

[REDACTED]
15116 Blossom Hill Rd,
Los Gatos, CA, 95032
[REDACTED]

07/30/2024

Dear Members of the Historic Preservation Committee,

We are writing to formally request the removal of our house, located at 15116 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos, CA, 95032, from the city's historic inventory. After conducting thorough research into the history and architectural significance of the property, We believe that it meets the criteria for removal as outlined in the city's regulations concerning historic structures. I presented a previous request on 07/25/2024 (PHST-24-011), which made the case that 1) the house is not associated with significant events or persons. 2) lack significant and distinctive characteristics. 3) its historic integrity is compromised through renovation and alteration (one of which is a large alteration and addition done in 1988).

The committee has agreed to 1 and 2, yet there was a disagreement among committee members on point 3) whether the alternation in the house done by the previous owner in the 80s has changed any significant characteristic. The committee did not find sufficient evidence on the hearing on July 25th, thus we follow up on this request with additional research gathering evidence supporting point 3 above.

We present the following additional findings:

1. **Square footage area of addition is large:** The permitted addition to the house area is very large (over than 800 sq ft). Note that the total house area is around 1300 sq ft. So, this addition is > 50% in size compared to the house (See addition plan).

2. **Addition is largely visible from the street view:** The entryway to our house is visible from the street (see attached picture). The addition is so large that it also not only covers the rear of the house but also our entryway view visible from the street (See attached picture). In total the addition square footage placed only in this area is $12 \times 25 = 300$ sq ft.

3. **Addition largely changing the roof lines and structure:** The addition changed the house roof line and architecture (see attached picture). Also, house siding and walls were altered to give entry to the addition (See attached pictures). Further, the addition windows look all glass modern style.

4. **Addition of a large retaining wall completely changed the house view.** Retaining walls of this house collapsed and had to be redone completely with new material. A new retaining wall with concrete, steel and modern stone was added in 1986 to the house front completely altering the street view (see attached).

5. All sidings in the house are not original: We examined all sidings of our house and found that they are made of weatherproof vinyl. This material was not used in houses in the 1940s and was only more widely used starting in the 1970s (See Bradtmueller and Foley 2014). We researched this finding and found evidence obtained from the previous owner that all house sidings are not original. The old siding was completely damaged and had to be replaced. The previous owner hired Sears company to replace all sidings (See attached receipt and pictures of the modern house sidings). We found also evidence in the city of los gatos records of the corresponding permits of changing the sidings.

Based on this additional evidence, I respectfully request that the Historic Preservation Committee considers my application for the removal of my house from the historic inventory. The property does not meet the threshold for preservation based on its historical or architectural significance as defined by the city's criteria.

Enclosed with this letter are copies of the research findings and supporting documents that substantiate the conclusions drawn regarding the property's historical and architectural context. I am available to provide any additional information or documentation that may assist in your review process.

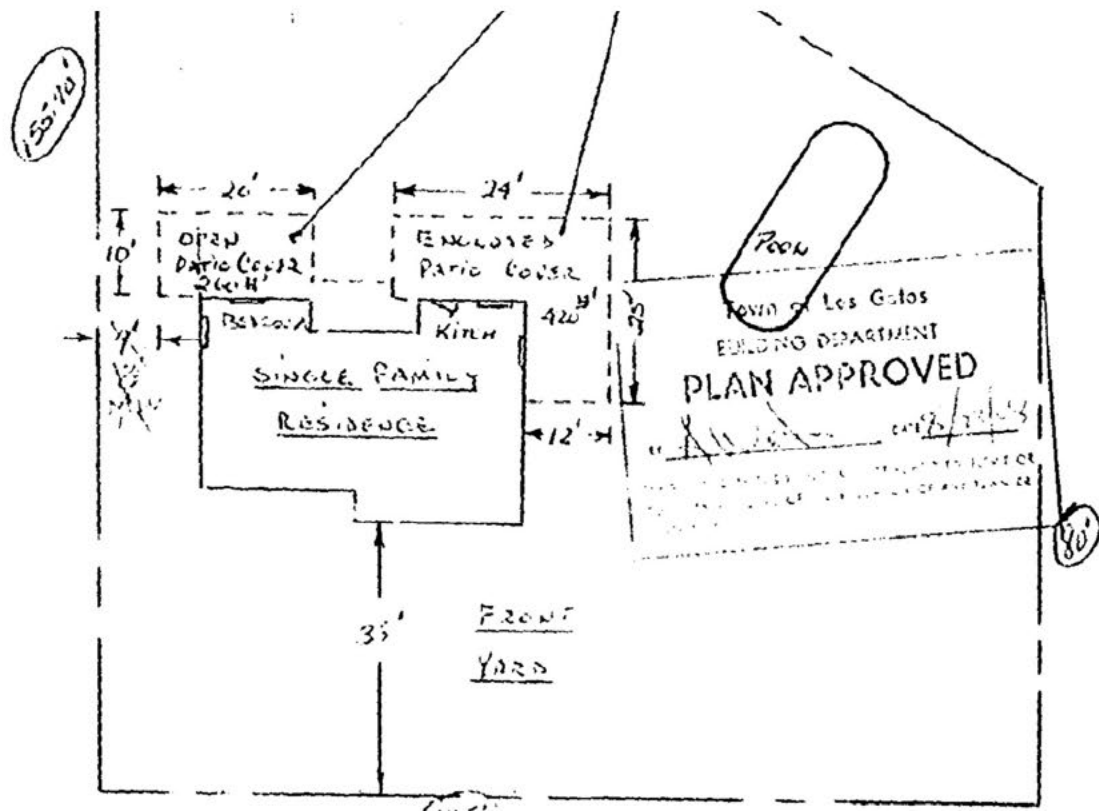
Thank you for considering my request. I appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

Owners of 15116 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos, CA, 95032

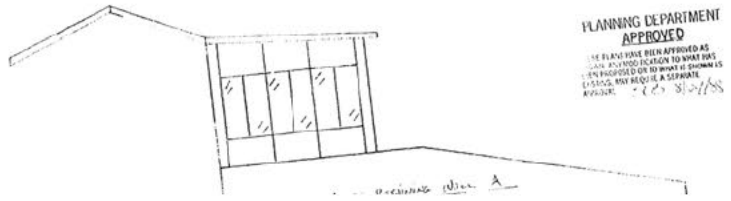
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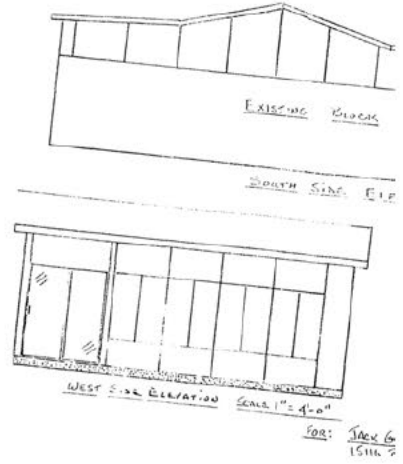
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PLANNING DEPARTMENT
APPROVED
SEAL BLANK HAVE BEEN APPROVED AS
CAN BE USED FOR LOCATION TO WHAT THEY
ARE PROPOSED FOR TO WHAT IS SHOWN AS
EXISTING. MAY REQUIRE A SEPARATE
APPLICANT: 7-22-88



EXISTING BLOCK

South Side E.P.

WEST SIDE ELEVATION SCALE 1"=4'-0"

FOR: JACOB G
15111 S

4. Addition of a large retaining wall completely changed the house view. Retaining walls of this house collapsed and had to be redone completely with new material. A new retaining wall with concrete, steel and modern stone was added in 1986 to the house front completely altering the street view (see attached).

File: 8429
21 May 1986
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SCOPE OF REPAIR WORK REQUIRED

We believe that the following items of work are required to restore the property to the pre-loss condition and satisfy code standards: (similar to that was prepared in the previous report.)

1. Construct about 50 linear feet of 5 to 7 foot high steel reinforced concrete wall at the location of the collapsed wall. The wall must be fully drained. Remove the cracked concrete slab under the covered porch above this wall and replace with a new slab. (This work will require temporary removal of the porch structure.)
2. Remove the leaning wall behind the house and replace with steel reinforced concrete wall (about 60 feet long and 5 to 6 ft. high). The new wall must be fully drained.
3. Following the replacement of the collapsed wall, the collapsed wood deck that had existed directly above the wall should be restored to its pre-existing condition.

The above scope of work, in our view, does not constitute any improvement (betterment) beyond what today's standards call for. The drainage correction that was suggested in my previous report is considered a betterment, and not essential to the repair.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

McEroy Engineering is in the process of preparing the detailed plans and specifications for the above scope of work based on the design criteria and parameters presented in this report. The documents should be ready shortly for bid solicitations.

Sincerely,

KIM AND ASSOCIATES
Joseph E. Kim, P.E.
Consulting Soil Engineer
RCE 27295 (Expires 04/30/89)



ATOS
BUILDING INSPECTION DEPARTMENT - PHONE 354-6874
B 11

APPLICATION FOR BUILDING PERMIT
FOR APPLICANT TO FILL IN

BUILDING PERMIT APPROVAL
SEAL
EXPIRATION DATE
N/A
8/13/86
8/13/86

OWNER: [Redacted]
ADDRESS: [Redacted]
CITY: [Redacted]
COUNTY: [Redacted]
ZIP: [Redacted]

DESCRIPTION OF WORK
NEW: [Redacted]
ALTER: [Redacted]
REPAIR: [Redacted]
DEMOLISH: [Redacted]

USE OF STRUCTURE
[Redacted]

CONTRACTOR LENDING AGENCY
[Redacted]

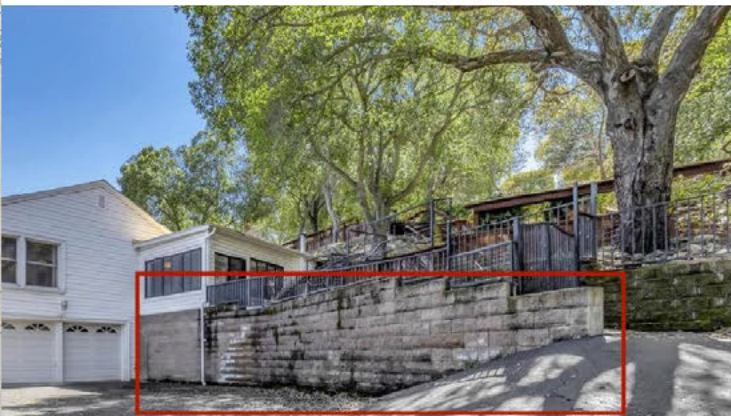
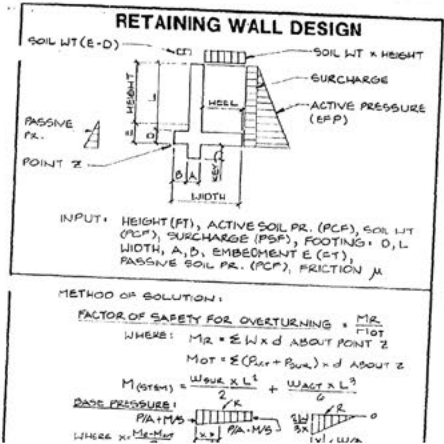
NAME: [Redacted]
ADDRESS: [Redacted]
CITY: [Redacted]
COUNTY: [Redacted]
ZIP: [Redacted]

CONTRACTOR'S DECLARATION
I CERTIFY THAT I AM PROPERLY LICENSED BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.
CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE NO. [Redacted]
I HEREBY AFFIRM THAT I HAVE A POLICY OF WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE. A CERTIFIED COPY OF A CERTIFICATE OF THAT INSURANCE IS HEREBY FURNISHED, AND ON FILE WITH THE TOWN. I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT I SHALL KEEP THE INSURANCE IN EFFECT THROUGHOUT THE JOB.

CERTIFICATE OF EMPLOYMENT FROM WORKER'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE
I CERTIFY THAT IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE WORK FOR WHICH THIS PERMIT IS ISSUED, I SHALL NOT EMPLOY ANY PERSON IN ANY MANNER SO AS TO BECOME SUBJECT TO THE WORKER'S COMPENSATION LAWS OF CALIFORNIA.

VALIDATION
15784111 88/76/1610101
23/99

NOTICE
WORK AUTHORIZED BY THIS PERMIT REQUIRES INSPECTION AND APPROVAL. WHEN WORK IS READY FOR INSPECTION, CALL BUILDING DEPARTMENT, 354-6874.



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