

Robinson, Delinda x5198

From: Dion Neutra Architecture [dion@neutra.org]
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2012 1:12 PM
To: Robinson, Delinda x5198
Cc: Dale Ellis; Anthony Kirk
Subject: 01-23-2012 Arthur Connell House Delinda Robinson d
01-23-2012

Delinda Robinson
Monterey County Planning Department
168 W. Alisal St., 2nd floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Dear Ms. Robinson:

I am writing to you in regard to the proposed demolition of the Connell house, 1170 Signal Hill Road, Pebble Beach, designed in 1957 by my father, Richard Neutra. Our records show it completed in 1958.

I have read the evaluation of the house prepared by Anthony Kirk, Ph.D., dated October 15, 2010, and am in agreement with his conclusion that it is an important example of modernist architecture. I also think the house exemplifies my father's approach to design, which focused on a client's specific needs and the character of the building site. It is apparent from photographs and Dr. Kirk's report that the Connell house was masterfully integrated into the sandy landscape of Signal Hill and that it was designed to take full advantage of the marvelous view of the Pacific coast and Cypress Point Golf course.

My opinion of the house is based not only on my knowledge of my father's work, having worked with him on so many of our projects, but also on my own extensive experience as a licensed architect, which extends back more than half a century. It would be a great tragedy if the only authentic example of a house designed by Richard Neutra standing in Monterey County were to be demolished.

We are including this house in the first volume of a book I'm writing at the moment, called "The Neutras, Then and Later". If because of CEQA we manage to save this house for a more sympathetic use, it will become an example that there ARE tools out there to save important parts of our built heritage!

Very truly yours,

Dion

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01/25/2012

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Please copy this email when replying to me to facilitate communication.

cc: Anthony Kirk
Dale Ellis