
From: harvey smith <harveysmithberkeley@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 5, 2023 8:42 AM
To: Crane, Fatema; Landmarks Preservation Commission
Subject: The California Theater

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To: LPC

The California Theater is a Berkeley landmark in need of protection. You are the Landmarks Protection Commission. Need I say more?

Sincerely,

Harvey Smith
Berkeley resident

Here is a link to my book - <http://www.arcadiapublishing.com/9781467132398/Berkeley-and-the-New-Deal>. Follow the National New Deal Preservation Association and the Living New Deal by signing up to receive occasional updates. [Join LND's Email List](#). The latest or previous newsletters are at each website - www.newdeallegacy.org and www.livingnewdeal.org. Join us in pushing for a *New New Deal*!

From: Landmarks Preservation Commission
Subject: FW: Please Save the California Theater

From: Gary McDole <garymcdole@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2023 7:18 PM
To: Landmarks Preservation Commission <PlanningLPC@berkeleyca.gov>
Subject: Please Save the California Theater

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I'm writing to urge the city to represent the interests of the residents of Berkeley, not those of real estate investors and an out-of-state developer .

I could just cut and paste the text of the letter that's posted at

<https://www.berkeleydailyplanet.com/issue/2023-10-04/article/50420?headline=Tell-LPC-on-Thursday-to-Save-the-California-Theater-Berkeley-s-Last-Film-Venue--Charlene-M.-Woodcock>

but if you haven't read that I doubt you'd read anything that i could try to add here, so I'll just say that i fully support all that's said in that letter.

Gary McDole

From: [Rob Walker](#)
To: [Landmarks Preservation Commission](#)
Subject: Opposition to demolition of California Theatre
Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2023 3:34:32 PM

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Landmarks Protection Commission,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the demolition of the California Theatre. For a city of 119,000 with deep cultural roots, and the home of one of the world's premier centers of learning, it is simply unacceptable that there would be no movie theatre of sufficient size. Simply, the culture life of Berkeley is more important than replacing an existing architectural gem with what will surely be hastily constructed and uninspired residential housing. Please do not permit the destruction of the California Theatre.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rob Walker
2201 McGee Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94703

Rob Walker
rkwalker3@gmail.com | 415-696-0658 (mobile)

From: [Gary Parks](#)
To: [Crane, Fatema](#)
Subject: California Theatre Facade Alterations
Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2023 9:11:45 AM

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Dear Ms. Crane,

I know this is one day late, deadline-wise (I just saw the deadline announcement online, minutes ago), and I am planning to attend the meeting at the North Berkeley Senior Center tomorrow night, but I just wanted to list here the design issues that are of great importance to me, speaking as someone who has worked both voluntarily, and professionally, in the field of vintage movie theatre restoration and reuse:

1. That the marquee be fully restored using real neon, and not LED tubing. Replication of neon tubing with LED tubing is still in its infancy—I know from professional experience—and does not last, ultimately resulting in more maintenance and less cost savings than actual neon.
2. I fully agree with the use of LED floodlighting for the facade—this is a reliable technology. However, I believe it is imperative to hide the light sources as much as possible, avoiding the installation of highly visible, and spindly, exposed light armatures. There is a row of existing vintage floodlight housings near the top of the facade, which can be restored, and will dramatically and tastefully uplift the Art Deco features at the top of the facade. All facade floodlighting should be aimed upward, celebrating the facade, not aimed downward, where pedestrians can look up and face glare from unexposed fixtures.

Thank you,

Gary Lee Parks
Ptahhotep1@earthlink.net

garyparksart.com

To: Landmarks Preservation Commission Secretary
City of Berkeley Land Use Planning Division
1947 Center Street, 2nd Floor
Berkeley, CA 94704
October 3, 2023

Received
OCT 03 2023
Land Use Planning

Re: 2113-2115 Kittredge Street — California Theater

To the Members of Berkeley's Landmark Preservation Commission,

Movie theaters have been at the heart of Downtown Berkeley, and any decision or attempt to demolish the California Theater at 2113-2115 Hearst should be rescinded, revoked, and cancelled. As you vote on October 5, 2023, I urge you to vote to revoke the plan to demolish.

Downtown Berkeley needs to have at least one movie theater, especially since four or more theaters provided us with excellent entertainment for many years. Now that the others are gone, this one theater could continue to entertain us for many years into the future.

People who come to see a movie, often will patronize nearby restaurants and other businesses. In Downtown Berkeley, movie theaters and restaurants have a symbiotic relationship. The presence and health of one influences the health of the other.

Downtown Berkeley needs to provide affordable entertainment for Berkeleyans as well as for thousands of UC Berkeley students. With all the new high-rises filling with people calling Berkeley home, nearby entertainment will be a necessity.

The California Theater at 2113-2115 Kittredge Street needs to remain in place. With a little renovation, it will bring activity and joy into Downtown Berkeley.

I urge you to rescind and revoke any plans to demolish this essential theater.

Thank you,

Sally Nelson

2200 McGee Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94703
510-548-3867 - Landline
sallynels7@gmail.com