969 heavy rains damaged the garden. UCLA professor of art and campus architect Koichi Kawana designed the needed reconstruction. In 1982 the garden was officially renamed the UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden.

The UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden was inspired by the gardens of Kyoto. Many structures in the garden—main gate, garden house, bridges, and family shrine—were built in Japan and reassembled here. Antique stone carvings, water basins, and lanterns, as well as the five-tiered pagoda, and key symbolic rocks are also from Japan. In addition, several hundred tons of local stones came from quarries in Ventura County and the foot of Mt. Baldy, northeast of Los Angeles. All the trees and plants in the Garden belong to species that grow in Japan, with the exception of the California live oaks that predate the Garden.

**Hours:** Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:00a.m.–3:00p.m. by reservation only. Please call (310)825-4574.

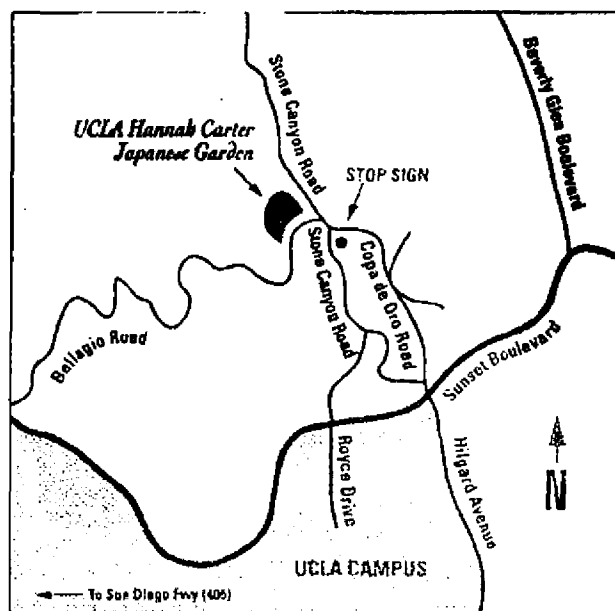
**Weather:** The Garden may close, without notice, due to inclement weather or hazardous conditions.

**Admission:** Free

**Attire:** The Garden is traversed by steep stone pathways. Athletic shoes are recommended.

**Parking:** Reservation includes free parking. Park in designated spaces only.

**Location:** The UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden is located on 10619 Bellagio Road in Bel-Air. From Sunset Boulevard turn north onto Stone Canyon Road. Proceed to the stop sign. Pass the stop sign and turn left onto Bellagio Road. Proceed slowly. The Garden is the third property on the right.



**Donation:** If you would like to make a donation, please make check payable to *The UCLA Foundation* and mail to:

UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden  
10920 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1520  
Los Angeles, CA 90024-6618

# *The UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden*

## *Los Angeles, California*

*The garden,  
originally built by  
oil magnate Gordon Guiberson  
and his wife,  
is filled with souvenirs  
of their trips to Japan.*

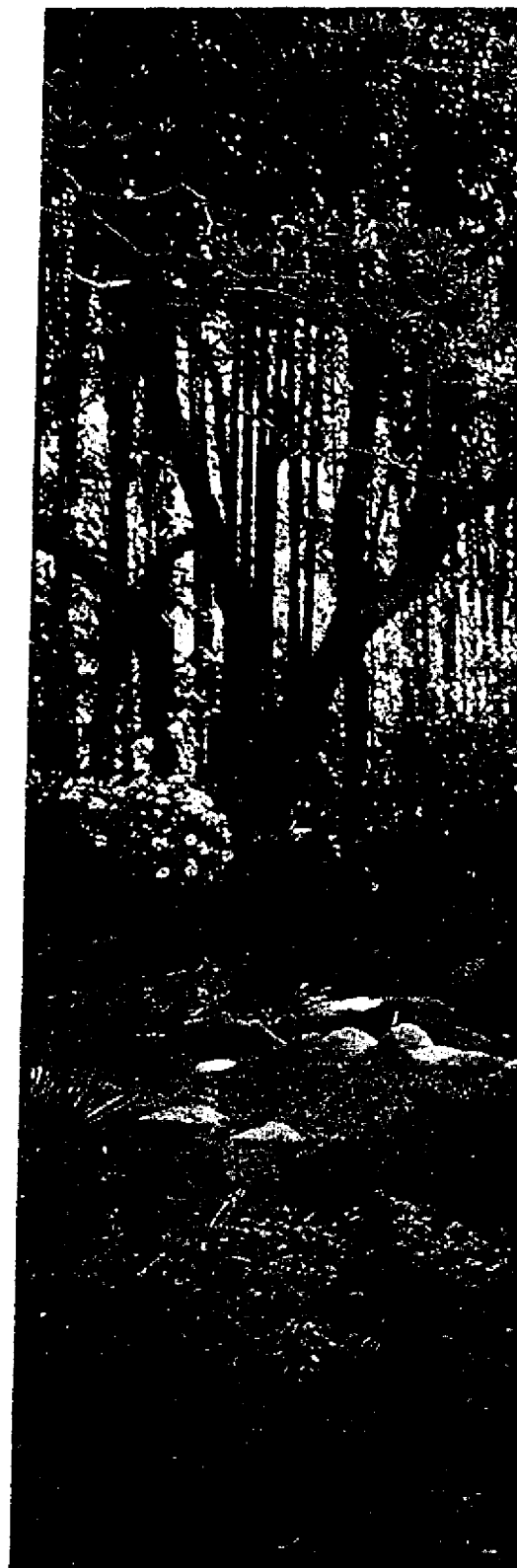
The status of most Japanese-style gardens in North America derives from the ability of their patrons to pose them as substitutes for gardens in Japan. As a simulacrum of the generic "Japanese garden," the garden on foreign soil fulfills the functions of serenity and purity attributed to historical gardens in Japan. As such it demonstrates the patron's status based on the level of his or her esoteric knowledge and heightened aesthetic appreciation. Any lien on authenticity must be demonstrated in the physical construction of the garden—usually by utilizing real Japanese materials and workers and copying features from well-known Japanese gardens—and in its ideological construction, manifest in the texts written about it. The UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden demonstrates both claims in its construction and in the booklets published first by its original owner and then by its current steward, the University of California, Los Angeles.

On the hill behind his home in the fashionable Bel Air section of Los Angeles, from 1959 to 1961 oil-man Gordon Guiberson built a Japanese-style garden, naming it Shikyōen, or "Garden That Reminds One of Kyoto." Manifesting Guiberson's long interest in Japanese art, it was dedicated to his late mother Ethel Guiberson, a garden enthusiast. Guiberson and his wife had traveled to Japan twice, falling in love with the beauty of gardens in Kyoto; they then studied Japanese-style gardens in America. To design their garden they hired Nagao Sakurai, a noted Japanese designer who planned the 1939 Japanese gardens for San Francisco's Golden Gate International Exposition and for the New York World's Fair, and who had immigrated to California in 1953. For the Guiberson garden, Sakurai sought to adapt features of Kyoto gardens admired by the Guibersons to the hillside setting and preexisting Spanish-style garden, built in 1927 by A. E. Hansen for Harry Calandar. In 1965 Edward Carter, department store magnate and regent of the University of California, bought the property and gave the garden to UCLA to honor his wife, Hannah.

The garden is entered from the bottom by a stone-based stucco and tile gate copied from a gate at the Ichida estate in Kyoto's Nanzenji district. Built by Yoichirō Yoshihara in Japan, it was dismantled, shipped to Los Angeles, and reassembled by Kazuo Nakamura. A Katsura-style bamboo fence extends from the gate. Inside, stone steps pass imported water basins and a stone with fifteen carved images of Buddha. The garden contains nearly a thousand tons of stone from Santa Paula Canyon in Ventura County and quarries near Mt. Baldy, but the most important stones, along

with the numerous water basins, lanterns, and other ornaments, were brought from Japan. The flat, lower section of the garden features a koi pond encrusted with plants, small lanterns, a stone pagoda, a black pebble beach, and stones including the flat "thinking stone" as well as the 9.5-ton "boat stone." The intimate pond, fed by a dramatic waterfall, is crossed in one corner by a low bridge and at its center by two rectangular paving stones and three circular mill stones—an adaptation of stones at the pond garden of Heian Jingū. A rusticated, shingled teahouse overlooks the pond. The teahouse also seems to float above a "river" of smooth white pebbles flowing from the hill above. Several steep paths ascend the heavily planted hillside to converge on the "Hokora shrine." Made by the Kyoto artisans who built the entry gate, this small cryptomeria-roofed structure houses a gilt wooden Buddha. The east part of the hill contains three functional areas: at top is a stone bathhouse, left over from the Spanish garden, with a sunken bath fed by a rivulet; in the middle is an open wooden deck for "moon viewing" with a Japanese railing featuring *giboshi*; at bottom is a barbecue area with a stone counter designed by Nakamura. The extreme western part of the garden features a spectacular "Hawaiian waterfall."

Despite the obvious inauthenticities of the Hawaiian cataract, patio deck, barbecue terrace, Spanish-style bathhouse, and numerous live oaks, as well as the crowded pastiche of the Japanese elements, Guiberson's original booklet and UCLA's subsequent pamphlet present the garden as virtually authentic. Both begin with histories of Japanese gardens and then discuss the "principal features within the garden" in terms of their relation to Japanese garden history, asserting that this garden could just as well have been made in mid-seventeenth-century Kyoto as in mid-twentieth-century Los Angeles. For its owners, the pleasure and status derived from the garden stem from these claims of authenticity and, by extension, legitimacy.



*The small, flat area at the base of this hillside garden is filled with a thousand tons of California stones, and other "important" stones brought from Japan.*

## Directory and Bibliography

### Japanese Tea Garden at Golden Gate Park

Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive, San Francisco, California  
(415) 666-7107  
Hours: open daily, hours vary by season. Fee.  
Designed by George Turner Marsh, Makoto Hagiwara,  
Nagao Sakurai.

#### Bibliography

Brown, Kendall H. "Rashōmon: the multiple histories of the Japanese Tea Garden at Golden Gate Park." *Studies In The History of Gardens and Designed Landscapes* 18:2 (April-June 1998): 93-119.

Ishihara, Tanso, and Gloria Wickham. *The Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park 1893-1942*. Privately published, 1979.

McClintock, Elizabeth. *The Japanese Tea Garden, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California*. San Francisco: The John McClaren Society, 1977.

San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. *Japanese Tea Garden, Golden Gate Park*. Undated pamphlet.

### The Huntington Japanese Gardens

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California  
(626) 405-2141

Hours: Tuesday to Friday 12:00-4:30, Saturday and Sunday 10:30-4:30.

Stroll garden designed by William Hertrich; "Zen garden" designed by Robert Watson.

#### Bibliography

Brandow, Anita. *Guide to the Henry Edwards Huntington Botanical Gardens*. San Marino, Calif.: Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, 1971.

Garret, Peter. *Stately Homes of California*. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.: 1915.

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Thorpe, James. *Henry Edwards Huntington, A Biography*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1994.

### Hakone Gardens

21000 Big Basin Way, Saratoga, California  
(408) 741-4994

Hours: weekdays 10:00-5:00, weekends 11:00-5:00.

Fee for parking.

Designed by Naoharu Aihara; Bamboo Garden by Kiyoshi Yasui.

#### Bibliography

Fox, Frances L. *Hakone Gardens, A Charming Bit of Nippon Is Authentically Portrayed in Quint Saratoga City Park*. San Jose, Calif.: Harlan-Young Press, 1968.

"Hakone debt worries officials." *San Jose Mercury News* (November 20, 1993): B-1.

Ishihara, Tanso, and Gloria Wickham. *Hakone Garden*. Kyoto: Kawahara shoten, 1974.

### Kubota Garden

Renton Avenue South and Fifty-fifth Avenue South, Seattle, Washington  
(206) 725-5060  
Hours: open daily during daylight.  
Designed by Fujitarō Kubota.

#### Bibliography

Shibata, Yoshimi. "The Garden That Love Built." *Reader's Digest* (March 1989): 79-83.

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Streatfield, David. "The Resonance of Japan in Pacific Northwest Gardens." *Washington Park Arboretum Bulletin* 60:1 (Winter 1998): 2-5.

### The Bloedel Reserve

7571 Northeast Dolphin Drive, Bainbridge Island, Washington  
(206) 842-7631

Hours (by reservation only): Wednesday to Sunday 10:00-4:00.

Pond garden designed by Fujitarō Kubota; dry and moss gardens designed by Kōichi Kawana.

#### Bibliography

Bloedel, Prentice. "The Bloedel Reserve: Its Purpose and Its Future." *University of Washington Arboretum Bulletin* 41:1 (Spring 1980): 2-6.

Brown, Richard. "The Japanese Garden: An Evolution in Time." *The Bloedel Reserve* 2:2 (Summer/Fall 1990): 1, 4.

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Haag, Richard. "Contemplations of Japanese Influence on the Bloedel Reserve." *Washington Park Arboretum Bulletin* 53:2 (Summer 1990), 16-19.

Lowry, Deci. "The Moss Garden at Bloedel Reserve." *Pacific Horticulture* 51:1 (January 1990): 16-20.

### The UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden

10619 Bellagio Road, Los Angeles, California  
(310) 825-4574

Hours (by reservation only): Tuesday 10:00-1:00, Wednesday 12:00-3:00.

Designed by Nagao Sakurai; reconstructed by Kōichi Kawana in 1969 after flood damage.

#### Bibliography

Benson, Sheila. "Japanese Garden . . . Where Peace Rules." *Los Angeles Times* (August 20, 1991): F-6, 7.

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"It's not Kyoto or Nikko, it's right in Los Angeles." *Sunset* (March 1966): 104-8.

*The UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden*. Undated pamphlet.

### Ganna Walska Lotusland

695 Ashley Road, Montecito, California  
(805) 969-9990

Tours (by reservation only): mid-February through mid-November.