

Mark Houghton-Berry

821 San Antonio Place

San Diego 92106

[markvhb@yahoo.com](mailto:markvhb@yahoo.com) (530) 598-8891

Historical Resources Board  
City of San Diego  
City Planning Department

**Subject: Support for Staff's Recommendation – 310 San Fernando Street (HRB-25-005)**

Dear Chair and Members of the Historical Resources Board,

As I understand it, your staff have recommended against the historical designation of 310 San Fernando street. I urge you to accept their recommendation, which has been made on the facts.

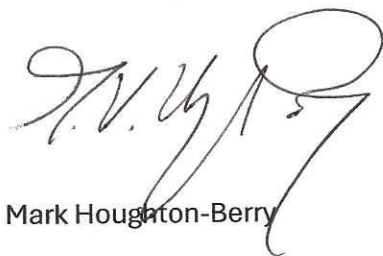
To qualify for historic designation, a property has to display, inter alia, uncompromised historic integrity. Again as I understand it, that is simply not the case for this house, which has undergone significant revisions viz:

- Removal of the original front porch stairs.
- Modification of a prominent window on the primary façade.
- Construction of a bay on the south façade, further altering the original design.
- Replacement of wood windows with non-historic metal sliders.
- Replacement of the original tile roof with composition shingles, and the original stucco facing with a modern elastomeric product.

If your committee chooses to overrule the facts-based recommendation of your staff. It must be because of the presentation of new evidence. Otherwise you will be seen to be acting capriciously and succumbing to illegitimate pressure. No such information has been presented. As your staff has found, 310 San Fernando Street **no longer conveys its original design**, and therefore it **does not qualify for designation**.

It is entirely desirable and reasonable for your committee to seek to uphold proper development standards on the Peninsula. Sometimes this will necessarily require subjective judgement, which is always difficult. However, where objective criteria exist, they must be followed if the general public is to retain any faith in the system. This case is an example of the latter, and no historic designation should be made.

Sincerely,



Mark Houghton-Berry