



Historical Resources Board
1222 First Avenue, MS 501
San Diego, CA 92101

March 12, 2025

Dear Chair Hutter, Board Members, and HRB Staff,

It is with great honor that I submit this letter of recommendation in recognition of my father's architectural legacy. The residential works of Henry Hartwell Hester, AIA, stand as defining contributions to the Mid-Century Modern movement, leaving an indelible mark on California's built environment.

His architectural influence extends across numerous communities, including San Francisco, Palm Desert, and San Jose. However, it is in San Diego—his hometown—that his residential designs are most profoundly represented. Among them, the residence at 2726 Angell Avenue, perched atop a ridge near La Jolla in University City, remains a quintessential expression of his design ethos. As children, we would eagerly search for this home when traveling to and from La Jolla, proudly identifying it as one of "Dad's designs."

His signature integration of a central open space finds one of its most exemplary iterations here, a home whose award-winning design remains impeccably preserved—a true testament to his vision. The modular design was meant to allow flexibility and future expansions seamlessly, which the garage addition certainly demonstrates.

I strongly advocate for this residence to receive historical designation, ensuring that this original work by Henry Hartwell Hester, AIA, is safeguarded and appreciated for generations to come.

It brings me immense pleasure to support this endeavor. In 2016, our father was honored with the AIA Lifetime Achievement Award, an accolade celebrating his extensive body of work. That moment, attended by over 60 dedicated "Hester Residence Owners" at the San Diego History Center in Balboa Park, underscored the enduring impact of his architectural contributions. This additional historical designation would serve as a fitting tribute to his lasting legacy.

Loraine Hester Dyson
(Daughter of HHH)