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Date FEB 252009
Los Angeles City Council
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012
ATTENTION: Barbara Greaves, Legislative Assistant Planning and Land Use Management Committee

CASE NUMBER:
CHC-2008-4716-HCM KAYE RESIDENCE 4754 VANALDEN AVENUE

At the Cultural Heritage Commission meeting of February 19, 2009, the Commission moved to include the interior of the above property as an expansion of the currently designated Historic-Cultural Monument, subject to adoption by the City Council.

As required under the provisions of Section 22.171.10 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, the Commission has solicited opinions and information from the office of the Council District in which the site is located and from any Department or Bureau of the city whose operations may be affected by the designation of such site as a Historic-Cultural Monument. Such designation in and of itself has no fiscal impact. Future applications for permits may cause minimal administrative costs.

The City Council, according to the guidelines set forth in Section 22.171 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, shall act on the proposed inclusion to the list within 90 days of the Council or Commission action, whichever first occurs. By resolution, the Council may extend the period for good cause for an additional 15 days.

The Cultural Heritage Commission would appreciate your inclusion of the subject modification to the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments upon adoption by the City Council.

The above Cultural Heritage Commission action was taken by the following vote:

| Moved: | Commissioner Louie |
| :--- | :--- |
| Seconded: | Commissioner Barron |
| Ayes: | Commissioners Scott |
| Absent: | Commissioners Dake and Lehrer |
| Vote: | $\mathbf{3 - 0}$ |



Fey d. Ping, Commission Executive Assistant
Cultural Heritage Commission

## Attachment: Staff Report with Findings

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# Los Angeles Department of City Planning RECOMMENDATION REPORT 

CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION

HEARING DATE: TIME: PLACE:

February 19, 2009 10:00 AM
City Hall, Room 1010 200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

PROJECT:

REQUEST:
OWNERI
APPLICANT:

OWNER'S
REPRESENATIVE:

## RECOMMENDATION

CASE NO.: CHC-2008-4716-HCM ENV-2009-400-CE

Location: 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue Council District: 3
Community Plan Area: Encino-Tarzana Area Planning Commission: South Valley Neighborhood Council: Tarzana Legal Description: Lot PT 74 of TR 2605

Historic-Cultural Monument Application for the KAYE RESIDENCE

Declare the property a Historic-Cultural Monument
Daniel H. and Susie Scalisi
4754 N. Vanalden Avenue
Tarzana, CA 91356
Charles J. Fisher
140 S. Avenue 57
Los Angeles, CA 90042

1. Declare the property a Historic-Cultural Monument per Los Angeles Administrative Code Chapter 9, Division 22, Article 1, Section 22.171.7
2. Adopt the report findings.
S. GAIL GOLDBERG, AICP

Director of Planning

Ken Bernstein, AICP, Manager
Office of Historic Resources


Lambert M. Giessinger, Preservation Architect Office of Historic Resources


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\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Attachments: } & \text { November 1, } 2008 \text { Historic-Cultural Monument Application } \\
& \text { ZIMAS Report }
\end{array}
$$

## FINDINGS

1. The building "embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction" as an example of Modernist-style residential architecture.
2. The building is associated with a master builder, designer, or architect, as a work by the master architect Gregory Ain.

## CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT ("CEQA") FINDINGS

The Commission hereby recommends that Council find the proposed designation of the Kay Residence as a Historic-Cultural Monument to be exempt from further analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Sections 15308 (Class 8) and 15331 (Class 31).

## CRITERIA

The criterion is the Cultural Heritage Ordinance which defines a historical or cultural monument as any site (including significant trees or other plant life located thereon) building or structure of particular historic or cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles, such as historic structures or sites in which the broad cultural, economic, or social history of the nation, State or community is reflected or exemplified, or which are identified with historic personages or with important events in the main currents of national, State or local history or which embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction, or a notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual genius influenced his age.

## SUMMARY

Built in 1963 and located in the community of Tarzana, this two-story residence exhibits characterdefining features of Modernist Style architecture with some Usonian style elements. The subject building appears to be irregular in plan, and has a flat-hipped roof covered with metal tiles and composition. A major character-defining feature are tiered hexagonal-hipped roofs at the central two story transverse wing as well as two offset wings to the front and rear. The main façade features a recessed square porch and entry door with glass walls to the left. The primary façade and exteriors are sheathed in stucco with wood casement windows, forming a dominant design element: a horizontal ribbon extending along all the building's elevations. An attached three-car garage is located at the southwest corner of the subject building. A tabular steel railing encircles the second-story balcony. The subject property appears to have mature trees and landscaping.

The subject building is the work of master architect Gregory Ain (1908-1988). Ain was a noted and influential architect of twentieth century modern architecture. Ain attended the University of Southern California, School of Architecture and worked early in his career with master architects Richard Neutra and R.M. Schindler. Two of Ain's earliest residential designs were the Charles H. Edwards House (HCM \#260; 1936) and the Amsalem A. Ernst House (HCM \#840; 1937). Ain was awarded with a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1940 to study prefabricated housing. Ain moved to Pennsylvania and became the Dean of School of Architecture at Pennsylvania State University from 1963 to 1967. In addition, Ain formed a partnership with Phillip Johnson and Alfred W. Day after World War II, and designed large housing tracts. Completed in 1949, Mar Vista Tract, one of

Ain's Modernist tract housing projects, was designated a Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) in 2003, becoming the first post-World War II historic district in the City of Los Angeles.

The proposed Kaye Residence historic monument is noted for its use of Usonian design elements of Frank Lloyd Wright by incorporating nature with the built environment and creating open living areas.

Later additions to the proposed Kaye Residence historic monument include the conversion of the screen porch above the garage to a bedroom and bath, construction of a heated swimming pool, and installation of a fireplace in the master bedroom on the $2^{\text {nd }}$ floor. A portion of the cantilevered deck was enclosed to remodel the kitchen including the windows and cabinets. A master bedroom was added in 1976 and remodeled in 2004 according to Ain's original designs.

## DISCUSSION

The Kaye Residence property successfully meets two of the specified Historic-Cultural Monument criteria: 1) "embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction," and 2) is associated with a master builder, designer, or architect. As a noteworthy residential building designed in the Modernist style by master architect Gregory Ain; the property qualifies for designation as a Historic-Cultural Monument based on these criteria.

## BACKGROUND

At its meeting of December 18, 2008, the Cultural Heritage Commission voted to take the application under consideration.

## CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT ("CEQA") REVIEW

State of California CEQA Guidelines, Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 "consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment."

> State of California CEQA Guidelines Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 "consists of projects limited to maintenance, repair, stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, conservation or reconstruction of historical resources in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic buildings."

The designation of the Kaye Residence property as a Historic-Cultural Monument in accordance with Chapter 9, Article 1, of The City of Los Angeles Administrative Code ("LAAC") will ensure that future construction activities involving the subject property are regulated in accordance with Section 22.171.14 of the LAAC. The purpose of the designation is to prevent significant impacts to a Historic-Cultural Monument through the application of the standards set forth in the LAAC. Without the regulation imposed by way of the pending designation, the historic significance and integrity of the subject property could be lost through incompatible alterations and new construction and the demolition of irreplaceable historic structures. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards of Rehabilitation are expressly incorporated into the LAAC and provide standards concerning the historically appropriate construction activities which will ensure the continued preservation of the subject property.

Kaye Residence
CHC-2008-4716-HCM
Page 4 of 4

The use of Categorical Exemption Class 8 in connection with the proposed designation is consistent with the goals of maintaining, restoring, enhancing, and protecting the environment through the imposition of regulations designed to prevent the degradation of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

The use of Categorical Exemption Class 31 in connection with the proposed designation is consistent with the goals relating to the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction of Historic buildings in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings.

# Los Angeles Department of City Planning RECOMMENDATION REPORT 

CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION
HEARING DATE: December 18, 2008
TIME:
PLACE:

10:00 AM
City Hall, Room 1010 200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

CASE NO.: CHC-2008-4716-HCM
Location: 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue
Council District: 3
Community Plan Area: Encino-Tarzana
Area Planning Commission: South Valley
Neighborhood Council: Tarzana
Legal Description: Lot PT 74 of TR 2605

| PROJECT: | Historic-Cultural Monument Application for the KAYE RESIDENCE |
| :---: | :---: |
| REQUEST: | Declare the property a Historic-Cultural Monument |
| OWNER/ APPLICANT: | Daniel H. and Susie Scalisi |
|  | 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue |
|  | Tarzana, CA 91356 |
| OWNER'S REPRESENATIVE: | Charles J. Fisher |
|  | 140 S. Avenue 57 |
|  | Los Angeles, CA 90042 |
| RECOMMENDATION | That the Cultural Heritage Commission: |
| 1. Take the property under consideration as a Historic-Cultural Monument per Los Angeles Administrative Code Chapter 9, Division 22, Article 1, Section 22.171.10 because the application and accompanying photo documentation suggest the submittal may warrant further investigation. |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

2. Adopt the report findings.
S. GAIL GOLDBERG, AICP


Ken Bernstein, AICP, Manager Office of Historic Resources


Lambert M. Giessinger, Preservation Architect Office of Historic Resources


Edgar Garcia, Preservation Planner
Office of Historic Resources

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\text { Attachments: } \quad \text { November 1, } 2008 \text { Historic-Cultural Monument Application }
$$ ZIMAS Report

Kaye Residence
CHC-2008-4716-HCM
Page 2 of 3

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## Kaye Residence

CHC-2008-4716-HCM
Page 3 of 3

## FINDINGS

Based on the facts set forth in the summary and application, the Commission determines that the application is complete and that the property is significant enough to warrant further investigation as a potential Historic-Cultural Monument.

# Historic-Cultural MONUMENT APPLICATION 

## TYPE OR PRINT IN ALL CAPITAL BLOCK LETTERS

## IDENTIFICATION

1. NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT $\qquad$ KAYE RESIDENCE
2. STREET ADDRESS $\qquad$ 4754 VANALDEN AVENUE CITY TARZANA .__ZIP CODE $91356 \ldots$ COUNCIL DISTRICT _ $\quad 3$ ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. $2176-033-001$
3. COMPLETE LEGAL DESCRIPTION: TRACT TRACT NO. 2605, AS PER MAP FILED IN BOOK 27, PAGES 55 AND 75 OF MAPS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY BLOCK N/A LOT(S) LOT 74. PTN BEG AT A POINT N $68^{\circ} 31^{\prime} 30^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{W} 271.16$ FEET FROM THE MOST SLY CORNER OF LOT 4 OF TRACT NO. 19939: THENCE N $68^{\circ} 31^{\prime} 30^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{W} 253.04$ FT TO ELY LINE OF VANALDEN AVE; THENCE S $15^{\circ} 30^{\prime} \mathrm{E} 152.41$ FT:THENCE $\mathrm{N} 74^{\circ} 30^{\prime} \mathrm{W}$ 202.44 FT TOPOB. ARB. NO. 10 RANGE OF ADDRESSES ON PROPERTY_ 4754 THRU 4760 VANALDEN AVENUE
4. PRESENT OWNER_ $\qquad$ DANIELH. AND SUSIE SCALISI STREET ADDRESS 4754 VANALDEN AVENUE CITY TARZANA STATE CA ZIP CODE 91356 PHONE (818) $728-1523$ OWNER IS: PRIVATE $\qquad$ PUBLIC $\qquad$
5. PRESENT USE SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE $\qquad$ ORIGINAL USE SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE $\qquad$

## DESCRIPTION

6. ARCHITECTURAL STYLE USONIAN
7. STATE PRESENT PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE OR STRUCTURE (SEE OPTIONAL DESCRIPTION WORKSHEET)

SEE DESCRIPTION WORKSHEET

## Historic－Cultural Monument Application

NAME OF PROPOSED MONUMENT KAYE RESIDENCE
10．CONSTRUCTION DATE：FACTUAL

$\qquad$
1963
ESTIMATED
$\qquad$
11．ARCHITECT，DESIGNER，OR ENGINEER： $\qquad$ GREGORY AIN
12．CONTRACTOR OR OTHER BUILDER： $\qquad$ OWNER BUILDER
13．DATES OF ENCLOSED PHOTOGRAPHS $\qquad$ MAY 17， 2005
14．CONDITION： $\mathbb{\triangle}$ EXCELLENT $\square$ GOOD $\square F A I R \quad \square D E T E R I O R A T E D \quad \square N O L O N G E R I N E X I S T E N C E ~$
A．ALTERATIONS：AN ORIGINALLY PLANNED MASTER BEDROOM WAS ADDED IN 1976 AND REMODELED IN 2004 CLOSER TO AIN＇S PLANS，KITCHEN REMODEL IN 1998．SWIMMING POOL WAS ADDED IN 1987.
15．THREATS TO SITE $\boldsymbol{\square}$ NONE KNOWN $\square$ PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT $\square$ VANDALISM $\square$ PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT
16．IS THE STRUCTURE $⿴ 囗 ⿰ 丿 ㇄$

## SIGNIFICANCE

17．BRIEFLY STATE HISTORICAL AND／OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE；INCLUDE DATES，EVENTS，AND PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH SITE（SEE OPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE WORKSHEET）
THIS HOUSE WAS DESIGNED BY THE MODERNIST ARCHITECT，GREGORY AIN（1908－1988）AND WAS THE HOME OF LEON S．KAYE AND HIS WIFE，CLAIRE FROM ITS CONSTRUCTION IN 1963 UNTIL 1973 ．THIS HOUSE WAS THE LAST IN THE ARCHITECT＇S SOLO CAREER PRIOR TO HIS MOVE TO PENNSYLVANIA TO HEAD THE PENN STATE ARCHITECTURAL SCHOOL．IT HAS BEEN NOTED IN MANY PUBLICATIONS AS A MARVEL OF HOW AIN EMPLOYED FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT＇S USONIAN PRINCIPALS IN CREATING A DESIGN THAT NOT ONLY CREATES A STRUCTURE THAT IS WELL BLENDED WITH ITS SURROUNDINGS，BUT IS SO AS A TWO－STORY STRUCTURE ON A RELATIVELY FLAT LOT．THE HOUSE RADIATES FROM A FOCAL POINT AT THE ENTRANCE WITH A CENTRAL TWO STORY TRANSVERSE WING TOWARD EITHER SIDE OF THE ENTRANCE AND TWO OFFSET WINGS TO THE FRONT AND REAR．THE SMALL HEXAGONAL HIPPED ROOFS AT THE ENDS OF THE SIDE AND REAR WINGS HELP TO DEFINE THE UNIQUE CHARACTER OF AIN＇S DESIGN．THIS WASA DEPARTURE FROM MUCH OF AIN＇S EARLIER WORK． SOURCES（LIST BOOKS，DOCUMENTS，SURVEYS，PERSONAL INTERVIEWS WITH DATES）LOS ANGELES BUILDING PERMITS PER ATTACHED，ORIGINAL PLANS FOR THE HOUSE IN POSSESSION OF THE OWNER，LOS ANGELES COUNTY ASSESSOR＇S RECORDS，RECORDED DEEDS AND VARIOUS BOOKS ON AIN．
18．DATE FORM PREPARED NOV，1， 2008 PREPARER＇S NAME $\qquad$ CHARLES J．FISHER
19．ORGANIZATION OWNER＇S REPRESENTATIVE $\qquad$ STREET ADDRESS 140 S．AVENUE 57
$\qquad$
E－MAIL ADDRESS： ARROYOSECO＠HOTMAIL．COM

## DESCRIPTION WORK SHEET

TYPE OR PRINT IN ALL CAPITAL BLOCK LETTERS



SINGLE AND MULTI PANE FIXED, CASEMENT AND CLERESTORY WINDOWS___ ARE PART OF THE DESIGN. WINDOW TMPE [DOLGEE HLNG (SLDEES LIP E DOWN), CASEMENT (OPENS OUT), HORRIONTAL SLIING, ETCI

THE ENTRY FEATURES A _RECESSED SQUARE PORCH WITH PLATE GLASS WINDOWS TO THE LEFI SIDE DOOR LOCATON (RECESSEO, CENTERED, OFFCENTER. CORNER, ETC.)

WITH A FLAT WOODEN OFFSET TO THE RIGHT__DOOR. ADDITIONAL CHARACTER DEFINING ELEMENTS

OF THE STRUCTURE ARE TIERED HEXAGONAL HIPPED ROOFS AT THE ENDS OF THREE OF THE WINGS AND A fDENTFY ORUGNAL FEATURES GUCK AS PORCHES (SEE CMART); AALCONIES': NLMBER AND SHAPE OFDORMERS (SEE CHART);

LARGE CHIMNEY TO THE LEFT OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE. LARGE ENCLOSED EAVES WITH BRUSHED REDWOOD LOWER NUMBER AND LOCATION OF CHMMEYS: SHUTEERS, SECONDARY FNISH MATERIALS; PARAPETS; METAL THUM: DECORATIVE TLE OR CAST STONE, ARCHES:

SURFACES. LIVING/ENTERTAINMENT AREAS ARE DEFINED BY LARGE EXPANSES OF SINGLE LIGHT FIXED WINDOWS, ORNAMENTAL WOODWORK, STMMEITY OR ASYMMETRY, CORNICES; FRIEIES: TOWERS OR TURRETS; EAY WINDOWS: HAL FTMEERANG; HORIZONTAITYY,

WHICH ALLOWS THE INTERPLAY OF THE INTERIOR WITH THE OUTSIDE GARDEN. EAVES ARE FREQUENTLY EXTENSIQNS


OF THE CEILING AREAS, THE STRUCTURE IS SET BACK WITH AN AUTO COURT IN FRONT OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE. BUILT-IN GARAGES ADDTIONAL DEFANING ELEMENTS

FOR THREE VEHICLES ARE TO THE LEFT OF THE ENTRANCE. DETAILSINCLUDE CIRCULARFLUSH BUILTIN LIGHTS IN VARIOUS EAVE

LOCATIONS, A TUBULAR STEEL RAILING AROUND A SECOND-STORY BALCONYTOTHE RIGHT OF THE ENTRY, ADDTIONAL DEFINING ELEMENTS

ADDMONAE DEFINING ELEMENTS

SECONDARY BUILDINGS CONSIST OF THERE ARE NO SECONDARY BUILDINGS ON THE SITE. IDENTIFY GARAGE, GARDEN SHELTER, ETC.

SIGNIFICANT INTERIOR SPACES INCLUDE OPEN BEAMED CEILINGS UNDER HEXAGONAL ROOF SECTIONS, AN OPEN IDENTFY ORIGMAL FEATMTES SUCH AS WOOD PANELING: MOLDINGS AND TRIM, SPECIAL GIASS WINOOWS,

FLOQR PLAN BETWEEN LIVING AND DINING ROOMS, CANTILEVERED STAIRCASE. BUILTIN FURNITURE THAT WAS ORNATE CELLINGS; PLASTER MOLDINGS, LAEAT FIKTURES; PAINTED DECORATION: CERAMIC TIEE; STAIR BAC.USTRADES; BUJITHN FURNINURE, ETC.

DESIGNED BY AIN, A LARGE FLOOR TO CEILING FIREPLACE WITH THE MANTEL MADE OF SMALL GRAY PEBBLES, LDENTFY NOTABLE MATURE TTREES AND SHRUBS

MOVABLE SHOJL PANELS BETWEEN ROOMS TO ALLOW PLAN TO REMAIN OPEN OR BE MORE STRUCTURED AND IDENTIFY NOTABLE MATIRE TREES AND SHRUBS

ORIGINAL CUSTOM LIGHTING FIXTURES. BUILTIN FIXTURES AND INTERIOR TRIMARE MADE OF ASH WOOD.
IDENTIFY NOTABLE MATJRETREES AND SHRUBS
HISTORJC-CULTURAL MONUMENT APPLICATION

# CITY OFLOS ANGELES SIGNIFICANCE WORK SHEET 

TYPE OR HAND PRINT IN ALL CAPITAL BLOCK LEITERS

## Complete One or Both of the Upper and Lower Portions of This Page

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

## THE

$\qquad$
$\qquad$ IS AN IMPORTANT EXAMPLE OF

AND MEETS THE CULTURAL HERITAGE ORDINANCE BECAUSE OF THE HIGH QUALITY OF ITS DESIGN AND THE RETENTION OF ITS ORIGINAL FORM, DETAILING AND INTEGRITY.

## AND/OR

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE


DEVELOPMENT OF LOS ANGELES BECAUSE HE WAS OF THE SECOND GENERATION OF MODERN ARCHITECTS THAT WERE TO LEAVE THEIR IMPRINT ON SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MAKING THE AREA ONE OF THE MOST INNOVATIVE DESIGN CENTERS IN THE WORLD. AIN WAS A USC GRADUATE AND WORKED CLOSEL.Y WITH BOTH RICHARD NEUTRA AND R M SCHINDLER EARLY IN HIS CAREER. HE WAS ALSO AN ASSOCIATE OF HARWELL HAMILTON HARRIS DURING THE SAME PERIOD. BORN OF RUSSIAN IMMIGRANT PARENTS IN PHILADELPHIA, AIN WAS AS WELL KNOWN FOR HIS SOCIALIST POLITICAL VIEWS AS HE WAS FOR HIS PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE, MOST OF HIS CLIENTS TENDED TO SHARE HIS $\qquad$
VIEWS. AIN'S EARLY WORK SHARED MANY OF THE CONCEPTS THAT HE LEARNED FROM HIS MENTOR'S, NEUTRA AND. SCHINDLER. HOWEVER, AS AIN EVOLVED, ESPECIALLY AFTER WORLD WAR II. HE BEGAN TO DESIGN HOUSING THAT WAS MEANT FOR ALL PEOPLE. HE FIRMLY BELIEVED THAT MODERNISM WAS NOT JUST FOR THE MONEYED CLASS. HE ALSO WORKED TO BREAK DOWN WALLS THAT KEPT MINORITIES FROM LIVING WHERE THEY CHOSE. HIS MAR VISTA TRACT WAS A MEANS OF BUILDING HOMES FOR ALL. INOVATIONS INCLUDED MOVABLE WALLS THAT WOULD ENABLE HOMEOWNERS TO CONFIGURE THEIR HOUSE IN THE BEST MANNER FOR THEIR NEEDS AT THAT PARTICULAR TIME IN LIVES, SUCH AS SINGLES, NEWLY WEDS, YOUNG CHILDREN, OLDER CHILDREN OR EMPTY NEST. A LARGE PROJECTIN . THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY WAS THWARTED WHEN THE FHA BLOCKED BANKS FROM LENDING IN THE TRACT

AIN REFUSED TO PLACE THE STANDARD RACIAL COVENANTS TO KEEP MINORITIES FROM BUYING AND LIVING ON THE

## CITY OFLOS ANGELES SIGNIFICANCE WORK SHEET CONTINUED

LAND. HOWEVER, AS THE CONSTRAINTS ON MATERIALS AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE WAR BEGAN TO LOOSEN UP. AIN'S CUSTOM HOMES BEGAN TO TAKE ON A WHOLE NEW DIMENSION OF DESIGN. BY THIS TIME HE WAS BEGINNING TO DESIGN LARGER AND MORE COMPLEX HOUSES. DURING THIS PERIOD, AIN PARTNERED WITH JOSEPH L. JOHNSON AND ALFRED W. DAY. AFIER 1955. AIN RAN A SOLO OFFICE, BY THE EARLY 1960S, AIN'S DESIGNS BEGAN TO TAKE ON SOME INTRIGUING SIMILARITIES WITH SOME OF THE LATER WORK OFR. M. SCHINDLER. AIN'S USE Of spatial aspects. In the Kaye residence, Ain was able to bring about an updated version of usonian CONCEPTS USING SCHINDLER'S VISION OF ROOF ARTICULATION TO GIVE THE INTERIOR SPACES A SPECIAL OPEN FEEL THAT NOT ONLY GIVES ONE THE FEEL OF ONENESS WITH THE SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT BUT ALSO BRINGS A FRESH NEW DESIGN CONCEPT THAT 45 YEARS LATER MAKES THE HOME FEEL AS IF IT IS THE NEWEST DESIGN TO COMEINTO FRUITION. MANY OF AIN'S HOMES WERE NEVER COMPLETED AS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED. THE KAYE RESIDENCE WAS BUILT WITHOUT THE ORIGINAL MASTER BEDROOM THAT AIN HAD DESIGNED. THE AREA WAS A SCREEN AVIARY UNTIL 1976. WHEN IT WAS TRANSFORMED INTO THE BEDROOM. HOWEVER, IT TOOK A 2004 REMODEL UNDER THE FIRM OF FUNG AND BLATT, USING AIN'S ORIGINAL DRAWINGS, TO BRING THAT SPACE TO WHAT AIN ORIGINALLY DESIGNED. THE HOUSE ALS INCLUDES BUILT-IN FURNITURE THAT AIN DESIGNED. THE KAYE RESIDENCE WAS TO BE AIN'S LAST HOUSE TO BE BUILT IN CALIFORNIA. HE DID ONE OTHER DESIGN THAT WAS BUILTIN PENNSYLVANIA AS HE TAUGHT THERE. ESTHER MCCOY, IN HER BOOK, "THE SECOND GENERATION" TO DAVID GEBHARD. HERRIETTE VON BRETON AND LAUREN WEISS, IN THEIR BIOGRAPHY OF AIN AND HIS WORK, "THE ARCHITECTURE OF GREGORY AIN, THE PLAY BETWEEN RATIONAL AND HIGH ART" AS WELL AS GEBHARD AND WINTER'S FAMOUS GUIDE BOOK, "LOS ANGELES, AN ARCHITECTURAL GUIDE", WHICH REFERS TO THE HOME'S BLENDING WITH IT'S SITE, AS WELL AS AIN'S NOD TO SCHINDLER AS "USING AREAS OF GLASS IN THIS HOUSE, AIN EMPHASIZES THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INDOORS AND OUT. SOME DETAILS OF THE HOUSE INDICATE HIS ADMIRATION FOR SCHINDLER'S DESIGNS OF THE LATE 1920 S AND EARLY 1930 S." AIN HAD FIRST MET SCHINDLER AT THE LATTER'S KINGS ROAD HOME-STUDIO WHEN HE WAS 17 AND STILL ATTENDING LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL. IT WAS THAT INTRODUCTION THAT FIRST INDUCED HIM TO BECOME AN ARCHITECT. HE FREQUENTLY RETURNED TO SCHINDLER'S CONCEPTS AND IN THE KAYE RESIDENCE WE FIND THE CLIMAX OF'AIN'S CALIFORNIA CAREER. CLEARLY GIVING TRIBUTE NOT ONLY TO SCHINDLER, BUT TO FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT AS WELL.

This House Keeps Pace With the Family
Pauline Berg Graves
Los Angeles Times (1886-Current File); Dec 18, 1949; ProQuest Historical Newspapers Los Angeles Times (1881-1986)
pg. G4


The house, built on a concrete slob, has brown plaster exterior with white trim. Overhang


## This House Keeps Pace



Here cre two views of table built between kitcheni, livfing room which seats six in minimum space, overlooks yord.


The moster bedroom, or den, shown above and below, adioins living room, can be a part of it or separated for privacy by a lolding wall.


The kitchen, in tone of brown with yellow and green cabinets, is on the Iront, saparated from the entry by cabinet partition, opacue glass penel.

## With the Family

Bookshelves, a couch and chairs are grouped inlormally around small, oll-center fireplace in the simple living room which Michael Costello decorated in tones of brown with a panel of yellow-green over the desk.

By Pouline Berg Grorves

- JITH passing years the needs of a family in regard to their housing change completely. The newlyweds are happy with a single or one-bedroom apartment or'a small house. When a baby arrived, suddenly they're crowded, and as the child grows, his needs grow.

A tiny baby can share the hedromarith his parenta, though'it ien't most desirable, but, at the todding age, a rodn of his own becomes imperative. Two children can and affen do ahare rooms, but difierences in teinperament, age and personality make separate rooms infinitely better.

However, not many newlyweds desire to or can look that far ahead. Should they buy a three-bedroom home, one bedroom becomes a catchall, the other a den or guest room, which menns more cash outlay. Sometimes it, too, is shut off completely. Consequently, ubually an the family grows, they have to move to larger quarters, always with great trouble, sometimes with great expense.

Taking all of these factors into considerntion, Architect Gregory Air, AlA, with Joseph Johnson and Alfred Day collaborating, came up with a solution, a house in Mar Vista that expands to meet the needs of the growing family.

A sliding wall and a folding wall do the trick. Thanics to these, the house can have, one. twe or three bedrooms. The largest bedroom is separated from the living room by a folding wall, so that this room can be treated as a den, a bedroom or an extension of the living. room. The other two bedrooms can be made into one room by rolling the partition between them along a blank wall in the hallway.

The plan has many other advantages in addition to its flexibility, for it makes fall use of its 1050 square feet. The partition that separates. the kitchen and living room from the entrance not only forms an entrance hall, but is a closet as well. The bathroom is divided into sections, the wash basin and tub-shower in one part, the toilet by itself.

In every room built-ins make the most of the available apace. There are wardrobes and drawers in every bedroom and between the living room and kitchen a permanent table for dining, seating three on each aide. Cupboardu above conceal a Venetian blind that can be dropped to divide the table, hiding the kitchen from living room view. With this arrangement, the table doubien as a built-in desk when so needed.

Rooms have been placed for maximum livability. Each can be reached from a hallway and the iving room, removed from the main line af traffic through the houre, is away from the street, connecting with the


The simple plon can be cadapted to varying locutions by moving the garage or reversing the room arrangements.
sarden area at the rear of the house.

In these days when building costs have so risen that every inch is precious, an ingenious pian such as this offers much to the small hameowner. And the advantages of its flexibility are obvious. for a young cou-
ple can start out with the two rooms treated as one for their own bedroom, using the front room as a den or part of the living room, and as their family grows or when unexpected guests arrive they can change the function of the rooms practically by a twist of the wrist.


This bedroom can lunction as a single unit or be added to second bedroom by pushing back sliding porition between.


Gurdmar-Rawd photar
Here partition has been pushed alongside blonk wall in hall and room pictured above becomes one with second bedraom.


# Gregory Ain, Architect <br> (1908-1988) <br> By Charles J. Fisher 

Gregory Ain was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on March 28, 1908, to Russian immigrants, Baer and Chiah Ain. In 1911, after a brief stay in Kentucky, his Socialist Father relocated to Los Angeles.

The elder Ain was a bit of a frustrated revolutionary, who had been exiled to Siberia for his anti-czarist political activities before coming to the United States in 1906. He was an avid supporter of Socialist Job Harriman in his 1911 campaign for mayor and after Harriman's defeat, opted to move to the new Utopian colony at Llano, that Harriman established.

Friction among the colonists soon caused the family to move back to Los Angeles, where Baer Ain set up a tire shop in Lincoln Heights and where Gregory received his education, graduating from Lincoln High School and, ultimately, graduating from USC in 1927, where he went to study architecture after leaving UCLA where he had initially gone to study mathematics and physics at his Father's insistence.

While still in high school, Ain was introduced to R. M. Schindler at the latter's Kings Road studio home. It was a defining moment that set him on the path to become an architect. At the age of 19, he began his apprenticeship working as a draftsman in the office of B. Marcus Priteca, where he remained until 1929. The Priteca firm had specialized in Beaux Arts designs, especially theaters, which were not the type that fascinated the young Ain, but it did give him the experience he needed to propel him for future endeavors.

It was during this time that Ain married his Russian born wife, 17 year old Agnes Budin, who had arrived in the United States with her family in 1922. The couple soon took up residence in an apartment at 560 Kingsley Drive, in Hollywood. That marriage ended in divorce. Ain married Ruth Marsh in 1938. That marriage produced a daughter, Emily, born in 1942 and a son, Christopher.

Ain started working in the office of Richard Neutra in 1930. For the next five years, he and his friend and colleague, Harwell Hamilton Harris worked
with Neutra on his many projects, such as his "Rush City Reformed" project in 1930, the William Beard House in Altadena, the Kun House in Hollywood and Neutra's own VDL Research House (HCM 640). During this period, Ain also worked evenings in the office of R. M. Schindler, whom he had met several years earlier at U.C.L.A.

It was Schindler who had instilled the original desire to follow architecture in the young Ain. Both Neutra and Schindler were to leave indelible marks in the work of Ain as an architect.

Two of Ain's earliest built houses were the Charles H. Edwards House (HCM 260) in 1936 and the Amsalem A. Ernst House (HCM 840) in 1937, both in the Hollywood Hills. The two structures show much of Neutra and Schindler's influences and were to set the stage for most of Ain's prewar work.

One of Ain's earliest passions was the design of low-income housing. This work secured him a Guggenheim Foundation award in 1940.

During World War II, Ain was the chief engineer for Evans Products Company, Moulded Plywood Division, where he worked with Charles Eames in the development of the latter's famous plywood furniture.

After the war, Ain formed a partnership with Phillip Johnson and Alfred W. Day. During this time, he worked to create modern housing for the average person. His Mar Vista Tract in 1949 (now an HPOZ) was one of his projects with Modernist tract housing. Ain utilized movable wall panels, which could be reconfigured to meet the homeowners various needs.

He attempted a larger project in the San Fernando Valley, met with failure due to the FHA not allowing banks to loan on developments that did not have racial covenants. Ain and his partners had tried to make the new homes available to all and had refused to place restrictive covenants on the tract.

By this time, Ain had become well versed in the idea of flexible housing designs. In a 1951 article in the Los Angeles Times, Ain wrote that: "The basic layout of you house should serve a great variety of needs. It should expand and contract as required. It should be truly flexible."

By 1955, Ain had dissolved his partnership with Johnson and Day and set up his own office, continuing to design unique modern homes. By the end of the 1950s, he was also designing school buildings, with an eye toward how they could best be a conduit for the learning experience.

His design for the Dr. Leon Kaye Residence in Tarzana (1962-63) was to be his last to be built in California. The irregular shaped home was designed on an irregular plan with four wings. The roof includes three hexagonal tiered hipped sections. The house is heavily influenced by the last designs by R. M. Schindler, which bring in the use of natural light to enhance the living experience. The interplay of interior and exterior spaces are reminiscent of the Usonian designs of Frank Lloyd Wright.

Later that year, Ain closed his office and moved to his native Pennsylvania, where he became the Dean of School of Architecture at Pennsylvania State University. While there, he designed his final house to be built, the William Ginoza Residence (1966-67), where he reworked the wooden sheathed box into a late 60s product.

Ain returned to California in 1967. Although he did several designs before closing his practice for good, none were built. He passed away in Los Angels on January 9, 1988.

# Building Permit History 4754 Vanalden Avenue Tarzana 

November 10, 1962: Building Permit No. VN19699 for the construction of a 2-story, 84' X 68' 7-room frame and stucco residence on a portion of Lot 74 of Tract No. 2605.
Owner: Dr. Leon Kaye
Architect: Gregory Ain
Engineer: None
Contractor: Owner
Cost: $\$ 32,000.00$
August 31, 1976: Building Permit No. VN44519 to convert screen porch above garage to bedroom and bath ( $22^{\prime} \mathrm{X} 36^{\prime}$ ).
Owner: R. J. Novick Construction Co.
Architect: Clyde L. Smith, Jr.
Engineer: Jitu Matha
Contractor: R. J. Novick Construction Co.
Cost: $\$ 3,000.00$
April 22, 1986: $\quad$ Building Permit No. VN02851 to construct a $18^{\prime} \mathrm{X} 32^{\prime} / 7^{\prime} \mathrm{X} 6^{\prime}$ heated gunite swimming pool.
Owner: Goodman
Architect: William Ferrell
Engineer: William Ferrell
Contractor: Cal Pools
Cost: $\$ 14,000.00$
May 3, 1989: Building Permit No. VN61406 to install pre-fab fireplace in master bedroom on $2^{\text {nd }}$ floor.
Owner: Donna Goodman
Architect: None
Engineer: None
Contractor: Owner
Cost: \$1,500

| June 24, 1998: | Building Permit No. WL52567 to enclose a portion under cantilever deck ( 4 ' X 12') triangular shape to extend and interior remodel kitchen, change out windows. Cabinet type V-N. <br> Owner: Russell A. and Donna J. Goodman <br> Architect: Scott Bulmer <br> Engineer: None <br> Contractor: Owner <br> Cost: $\$ 8,000.00$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| October 7, 1998: | Building Permit No. VN43313 to add floor joist at $18^{\prime}$ X $5^{\prime}$ portion canopy for $2^{\text {nd }}$ floor balcony. <br> Owner: Donna Goodman <br> Architect: None <br> Engineer: Carl Howe <br> Contractor: Owner <br> Cost: $\$ 1,000.00$ |
| May 20, 1935: | Building Permit No. 8445 for interior tile. <br> Owner: Victor Heerman <br> Architect: None <br> Engineer: Carl Howe <br> Contractor: Owner <br> Cost: 1,000.00 |
| April 19, 2004: | Building Permit No. LA57109 to remodel master bedroom and bathroom, add new window. <br> Owner: Alan S. Kats, Co-trustee, Kats-Simmons Family Trust Architect: Michael Rosner Blatt (Fung and Blatt) <br> Engineer: None <br> Contractor: Owner <br> Cost: $\$ 16,000.00$ |


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| :--- | ---: | :--- |
| 1 or 2 Family Dwelling |  | Initiating Ofite: METRO |
| No Submit Plan Check | PLOT PLAN ATTACHMENT | Printed on: 04/19/04 |



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Kaye Residence, South facade, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, South facade, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, rear facade, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence rear elevation, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, brushed redwood eaves, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, garage doors, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, front porch, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, front entry, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, cantilevered staircase in entry, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, fireplace, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Daisy Penner)


Kaye Residence, Ain designed built-ins (2004), 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, skojl screen in living room, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, skojl screens, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Daisy Penner)


Kaye Residence, roofline in living room, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, living room ceiling, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, downstairs office, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, dining room area, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, dining room area, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, original lighting fixture, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, breakfast area, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, kitchen and breakfast area (remodeled), 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, main staircase, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Daisy Penner)


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Kaye Residence, upstairs office, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, original ash closets, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, upstairs office ceiling, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, children's bedroom, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, ceiling in children's bedroom, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, original upstairs bathroom, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, master bedroom built to Ain's plans, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


Kaye Residence, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)


## City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning

## 11/11/2008 <br> PARCEL PROFILE REPORT

PROPERTY ADDRESSES 4754 N VANALDEN AVE

## ZIP CODES

91356
RECENT ACTIVITY
None
CASE NUMBERS
CPC-2005-8252-CA
ENV-2005-8253-MND
AFF-32035
AFF-20204
AFF-14770

## Address/Legal Information

PIN Number:
Lot Area (Calculated):
Thomas Brothers Grid:
Assessor Parcel No. (APN):

## Tract:

Map Reference:

## Block:

Lot:
Arb (Lot Cut Reference):
Map Sheet:
Jurisdictional Information
Community Plan Area:
Area Planning Commission:
Neighborhood Council:
Council District:
Census Tract \#:

## LADBS District Office:

Planning and Zoning Information
Special Notes:
Zoning:
Zoning Information (ZI):
General Plan Land Use:
Plan Footnote - Site Req.:
Additional Plan Footnotes:
Specific Plan Area:
Design Review Board:
Historic Preservation Review:
Historic Preservation Overlay Zone:
Other Historic Designations:
Other Historic Survey Information:

## Mills Act Contract:

POD - Pedestrian Oriented Districts:
CDO - Community Design Overlay:
Streetscape:
Sign District:
Adaptive Reuse Incentive Area:
CRA - Community Redevelopment Agency:
Central City Parking:
Downtown Parking:
Building Line:
500 Ft School Zone:
500 Ft Park Zone:

## Assessor Information

Assessor Parcel No. (APN): 2176033001
APN Area (Co. Public Works) ${ }^{*}$ : $\quad 0.350$ (ac)
Use Code:
Assessed Land Val.:
Assessed Improvement Val.:
Last Owner Change:
Last Sale Amount:
Tax Rate Area:
Deed Ref No. (City Clerk):
Building 1:

1. Year Built:
2. Building Class:

168 B 117301
15,433.3 (sq ft)
PAGE 560 -GRID G4
2176033001
TR 2605
M B 27-55/75
None
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1963
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| 1. Number of Units: | , |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1. Number of Bedrooms: | 4 |
| 1. Number of Bathrooms: | 3 |
| 1. Building Square Footage: | 3,167.0 (sq ft) |
| Building 2: |  |
| 2. Year Built: | Not Available |
| 2. Building Class: | Not Available |
| 2. Number of Units: | 0 |
| 2. Number of Bedrooms: | 0 |
| 2. Number of Bathrooms: | 0 |
| 2. Building Square Footage: | 0.0 (sq ft) |
| Building 3: |  |
| 3. Year Built: | Not Available |
| 3. Building Class: | Not Available |
| 3. Number of Units: |  |
| 3. Number of Bedrooms: | 0 |
| 3. Number of Bathrooms: | 0 |
| 3. Building Square Footage: | 0.0 (sq ft) |
| Building 4: |  |
| 4. Year Built: | Not Available |
| 4. Building Class: | Not Available |
| 4. Number of Units: |  |
| 4. Number of Bedrooms: | 0 |
| 4. Number of Bathrooms: | 0 |
| 4. Building Square Footage: | None |
| Building 5: |  |
| 5. Year Built: | Not Available |
| 5. Building Class: | Not Available |
| 5. Number of Units: |  |
| 5. Number of Bedrooms: | 0 |
| 5. Number of Bathrooms: | 0 |
| 5. Building Square Footage: | 0.0 (sq ft) |
| Additional Information |  |
| Airport Hazard: | None |
| Coastal Zone: | None |
| Farmland: | Urban and Built-up Land |
| Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone: | Yes |
| Fire District No. 1: | No |
| Fire District No. 2: | No |
| Flood Zone: | None |
| Hazardous Waste / Border Zone Properties: | No |
| Methane Hazard Site: | None |
| High Wind Velocity Areas: | No |
| Hillside Grading: | Yes |
| Oil Wells: | None |
| Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone: | No |
| Distance to Nearest Fault: | 10.99895 (km) |
| Landslide: | No |
| Liquefaction: | Yes |
| Economic Development Areas |  |
| Business Improvement District: | None |
| Federal Empowerment Zone: | None |
| Renewal Community: | No |
| Revitalization Zone: | None |
| State Enterprise Zone: | None |
| Targeted Neighborhood Initiative: | None |
| Public Safety |  |
| Police Information: |  |
| Bureau: | Valley |
| Division / Station: | West Valley |
| Report District: | 1095 |
| Fire Information: |  |
| District / Fire Station: | 93 |
| Batallion: | 17 |
| Division: | 3 |
| Red Flag Restricted Parking: | No |

## CASE SUMMARIES

Note: Information for Case Summaries is Retrieved from the Planning Department's Plan Case Tracking System (PCTS) Database.

| Case Number: | CPC-2005-8252-CA |
| :---: | :---: |
| Required Action(s): | CA-CODE AMENDMENT |
| Project Description(s): | AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PERMANENT REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING THE MELLO ACT IN THE COASTAL ZONE. |
| Case Number: | ENV-2005-8253-MND |
| Required Action(s): | MND-MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION |
| Project Description(s): | AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PERMANENT REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING THE MELLO ACT IN THE COASTAL ZONE. |

## DATA NOT AVAILABLE

AFF-32035
AFF-20204
AFF-14770



[^0]:    c: Councilmember Dennis P. Zine, Third Council District
    Daniel H. and Susie Scalisi
    Charles J. Fisher

[^1]:    Kaye Residence, upstairs hallway, 4754 N. Vanalden Avenue (Photograph by Charles J. Fisher)

