

Novo, Mike x5192

From: karen lesney [kelesney@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Friday, August 31, 2012 2:42 PM
To: Novo, Mike x5192; Lawrence, Laura x5148
Cc: Young, Benny x5862
Subject: Neutra's Connell House: Docomomo NOCA letter of support
Attachments: Connell House_Docomomo letter_2012-08-31.pdf

for your records and consideration.
thank you

karen e lesney
mbm : monterey bay modernism

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "gretchen.hilyard@docomomo-noca.org" <gretchen.hilyard@docomomo-noca.org>
To: robinsond@co.monterey.ca.us
Cc: Anthony Kirk <historydoc@aol.com>; gretchen.hilyard@docomomo-noca.org; dion@neutra.org; hines@history.ucla.edu; ahartig@calhist.org; raymondneutra@gmail.com; lamprecht barbara <bmlamprecht@gmail.com>; kelesney@sbcglobal.net; Liz Waytkus <liz.waytkus@docomomo-us.org>; California Preservation Foundation <jgates@californiapreservation.org>
Sent: Fri, August 31, 2012 2:14:46 PM
Subject: Neutra's Connell House: Docomomo NOCA letter of support

Delinda,

Please find attached a letter from Docomomo NOCA supporting the preservation of the Connell House.

Best,
Gretchen

Gretchen Hilyard
President, Docomomo-NOCA
P.O. Box 29226
San Francisco, CA 94129
info@docomomo-noca.org

08/31/2012

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documentation and conservation

of buildings, sites and neighborhoods of the
modern movement

Northern California Chapter

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August 31, 2012

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

Re: Connell House (1170 Signal Hill Road, Pebble Beach, CA. Permit #PLN100338)

Dear Ms. Robinson,

I am writing to reiterate our support for the preservation of the 1958 Richard Neutra-designed Connell House in Monterey County, California. DOCOMOMO/NOCA is the Northern California chapter of the international non-profit organization DOCOMOMO (Documentation and Conservation of the Modern Movement), established nearly 25 years ago to provide leadership, education, and advocacy assistance to people committed to saving places and collectively shaping the future of America's stories.

DOCOMOMO/NOCA submitted a letter of support regarding the Connell House on March 26, 2012, and we wish to reaffirm our position in response to rebuttal documents submitted on behalf of the property owner. Our position remains unchanged: the unique qualities of the Connell House and its importance to the community should be carefully evaluated before any changes to the site are considered.

The significance and influence of Richard Neutra among twentieth century architects is indisputable. DOCOMOMO/NOCA does not question that the Connell House is the work of Richard Neutra, as both scholarship and the physical details of the building indicate Neutra's hand. The Connell House is clearly a significant historic resource on a local level, as the work of a master whose body of work influenced International Style Modernism throughout California and the world.

Additionally, DOCOMOMO/NOCA is not aware of any other Neutra work in Monterey County with equal integrity. The building is a consummate example of International Style Modernism in Pebble Beach produced by a master architect, and its demolition will result in the loss of a notable example of a lauded architectural style that is central to the history of the development of Pebble Beach. The house also provides an architectural link between Neutra and the Bay Region Tradition, as both emphasized matching buildings to their specific site. We also urge you to consider the integrity of the site as a whole, as poor condition of individual building elements

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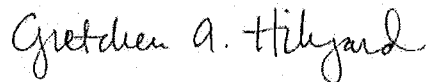
does not reduce the integrity of a historic resource. Integrity is defined as the ability of a property to convey its significance, and we feel that as a rare and remarkable example of

Neutra's design in Monterey, the poor physical condition or contemporary functionality of certain features does not reduce the integrity of the site to a degree that it no longer conveys its significance.

We remain hopeful that we can begin to save and celebrate those buildings that distinguish Northern California as one-of-a-kind in the world. In light of significant historic evidence, DOCOMOMO/NOCA requests that the Connell House be saved from the wrecking ball and that the historic significance of the building guides any proposed future changes to the property.

Please feel free to contact us for more information, or if you have specific questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Gretchen A. Hilyard
President, DOCOMOMO/NOCA

Cc: Massy Mehdipour, property owner
Karen Lesney, Monterey Bay Modernism
Anthony Kirk, historian
Barbara Lamprecht, Lamprecht ArchiteXtural
Elizabeth Waytkus, Docomomo US
Dion Neutra
Raymond Neutra
Anthea Hartig, California Historical Society
Jennifer Gates, California Preservation Foundation

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Letter regarding Connell House (1170 Signal Hill Road, Pebble Beach, CA)