56-1604

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for indiv Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Reg documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architect categories and subcategories from the instructions.	sistration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being
1. Name of Property	1100 4 2017
Historic name: Marin City Public Housing	Mall and of legtoric Dia
Other names/site number: Golden Gate Villag	e Inditional Park Shrving
Name of related multiple property listing:  N/A	
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple	e property listing
2. Location	0 C.1. D.:
Street & number: 101-429 Drake Avenue, 1-9	
City or town: Marin City State: Calification: Vicinity:	ornia County: Marin
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	the state of the s
As the designated authority under the National	Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X nomination the documentation standards for registering proplaces and meets the procedural and profession	perties in the National Register of Historic
In my opinion, the property X meets crecommend that this property be considered significance: nationalstatewide	
<u>X</u> A _B <u>X</u> C _D	
	8317
Jenan Saunders/Deputy State Historic Pro- California State Office of Historic Preserva	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Triba	l Government
In my opinion, the property meets	does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title:	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

Marin City Public Housing

Name of Property

4. National Park Service Certification I hereby certify that this property is: entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register \_ other (explain:) Signature of the Keeper 5. Classification Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply.) Private: Public - Local Public - State Public - Federal Category of Property (Check only one box.) Building(s) District Site Structure Object

Marin, California County and State United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Marin City Public Housing Marin, California Name of Property County and State **Number of Resources within Property** (Do not include previously listed resources in the count) Contributing Noncontributing \_\_\_\_29\_\_\_\_ buildings sites structures objects \_30\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_0\_\_\_ Total Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_0 6. Function or Use **Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions.) DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling

# **Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Marin City Public Housing	Marin, California		
ame of Property	County and State		
7. Description			
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.)  MODERN MOVEMENT/Wrightian			

# **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Concrete, wood, red clay Spanish tile, asphaltic

composition shingle

# **Summary Paragraph**

Marin City Public Housing, or Golden Gate Village as it has been known since the 1990s, is located on a 29.8-acre site in southern Marin County, directly northwest of the City of Sausalito. The topography ranges from tree-covered hillsides at the southwest that gently slope down northerly to level ground. The property encompasses 29 contributing buildings—28 apartment housing units ranging in size from one to five stories and a single one-story office and maintenance facility for the Marin County Housing Authority—and one contributing site, the designed landscape. All the buildings were planned and arranged to provide privacy and views within an open landscaped green campus. The building style was strongly influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright, reflective of Design Architect Aaron Green's architectural philosophy and practice, an individual who was trained by Wright as well as then serving as Wright's West Coast Representative. The campus was constructed by the County of Marin, using federal funding, as the first phase of the redevelopment of Marin City from a temporary wartime labor town of quickly constructed wood frame buildings to a permanent solution providing housing for low- to mid-income residents who settled in the area. All buildings are structurally sound and materially intact with few alterations, and retain all aspects of historic integrity. As originally purposed, they continue to serve the housing needs of a low-income segment of the population of highly affluent Marin County.

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# **Narrative Description**

#### **Setting**

The southwest property line abuts the Golden Gate National Recreation Area open space. Golden Gate Village can be partially seen by those driving along Highway 101, which forms the eastern border for the property. To the northeast is Richardson Bay, an estuary that joins San Francisco Bay to the south. The layout takes its cues primarily as a response to the sloping aspect of the site rather than organized upon a rigid grid as often a hallmark of typical public housing projects. This less formal arrangement sought to incorporate generous amounts of open space for active social use of the residents and the play activity of children as well as for attractive clusters of permanent landscaping. As well, it preserves the natural features of the site rather than removes or fully builds upon them. As a result, the overall character of the property is very much like a pleasant suburban campus, rather than a grim, dreary housing complex that most tend to associate with public housing. Parking lots, walkways, stairs, and community courtyards remain essentially intact and unchanged. The landscaping of the park-like campus is mostly lush and mature, but has departed from original standards where replacement has occurred and could benefit greatly from being refreshed according to the planting specifications of the Landscape Architect's master plan.

# **Buildings**

There are four building types that comprise the housing portion of Golden Gate Village as designated by the associated architects on site and building plans. Type A buildings contain two bedrooms, Type B buildings contain three bedrooms, Type C buildings contain four bedrooms, and Type E buildings contain one bedroom each. Curiously, there is no Type D building and the architects' reason for skipping the letter is unknown. The largest building type, the rectangular Type A, is repeated eight times, and oriented in a vertical manner fanning out from Marin County Assessor's parcel 22 towards the site's hills. Thirteen Type B buildings are staggered in the northern portion of the site, tapering in towards the center of the site. Five Type E buildings anchor brick paved courts that are formed at the rear of several Type B building pairs. Two Type C units are spread out within the site, one towards the center of the easternmost extent and the other situated within parcel 22 (**Figure 3**).

Concrete walkways wrap around buildings, landscaped areas, and the site's contours, connecting the site with pedestrian access. Concrete steps with metal handrails emerge from the hills, leading to concrete and brick courts. Each of the building types features a concrete porch of some configuration. Cole Drive and Drake Avenue both offer continuous vehicular access through the district, and are lined by raised concrete sidewalks. There are two parking lots towards the northern portion of the property, offering access to Type B and Type E dwellings. Parking for the elongated Type A buildings is organized between building pairs, each façade leading onto a paved, graded driveway, offering parking terraces to each of the building's five levels. A connected roadway surrounding the Type A buildings in the southwestern portion of the property offers additional access to the dwellings. The rear elevations of Type A building

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pairs similarly face one another, while sharing green space in between. The units on grade have rear concrete patios, some featuring gardens. A community garden sits just south of parcel 22.

#### **Housing Type A**

Eight rectangular five-story Type A towers stagger into the property's surrounding hillside. Radiating from the centralized parcel 22 delineated by Cole Drive, these buildings are characterized by their monolithic presence that terminates gradually into the surrounding topography. The reinforced concrete buildings are one unit deep, with twenty-three units total, twenty-one dedicated to residential use with two used for combined laundry and storage functions. The hipped roof is clad in Spanish red clay tile. On the rear elevation, the portions of the roof above the semi-enclosed patios feature segments of exposed open rafters. Each floor is accessible at-grade or by a north-end anchoring staircase servicing the building's façade. The stairs feature a pierced concrete patterned opening stairwell. Openings on some buildings have been infilled with glass concrete blocks.

The two-room units are accessed by means of elongated open-air hallways that extend the length of the façade at each floor. Stylized precast concrete screens sit regularly between metal handrails at each floor of the façade. The façade's at-grade units lead onto paved parking terraces, while the rear of the at-grade units offer access to individual dry yard/terraced patios. The rear of each above-grade unit terminates with canted walls to form semi-enclosed patios/recessed balconies with views leading on to central green space. The precast concrete motif continues on this rear elevation as the balcony rail. Windows at the rear of each unit are aluminum framed, with sliding glass balcony doors, and operable transoms. The unique relationship to site topography provides the five-story building with parking and pedestrian access to each floor without need for an elevator.

#### **Low-Rise Building Overview**

The low-rise buildings, Types B, C, and E, share several stylistic traits, allowing Golden Gate Village to appear uniform and consistent throughout. The chosen materials include painted concrete masonry units, formed concrete, and wooden siding in various proportions and orientations. The general massing of the low-rise building types is rectangular, monolithic, and elongated. Single doors punctuate the façades, and window types are uniform. The window-to-wall ratios are consistent throughout these building types, as are the rooflines, and minimal ornamentation by means of exaggerated roofing elements/eaves, siding materials, and patterned cement block dry yard enclosures.<sup>3</sup>

### **Housing Type B**

This housing type sits on level grade, below the Type A towers, starting in the northern portion of the site and tapering west, towards the center. There are thirteen Type B buildings, each comprised of eight three-room units. The two-story buildings are constructed with a concrete

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Alison Garcia Kellar, *Golden Gate Village Marin City, CA: Historic Resource Evaluation* (San Francisco: Garavaglia Architecture, June 2015), 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ibid, 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid, 18.

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foundation, and a combination of reinforced concrete masonry units, and wood framing. The concrete walls of the lower floor are painted, as are the upper floor wooden horizontal siding and plaster, a common configuration in the low-rise buildings at Golden Gate Village. Their gabled roofs with exaggerated eaves and rafters are clad with composition shingles. The second story is slightly larger in floor plan than the first, creating a slight overhang. In plan, a unit is repeated four times, and mirrored at an axis. The stairs, kitchen, and second story bathroom sit central in each plan. From this, two groups of pop-up ventilation dormers emerge from the roofline above the stacked kitchen and bathroom. The long sides of each Type B building each provide access to four units. Two pairs of concrete dry yards and patios sit in front of each elevation, some with enclosing wooden fences. Sliding aluminum windows are grouped at each of the three bedrooms, spanning much of the second story elevation. The interior is finished with wooden doors, ceiling beams, stairs, and railing. The pop-up dormer, or clerestory, contains operable windows that allow natural daylight down into the bathroom space directly below. Residents open the windows by means of turning the operating lever with a long reaching rod.

# **Housing Type C**

Housing Type C buildings also sit on-grade. There are two of these buildings, one at the eastern extent of the site, and another within parcel 22, surrounded by Cole Drive. This elongated concrete building is similar in material and roofing to Type B. Low to the ground, the one-story buildings have four units each, organized linearly, with all entrances on a single façade. Each unit extends through the width of the building, with an open kitchen and living room space upon entry, and four bedrooms off of a central hallway. Four concrete dry yards sit paired to the rear of the building, accessible from a door in the kitchen.<sup>5</sup>

#### **Housing Type E**

Housing Type E is the smallest housing type in Golden Gate Village, and it resembles Type C in its siding material, roofing, and massing. This housing type anchors pairs of Type B buildings, forming a courtyard, paved with brick. The five one-story buildings are comprised of four residential units each, oriented on an axis with primary access from the gabled ends. Raised concrete pads lead off of these entryways. The bedroom, bathroom, kitchen, and living room run along the side elevation, with windows organized respectively. A pair of concrete dry yards sits on either long elevation, accessible by a glass sliding door off of each living room.<sup>6</sup>

#### **Administration Office and Maintenance Building**

A modest, one-story building was created as a new office and property maintenance facility for the Marin Housing Authority, which also had been occupying one of the temporary wartime buildings in Marin City. The design utilizes the same palette of materials as the low-rise building—integral color concrete block and redwood board-and-batten siding. The floor plan is a simple L-shape arrangement with the administrative component contained primarily in the short segment and the maintenance area in the longer wing. There is a waiting area upon entry with view into the Cashier's room on one side and the Secretary's room on the other. Each contains a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ibid, 18-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ibid, 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ibid, 25.

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counter for meeting with individual tenants. The offices of the Assistant Manager and Executive Director are at the far end of the short plan segment. Each space has paired doors that open out onto a large landscaped patio area screened with wood fencing. An internal hallway within the building connects with the Maintenance portion of the building, essentially a large open warehouse-type space with several storage spaces on each end. Four garage doors access the warehouse space. Unlike the other low-rise buildings, the Administration portion of the building has a hipped, Dutch gable-type roof, with each end of the small gable serving as a vent for a small attic space under the main ridge. At the interior, like the one-story low-rise buildings, the sloping underside of the roof is exposed with structural decking and beams in view. Further up the slope and at the center of the building form, a flat, dropped ceiling is created between two upper beams with a clever alternating pattern of lighting units and air return registers in a wood-trimmed band along its edge.

# **Campus Landscape (contributing site)**

The campus is highly site-sensitive, meticulously studied and planned with generously planted open spaces interspersed between buildings in order to blend and harmonize the property with the natural scenic quality of the surrounding Marin landscape. An extensive system of sinuous walkways meander throughout the campus, creating practical connections between buildings, as well as leading to common spaces, courtyards, and parking areas. The open quality of the campus, the variety and size of open spaces, as well as lush plantings creates a very pleasant and decidedly non-institutional character. One is afforded privacy as well as views to the landscape or even to the Bay beyond in the case of the upslope high-rise buildings. This helps to foster a more relaxed atmosphere where individuals have the opportunity and space to move freely in an attractively landscaped environment, as opposed to, and a reaction against, typical high-density public housing projects with rigidly controlled concrete landscapes.

#### **Condition/Alterations**

The campus and all twenty-nine buildings stand solid and strong as evidence of the quality of their materials and construction, though weathered by the test of time. The property still provides housing and community for a low-income segment of the population that they were originally intended to serve. The apartments have been occupied continuously and exhibit a lack of vandalism often suffered within most other public housing projects. The residents appreciate their homes and campus, and have been very active in the upkeep via an active Resident Tenants Council. The residents established and maintain a community garden. In the 1990s, the residents convened a contest to name the public housing, which until that point really had no familiar identity as other areas around Marin City such as Ridgeway, Ponderosa Estates, Oak Knolls, or the Headlands. A public housing resident, Gracie Stover, won the contest with the name "Golden Gate Village." It is notable that the word "village" was chosen and included within the identity, perhaps resonating with the residents; the term appropriately expresses the pleasant character and feel of the property.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Royce McLemore—Executive Director, Women Helping All People—in support of the Golden Gate Village Resident Council, in an email to the author, February 25, 2017.

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Building and property maintenance is another matter and is the subject of debate between residents and the Housing Authority. The Housing Authority, once the vocal advocate of Marin City's low-income residents and seniors, has evolved into the residents' seemingly greatest adversary. Most of the residents' arguments decry deferred maintenance and a lack of an informed and architecturally sensitive approach to improvements and upgrades within the buildings and throughout the campus landscape. There have been upgrades of benefit to the comfort and safety of the residents, such as removal of asbestos tile flooring, lighting and plumbing fixture replacement, and accessibility improvements.

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The one- and two-story apartment buildings have all been painted a shade of gray where once the redwood board-and-batten siding was left natural and stained clear, the paint hiding the grain and texture of the wood. Integral color concrete block walls for the base story of low-rise buildings, once an earthy terra cotta color, have been painted the same gray color as well. The monochromatic painting scheme essentially negates the warmth and variety of the original earthtone palette for the buildings—and makes the buildings look more institutional than residential as a result, exactly the opposite of what the architects intended. The buildings do not harmonize with the landscape through color as well as they once did. The only paint at the exterior, originally, was reserved for the emphatically blocked beam terminations extending from below the roof edges, which this author recalls as being a dark red color, a color similarly found at the square batten blocks for wood fences that enclosed portions of yards for the apartment units. Only the laundry yard walls (between the high-rises) show the original color. Roofs originally cedar shingled are covered with composition shingles of a dark brown color. Roof fascia trim has been painted a midnight blue where originally was natural redwood. Soffits were painted gray where was originally natural exposed structural decking, clear stained.

Some original wood fencing defining rear yards for the low-rise units has been replaced with more conventionally designed and constructed wood fences, likely by the residents themselves. Replacement fences are higher than the original in some cases and of a vertical composition of boards rather than the horizontal patterning and orientation preferred by the architects. Individual gas meters for all units have been added to the ends of all buildings, in a conspicuous location, with associated surface runs of piping. Large security floodlights have been added at ends of buildings, also with runs of exposed conduit.

The five-story apartment buildings were originally painted a darker, richer color compatible with the block walls of the laundry yard, and have been painted two tones of light tan and cream. Projecting concrete floor slabs, originally left as natural concrete, have been painted a bright red. Exposed roof rafters and roof fascias, once left natural, have also been painted the same bright red.

The Administration and Maintenance Building still serves in much the same capacity as originally intended, yet no longer houses the office of the Executive Director of the Marin Housing Authority. The main offices of the MHA moved to San Rafael in the 1990s. The building now serves as the offices for the Property Manager as well as original clerical functions associated with the rental housing. A vestibule was added at the entry in a departure from the

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floor plan of the construction documents; it is unknown if that was a change during the course of construction. The materials and detailing are very much the same as elsewhere found in the building. The maintenance component is virtually unchanged with the main exception that metal doors have replaced the original wooden garage doors. There has also been an addition at the tail end of the building, extending roof and walls in essentially a simple extrusion of the architecture. Again, it is unknown when this addition occurred. Similar to elsewhere throughout the campus, this building has been painted the same monochromatic putty color that obscures the warm earthtones and textures of the original colored concrete block and wood siding.

The play areas at the courts shared by the low-rise apartments have been altered with open areas filled with modular paving, as well as removal of original benches for the addition of grouped seating areas with tables and child play structures of timber construction. The original large playground area on the northernmost end of the campus has been redeveloped in order to incorporate a basketball court and tennis court.

The campus landscape plantings, particularly shrubs and ground cover, as originally designed and selected by renowned Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin, have been allowed to deteriorate and erode without like-kind replacement. Many of Halprin's selected trees remain and represent some of the most mature specimens on campus. Other new varieties have been introduced without respect to compatibility with the landscape master plan or appropriateness (invasive surface roots). Halprin provided a highly specific and detailed master plan for the landscaping, with an extensive, regionally appropriate, and carefully determined Plant List of trees, shrubs, and groundcovers selected for every nook and corner of the campus—to guide and serve any facility manager of the property for decades without any question.

In the early 2000s, the Housing Authority embarked upon a series of insensitive alterations to the five-story high-rise buildings as an ill-informed strategy to improve security—adding clumsy open metal stair towers to the side of existing cast-in-place concrete stair towers, as well as replacing many of the patterned precast concrete guardrails with open metal pipe railing. This all was intended to improve surveillance at the high-rise buildings during a period of heightened criminal activity and problems. It was an ill-conceived and costly strategy. The Housing Authority fell short of funds to complete these alterations for all of the high-rise buildings. Four of the eight high-rise buildings were altered in this way. As insensitive, unsightly, and poorly adapted to the buildings as these changes are, they are all reversible and have not irreparably harmed the buildings. Future restoration efforts would seek to remove the offensive metal stair appendages, restore the concrete, and replace precast guardrails where taken out.

#### **Integrity**

The buildings and landscaped campus retain a high degree of historical integrity despite the low standard of upkeep, unsympathetic alterations, and deferred maintenance. Altogether, very little has actually changed over time and the property remains intact. Marin City Public Housing retains all seven aspects of integrity.

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Location: Marin City Public Housing remains in its original location, a lovely sloping site backed by the open space of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area with views towards Richardson Bay on the north and Mount Tamalpais to the west. There has been no building added to or removed from the property.

Design: Marin City Public Housing retains all elements of its original architectural design and organization. The high-rise Type A buildings have been the most impacted by poorly guided and insensitive alterations by the owners, all reversible. There have been very few alterations at the low-rise buildings, most primarily as concerns the material colors and low yard boundary fencing. The warm colors of natural earthtone building materials have been muted by insensitive application of unnecessary painting. There have been no significant alterations to the façades. Otherwise, all buildings are clearly unchanged and fully retain their distinctive design characteristics, materials, and detailing. All 29 buildings appear structurally sound and solid with no visible signs of system failures or settlement—a credit to the original design and engineering by a capable team of professionals.

Setting: Marin City Public Housing was the first phase of post-war development and redevelopment of Marin City. Over time, the entirety of Marin City to the north and west would be demolished and re-built, from rows of deteriorating temporary wood-framed wartime buildings to the pleasant suburban enclave it became. The setting has become the diverse community that was envisioned by County Supervisor Vera Schultz and Planning Director Mary Summers. Marin City Public Housing continues to serve the role as originally intended affordable rental housing for low- and moderate-income individuals and families in one of the most affluent and naturally beautiful counties in Northern California—and a landmark for diversity. The setting has remained completely unchanged despite the development of surrounding Marin City. The hillsides that border Marin City and the Public Housing to the south evolved from private land, which was nearly developed, to protected open space with the creation of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. These hills form a natural backdrop to the district. Views of Mount Tamalpais and Richardson Bay are still clearly enjoyed from so many vantage points within the campus. The landscape planting, particularly trees placed from Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin's plan, have all grown to full maturity and provide a green shaded canopy and texture. Along with the generous green open spaces, there is the sense and scale of a pleasant, established suburban community.

Materials: Materials were selected to provide structural strength and permanence as well as to reduce the need for maintenance. There is no evidence of settlement or cracking to either cast-in-place concrete or concrete block masonry. The buildings are as solid as when originally constructed. The combination of redwood siding and integral color concrete block for the one-and two-story buildings is all intact and unaltered despite painting by the owner, perhaps as early as circa 1997. Nearly all key exterior materials throughout the campus have been retained with the exception of landscape planting, which to some degree, could be expected. Plantings originally selected by the Landscape Architect were not replaced in-kind. Lawrence Halprin's documents provide all of the information needed to restore the landscape.

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Workmanship: Marin City Public Housing exhibits workmanship according to design details that were appropriate to the nature of materials and modern Wrightian design philosophy of organic architecture: pressing patterns into concrete, assembling cut wood blocks into creative fence assemblies that played with light and shadow as decoration, expressing support structure visibly as well as materials honestly and directly. As simple as the buildings appear, skilled workmanship is required to execute the details precisely and neatly. Buildings constructed along these lines leave little margin for error or sloppiness—nothing is covered up or veneered over. The craftsmanship is clearly on display. Concrete block laying has to be precise and carefully laid clean of mortar splashes upon the colored masonry face to avoid staining. Wood beams, boards, and trims required skilled carpentry, mitring joints and hiding fasteners due to being directly exposed to view. The high level of workmanship that went into the construction is highly admirable and all very much in evidence throughout the campus.

Feeling: The architectural design expresses a feeling of singularity and uniqueness. It is architecture that definitely one does not associate with public housing, particularly that from the particular period of time when it was created. Along with the generous amounts of open space and mature landscaping, the campus still looks fresh and contemporary. Marin City Public Housing retains all of its historic character—the original design, materials, and setting.

Association: Marin City Public Housing maintains its association with historic WWII wartime activity in the Sausalito area, as well as the permanent creation of Marin City. The local community is generally aware that the property is linked to that time and was created as an outcome relative to the end of the war and the closing of the shipyard. That period of history is highlighted in 2017 by events to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Marinship shipbuilding as well as the creation of Marin City. Others more new to the region may pass by, either along the Marin City roadways or Highway 101 that swings directly past the property, and its distinctive architecture gives them an impression of a visual connection to Frank Lloyd Wright. There is a perception among individuals that Wright had something to do with the property, was involved in it, or in some cases, actually designed Marin City Public Housing. This is largely due to awareness of the Wright-designed Marin County Civic Center, which asserts a strong visual presence just a few miles further north from along the same Highway 101.

		lic Housing Marin, California	
Name of Prop	erty	County and State	
8. St	aten	ment of Significance	
		e National Register Criteria	
(Mark listing.		in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register	•
X	A.	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ne
	B.	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
X	C.	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	
	D.	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	•
C. A. A.	e- C		
		considerations in all the boxes that apply.)	
	A.	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes	
	B.	Removed from its original location	
	C.	A birthplace or grave	
	D.	A cemetery	
	E.	A reconstructed building, object, or structure	
	F.	A commemorative property	
	G.	Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years	

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Marin City Public Housing is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Community Planning and Development as a product of post-WWII urban development in Northern California, and under Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, for its association with three prominent mid-century designers: Architects John Carl Warnecke and Aaron G. Green, and Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin. The period of significance is 1955 to 1960, representing a span of events beginning with County Supervisor Vera Schultz' lead role in acquiring the land for redevelopment as a permanent community—particularly for low-income workers who lost their jobs at the close of the Marinship shipyard—through Master Planning for the new community by County Planning Director Mary Summers and her department, the selection of Architects John Carl Warnecke and Aaron G. Green as associated architects for the design of the 300 unit low-rent housing project, the design and approval process for the project, and construction.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

# **Social History**

The Marin City Public Housing apartment development was the result of dedicated efforts by a concerned group of citizenry and elected officials as well as socially and environmentally concerned design professionals. They realized that there existed a clean slate opportunity to create a new community in the County of Marin, not just physically, but a racially integrated community where none existed elsewhere in the County—all within a spectacular 365-acre bowl-shaped site surrounded by wooded hills. The modern design and park-like setting for the 300-unit low-rent apartment development was the first step in that direction—a demonstration of sensitive, human-needs building design and site planning that provides much needed personal open space with conservation concerns toward preserving the beauty of Marin County's natural resources. As noted in the Historic Resource Evaluation,

The buildings at Golden Gate Village were constructed by the Housing Authority of Marin County in an effort to rebuild the Marin City community that remained after the end of World War II and the closing of the Marinship shipyard. Fueled largely by the Federal Housing Authority and funded by Federal sources, the buildings represent post-World War II urban development of Northern California, and more specifically in Marin County. Additionally, within a larger context, the buildings fall into the significant pattern of events involving public housing in the United States.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Garcia Kellar, *Historic Resource Evaluation*, 49.

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The sensitively scaled design of the buildings and campus were striking in contrast to the uniform, austere, institutionalized look of postwar housing that dominated the period. As well, the buildings of the Marin City housing development were more informally grouped in a carefully landscaped and open, park-like setting—again in marked contrast to heretofore standard housing consisting of dense block-like developments with minimal open space.

According to architect Daniel Liebermann, who worked in Aaron Green's office during the latter stages of the Marin City project: "Aaron Green had a vision for that project...to create a democratically oriented housing development for the workers at Marinship. We wanted to be sure those buildings connected to the natural landscape, to the hillsides—Aaron was actually, deep down, equalitarian: very American. He wanted to really dedicate a serious Wright/Greentype project—to do his best for the workers who would be living there." 9

Architect Aaron Green, in *An Architecture for Democracy: The Marin County Civic Center*, states Marin City Public Housing,

was designated by housing officials as the breakthrough project to new federal housing standards. This project was an early recognition of the Civil Rights Movement and another social milestone in Marin County for a higher standard of architecture: "architecture for democracy" via Frank Lloyd Wright. Without my training by Frank Lloyd Wright for organic relationships of buildings to sites, I could not have developed these accomplishments. *Therefore, the Marin City Federal Housing Project may be considered another contribution to Marin County by Frank Lloyd Wright.* (Green's emphasis)<sup>10</sup>

The Marin City Public Housing project represents a significant component of an effort by the County of Marin to establish a new community within the Marin City area following World War II. The housing development was a social justice endeavor encouraging racial integration at a time leading up to the Civil Rights movement. According to County Supervisor Vera Schultz, who was instrumental in the redevelopment of Marin City: "We are pioneering something here, and we are on our way to doing a good job for democracy."<sup>11</sup>

# **Community Planning and Development**

As noted in the *Historic Resource Evaluation*,

The development and implementation of Golden Gate Village is associated with highly notable individuals involved with Marin County government. This project, as in the case of the Marin County Civic Center, was an effort largely spearheaded by two Marin women, Vera

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Mark Anthony Wilson, "Marin City: The rich history and current challenges of a historic African-American enclave," *Marin Magazine*, Volume 11, Issue 12 (December 2015), 52-57. In a letter to the editor from Jan Novie, Owner and President of Aaron Green Associates, published on the magazine's website in February 2016, Mr. Novie corrected two erroneous statements about Aaron Green and the project.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Aaron G. Green and Donald P. de Nevi, *An Architecture for Democracy: The Marin County Civic Center*, (San Francisco: Grendon Publishing, 1990), 84.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> "Demo-Sponsored Panel Discusses Marin City," Daily Independent Journal, April 13, 1955, 26.

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Schultz, the first female Supervisor on the Marin County Board of Supervisors, and Mary Summers, the first female Marin County Planning Director. Schultz advocated fiercely for the acquisition of the land to be able to redevelop the former Marinship housing at Marin City. <sup>12</sup>

Vera Schultz (1902-1995) was a progressive, reform-minded thinker and leader—an advocate for efficient government. She began her career as a teacher in Berkeley. After moving to Marin County in the 1920s, she developed a deep interest in government, manifested in her organizing the local chapter of the League of Women Voters. She was elected to her first political office in 1946, the first female City Council member for the City of Mill Valley. In 1952, she was elected the first female Supervisor for the County of Marin, where she served two four-year terms. In addition to her efforts with the redevelopment of Marin City, she successfully fought for a more modern, efficient governmental system, evolving beyond the provincial cronyism that served as County government at the time she first took office, including a County Administrator and centralized purchasing system. She also worked to establish a Parks and Recreation Department, the Public Health Department, and a Public Works Department—the many services that residents of Marin County enjoy.

Marin City Public Housing is considered one of her signature projects. The other is her hard-fought—and won—battle to acquire property for a new county government center in order to consolidate County offices once scattered about San Rafael in thirteen different locations, many of which were rented at great expense to the County. Vera Schultz took the matter a major leap forward. Rather than hire a local architect, as most the Board of Supervisors preferred, she took the initiative to invite Frank Lloyd Wright to consider designing the Marin County Civic Center. The building she helped create has been a National Historic Landmark and State Historical Landmark since 1991. According to Mark Anthony Wilson, in his September 2016 article for *Marin Magazine*, Vera Schultz

was a true pioneer for women's rights in Marin County, but she was also a trailblazer in the fields of urban planning, environmentally sensitive design and social justice. Marin County would not have some of its most valuable assets if not for her legacy. It was for this reason that she earned the respectful reference as "First Lady of Marin" by her peers regarding her six-decade career in public service. <sup>14</sup>

Mary Summers (1917-1988) was the first female Director of Marin County's Planning Department, a position she held for over twenty years. She was a conservation-minded environmentalist and quickly recognized an ally in Vera Schultz when she took office. They teamed together on numerous efforts to control suburban over-development and density while preserving natural resources throughout Marin County. Both were instrumental in orchestrating the redevelopment of Marin City as well as the creation of the Marin County Civic Center, Frank

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Garcia Kellar, *Historic Resource Evaluation*, 50.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Evelyn M. Radford, *Vera, First Lady of Marin: A biography of Vera Lucille Smith Schultz*, (Sonoma, CA: Hilltop Publishing Co., 1998), 169-171.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Mark Anthony Wilson, "Paving New Roads: Marin County's First Female Supervisor, Vera Schultz, Was A Woman Ahead Of Her Time," *Marin Magazine*, Volume 12, Issue 9 (September 2016), 76-81.

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Lloyd Wright's last major work. After her tenure as Planning Director, Mary Summers continued to serve the citizens of the County of Marin as the president of the Marin Conservation League, an environmental organization founded in 1934 whose mission is "to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural assets of Marin County for the public." <sup>15</sup>

# **Architecture and Landscape Architecture**

As noted in the *Historic Resource Evaluation*,

The NPS *Public Housing in the United States* Draft Multiple Property Documentation Form briefly summarizes the architectural program of public housing after 1949, suggesting that: "Public housing constructed in the United States after 1949 reflects changes in architecture, architectural theory, and public policy. The overall character of the architecture of later public housing is a striking contrast to the public housing that had preceded it. The humanizing scale of earlier complexes, created by placing low-rise buildings within carefully landscaped settings, was replaced with high-rise towers set in large, open courtyards. This high-rise tower, viewed as a symbol of economic efficiency, social order, and modern design, replaced the low-rise building as the preferred building type for public housing constructed after 1949...The monotonous standardization of 'stripped modern' exterior architectural detailing gave the later public housing a severe, institutional appearance, in contrast to the innovative designs and more residential quality of earlier complexes."

The highly designed and landscaped complex at Golden Gate Village was not characteristic of post-1949 public housing. In fact, the subject complex would seem to be a public housing building anomaly given overall characterization of low-cost housing types constructed in this era. In this, it is clear that the buildings present at Golden Gate Village were an innovative example of a public housing complex in the second half of the 20th [sic] century. The Golden Gate Village complex is significant under Criterion C for its association with renowned architect Aaron G. Green and John Carl Warnecke, and landscape architect Lawrence Halprin. Their collaborative, innovative efforts at Golden Gate Village were recognized for the unique building types, master site plan, and landscaping moments created for the site, which remain largely intact today. Additionally, the subject buildings are significant as an innovative example of a public housing complex of second half of the 20th [sic] century. <sup>16</sup>

Marin City Public Housing, designed in 1957 and construction completed by the end of 1960, is of a modern, Frank Lloyd Wright-influenced design by Aaron G. Green (1917-2001), a former apprentice and then later associate of the Master Architect. In 1951, Aaron Green opened a jointly held office in San Francisco at the request of Frank Lloyd Wright and served as Wright's West Coast Representative. In addition to his own professional work, Aaron Green assisted Frank Lloyd Wright on over forty projects during the span of their twenty-year association.

The Marin City Public Housing project and the Marin County Civic Center were virtually concurrent in design and construction—with Aaron Green serving both projects. Within a month

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "Mary Summers, former planning director, dies at 70," Marin Independent Journal, August 31, 1988, A4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Garcia Kellar, *Historic Resource Evaluation*, 51.

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of Aaron Green being selected as the Design Architect for the Marin City project, the County of Marin was considering Frank Lloyd Wright as architect for the Civic Center. <sup>17</sup> The first meeting between Wright and representatives of the County, including Supervisor Vera Schultz and Planning Director Mary Summers, was held in April 1957 at Aaron Green's San Francisco office. <sup>18</sup> By the end of July 1957, the County of Marin had signed a contract with Frank Lloyd Wright. <sup>19</sup> From August 1957 onward, Aaron Green was regularly reporting to the County Board of Supervisors for both Marin City Public Housing and the Civic Center. Wright designated Aaron Green as his Associate Architect for the Civic Center project, a rare distinction for him to share credit on any building in the course of his long career. When Frank Lloyd Wright passed away in April 1959, the County Board of Supervisors elected to finish the drawings for the Phase One of the Civic Center and proceed into construction with both Taliesin Associated Architects (the firm succeeding Wright) and Aaron Green. <sup>20</sup>

In 2015, the Marin County Civic Center was among ten buildings designed by Frank Lloyd Wright that were nominated for inclusion on UNESCO's World Heritage List as sites of significant cultural value. <sup>21</sup> "Aaron G. Green and California Organic Architecture" at the Palos Verdes Art Center in Rancho Palos Verdes, California was curated by noted architect and author Alan Hess, a lecturer and advocate for twentieth century architectural preservation. <sup>22</sup> Publication of a monograph presenting the life and sixty-year career of Architect Aaron G. Green is anticipated in late 2017.

The Marin City Housing development was a collaborative endeavor involving a team of local professionals who held strong beliefs in the ability of sensitive planning and design as a means towards providing an environment supporting a better standard of living.

John Carl Warnecke (1919-2010) was named associated architect for the project. His office produced the Construction Documents for the project. A modernist designer, his work was noted for its commitment to contextualism—aspiring to design buildings that harmonize with the environment in which they are sited including respect for local cultural and historical conditions.

At the time of the Marin City Public Housing project, Warnecke's work consisted primarily of school and university buildings. Warnecke was already well known to the County of Marin for design of the 125-acre campus for the Golden Gate Baptist Seminary, under construction just one mile away from the Marin City site. In time, Warnecke's office would become one of the largest architectural firms in the country, working upon hundreds of notable buildings including the Hawaii State Capitol, the United States Naval Academy (Annapolis, MD), Logan International

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> "Wright Recommended To Plan Civic Center," *Daily Independent Journal*, February 28, 1957, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> "8 County Officials Confer With Wright, Are Impressed," *Daily Independent Journal*, April 27, 1957, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> "Board Signs With Wright," *Daily Independent Journal*, July 31, 1957, 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> "Board To Stick By Wright Contract," *Daily Independent Journal*, April 15, 1959, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> "Civic Center Nominated as World Heritage Site," *County of Marin News Release*, January 30, 2015, <a href="https://www.marincounty.org/main/county-press-releases/2015/flw-world-heritage-013015">www.marincounty.org/main/county-press-releases/2015/flw-world-heritage-013015</a>; "Wright World Heritage Update," *Website: Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy*, July 18, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> "Aaron G. Green and California Organic Architecture," *Website: Palos Verde Art Center*, accessed February 2017 <a href="https://www.aaronggreen.org">www.aaronggreen.org</a>.

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Airport (Boston, MA), and multiple buildings on the Stanford University campus. He is best known for his work in Washington D.C. at Lafayette Square, working alongside First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy in 1962 to save historic row houses along the square threatened with demolition and integrate them into two new large modern office buildings of his design set back behind. The assassination of the President led to his most visible project, the design for the Kennedy gravesite at Arlington National Cemetery, a simple, design composition in stone paving, landscape, and an eternal flame.<sup>23</sup>

Lawrence Halprin (1916-2009) was the project's Landscape Architect, a resident of Marin County and involved in numerous Bay Area projects, mostly in conjunction with a local circle of modernist architects—one of whom was John Carl Warnecke. Just prior to the Marin City Public Housing project, both collaborated on the design and landscape for the home of Planner Lawrence Livingston Jr., the final individual who became part of the Marin City team. Halprin designed scores of private and public spaces across the country. Smithsonian magazine called him "one of the preeminent place-makers of the 20th century," and Charles Birnbaum of Washington's Cultural Landscape Foundation called him a trailblazer and one of the most important landscape architects of the modern era. Halprin defined his practice as "a whole appreciation of environmental design as a holistic approach to the matter of making spaces for people to live…"

In 1960, while attending a meeting of the International Federation of Landscape Architects, Halprin outlined the landscape architect's special contributions to a planning team: the vision of the landscape as the "matrix of life"; the design of meaningful open space; a focus on movement in space, or choreography of human participation in the landscape; a concern for regionalism and ecology; and design synthesis, encompassing both conservation and the "dynamics of change." Halprin was later retained as Landscape Architect for the residential and commercial development of Marin City that followed the Public Housing project. Some of his more notable works include the adaptive reuse of historic buildings at Ghiradelli Square in San Francisco, the master landscape plan for Sea Ranch, United Nations Plaza and Levi Plaza in San Francisco, a re-designed approach to Yosemite Falls in Yosemite National Park, and the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial in Washington, D.C. As well, Lawrence Halprin was engaged by Warnecke to design the setting and approaches to the Kennedy gravesite. A major retrospective exhibition of Lawrence Halprin's life and work opened at the National Building Museum in November 2016, and moved to the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco in May 2017. <sup>28</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> William Grimes, "John Carl Warnecke, Architect to Kennedy, Dies at 91," *The New York Times*, April 22, 2010;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> "Comfortable Sausalito Living Illustrated By House Tour," *Sausalito News*, May 4, 1956.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Patricia Sullivan, "Urban Projects Won Wide Acclaim for American Landscape Architect," Washington Post, October 28, 2009 <a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-">http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>dyn/content/article/2009/10/27/AR2009102703857.html?sub=AR</u>, accessed May 8, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Peter Walker, and Melanie Simo, *Invisible Gardens: the Search for Modernism in the American Landscape*, (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1994), 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Ibid., 167.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF), Exhibition: *The Landscape Architecture of Lawrence Halprin*, <a href="https://tclf.org/landscape-architecture-lawrence-halprin-san-francisco">https://tclf.org/landscape-architecture-lawrence-halprin-san-francisco</a> <a href="tclf.ogg/sites/default/files/microsites/halprinlegacy/exhibition.html">tclf.ogg/sites/default/files/microsites/halprinlegacy/exhibition.html</a>, accessed January 25, 2017.

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Lawrence Livingston Jr. (1918-2007), Planner, was in private practice in Sausalito at the time of the Marin City Public Housing project. Mr. Livingston was a colleague of Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin and they worked together on many projects, including a Master Plan for the California State Capitol in 1962.<sup>29</sup> Although primarily recognized as a City Planner and for his involvement in large profile urban redevelopment projects, Livingston was at his core a tireless advocate for conservation of land resources around the Bay Area, largely via the group People for Open Space that evolved into the nonprofit land conservation and urban planning organization Greenbelt Alliance. He fought to control low-density urban sprawl across the Bay Area, guiding a study for the City of Palo Alto that recommended turning nearby hillsides into parkland rather than allowing them be developed into new neighborhoods. His leadership in numerous environmental and conservationist matters earned him the nickname "Mr. Open Space" by his peers within the American Planning Association. 30 His son, Jonathan Livingston of Mill Valley, said he is reminded of his father's efforts and collaborations with environmental champions including Dorothy Erskine and Jack Kent whenever he strolls trails above Sausalito or drives through Tiburon and San Rafael. "I see the results of their successful grass-roots efforts to stop inappropriate development," he said. "All of us in Marin benefit from Larry's passion that every resident be adequately housed, and that the best open space and parkland remain for all to enjoy."31

Aaron Green, John Carl Warnecke, and Lawrence Halprin all have created, or are associated with, projects designated National Historic Landmarks. These are all individuals who have made significant and lasting cultural contributions to the American landscape.

#### **Significance Summary**

Marin City Public Housing is the result of a collaborative design by a prominent association of socially and conservation-minded architects and planners. Instead of following conventional public housing models of developing dense sites comprised of blockish, austere, and soulless concrete buildings, these individuals embarked upon an opportunity to create human-scale dwellings with greater human dignity in a pleasantly open landscaped setting. It was an intentional reaction against conventional housing design of the time as well as an effort to site and develop the campus in a sensitive manner that best preserved the scenic natural resources of the region. Marin City Public Housing represents the pioneering efforts of local government individuals to redevelop deteriorating temporary wartime housing into a new community—a racially and economically integrated community where none existed elsewhere in the County of Marin. Where other housing projects and developments of the time, all around the country, have fallen to a new wave of redevelopment, Marin City Public Housing stands intact as a pleasant

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> "In Memoriam: Lawrence Livingston, Jr. AICP, 1918-2007," APA Northern News, December 2007/January 2008, 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> John King, "Lawrence Livingston Jr., 'Mr. Open Space,' dead at 89," The San Francisco Chronicle (online edition), December 14, 2007 www.sfgate.come/bayarea/article/Lawrence-Livingston-Jr-Mr-Open-Space-dead-3232782.php, accessed December 26, 2016.

31 Jim Staats, "Lawrence Livingston, 'Mr. Open Space,' dies at 89," *Marin Independent Journal (online edition)*,

December 19, 2007 www.marinij.com/article/zz/20071219/NEWS/712199968, accessed December 26, 2016.

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community that continues to serve the needs for affordable housing, particularly in one of the most affluent counties of the State of California.

Notes architectural historian Alison Garcia Kellar of Garavaglia Architecture, who authored the *Historic Resource Evaluation* for Marin City Public Housing, "While it is clear these buildings as a public housing project are unique to Marin County, the project is further distinctive, from a design perspective, as part of a nationwide, post-World War II public housing program. This is largely because of its relationship to the existing hillside site and the way in which the buildings interact with each other. A mini ecosystem was created for this specific community, most of which is essentially intact."<sup>32</sup>

# **Marin City Public Housing History**

Marin City is a misnomer. Marin City is not incorporated as a city; it is a Community Services District of unincorporated Marin County. The area was an idyllic dairy farm in 1942 until the United States was suddenly thrust into World War II. Immediate production of warships was needed for the Pacific arena. In an emergency act, the U.S. Maritime Commission contracted with the Bechtel Corporation to create a shipyard, called "Marinship," on the Sausalito waterfront. The workforce demands to construct the ships far exceeded local availability insofar as laborers and housing. As a result, recruitment for workers reached out across the country to the Midwest and deep South in order to attract those willing to relocate temporarily to Marin County in order to fulfill the labor needs. The Federal Government acquired the land of the dairy farm and surrounding hills, some 365 acres, in order to build housing—nearly 3,000 wooden buildings were planned and constructed within three months' time. As quickly as the units were completed, they were filled by some 6,000 migrating individuals—virtually overnight Marin City came into being.

When the war ended in 1945, so too ended the need for the thousands of workers who had flooded into the area to build the ships. Many returned east and home to their families; some decided to remain in California and Marin County; others decided to remain in Marin City, voluntarily or not. At that time, Marin City was a true melting pot of race, evenly mixed of black and white families primarily. At the conclusion of the war, black families who wished to relocate elsewhere in Marin County were met by restrictive racial covenants that prevented them from relocating into housing elsewhere or even purchasing homes. In addition, some black families could not relocate due to financial hardship—now jobless with the close of the shipyards—and so essentially became trapped in the temporary wartime housing. This circumstance remained for the next seven years while the Federal Government debated how and when to dispose of the property. <sup>33</sup>

The election of Vera Schultz to the Marin County Board of Supervisors in 1952 began the process of change to a new community for Marin City. She survived a very closely contested and controversial campaign to take a seat in January of 1953 as the first female Supervisor of Marin County. A progressive leader, she immediately took charge of a committee formed to determine

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Mark Anthony Wilson, "Marin City."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Evelyn M, Radford, *The Bridge and the Building*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Danville, CA: Pradbin Publishers, 1998), 49-52.

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the future of Marin City, advocating for the County to acquire the land and develop low-cost housing in order to replace the deteriorating wartime buildings. Schultz then connected with Mary Summers, the County of Marin's first female Planning Director, who was already and would become more so, an instrumental contributor to the process. Vera Schultz personally traveled to Washington D.C. to request that the Marin City property be relinquished to the County—an act which eventually proved successful. In order for this transfer of land to happen, the Federal Government required that Marin County establish a Redevelopment Agency as well as write and adopt a Housing Code. Both Supervisor Vera Schultz and Mary Summers were critical participants in the process of completing this requirement. <sup>34</sup>

It was determined to split the redevelopment within the 365 acre site into two distinct projects—the creation of low-rent housing in the southern section and a low-cost residential development on the north. Both projects moved forward concurrently, with immediate priority given to the development of the low-rent housing. Housing priority for both developments would be given to displaced Marin City residents.

Throughout 1955, physical planning for the Marin City redevelopment was led by Marin County Planning Director Mary Summers with staff under her direction. Their scope of work encompassed overall Master Planning (including roadway layouts, land use, and zoning district development) and lot subdivision.<sup>36</sup>

The Federal Government required public approval of a referendum measure before it would agree to grant monies to the County Redevelopment Agency for the purposes of building up to 300 units of low-rent housing. The Proposition C passed in November 1956 by a 2 to 1 margin enabling the County to move ahead with the project. Directly following upon this public approval, the Housing Authority approved the sloping site that had been recommended by both county and federal planners, and initiated the process of demolition and removal of the existing wartime housing. Within the month of December, the Housing Authority interviewed nearly 30 architects applying for the opportunity to design the housing project, eventually narrowing the list to eight candidates.

On January 7, 1957, the Housing Authority announced an association between John Carl Warnecke and Aaron G. Green, head of the San Francisco office of Frank Lloyd Wright, as collaborating architects chosen for the housing project, along with a team that included

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Evelyn M, Radford, *The Bridge and the Building*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Danville, CA: Pradbin Publishers, 1998), 53-56.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> "Preliminary Plans for Redevelopment of Marin City Are Nearing Completion," *Daily Independent Journal*, November 16, 1955, 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> "U.S. Grants Funds To Carry On Marin City Renewal: New Boundaries Must Be Set Up; Referendum Vote Still Essential," *Daily Independent Journal*, September 6, 1956, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> "County Passes Marin City Redevelopment," *Daily Independent Journal*, November 7, 1956, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> "Site for Housing Project Selected," *Daily Independent Journal*, December 11, 1956, 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> "Architect List Pared to Eight," *Daily Independent Journal*, December 19, 1956, 17.

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Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin and City Planner Lawrence Livingston Jr. <sup>41</sup> Execution of the contract for professional services was reported at the beginning of April. <sup>42</sup> Aaron Green produced preliminary design drawings presented to the County Housing Authority, and approved, on June 3, 1957. Green "envisioned seven large 'multi-units' built at right angles to the hillside contours, so designed as to 'become a part of the hillside." <sup>43</sup> Financing for the 300-unit housing project was approved by the federal government's Public Housing Authority (PHA) on June 27, 1957, with the construction estimated to cost \$4.3 million. <sup>44</sup>

The Master Plan for Marin City, as prepared by County Planning Director Mary Summers, was officially approved by the Marin County Planning Commission on October 14, 1957. Developed drawings for the housing project were presented including an aerial view rendering (**Figure 15**), published in Marin County's *Daily Independent Journal* the next day. <sup>45</sup> A rendering followed on November 27, 1957, titled "Preliminary Perspective Typical Court" (**Figure 16**). Both were produced by Barry von Hungen of Aaron Green's office. <sup>46</sup>

Demolition of wartime housing in the site area for the public housing began in November. <sup>47</sup> The Housing Authority approved developed plans by Aaron Green, who indicated that once construction costs were available, the project plans would proceed to the PHA, then, if approved, would proceed to the Marin County Board of Supervisors for review and approval. <sup>48</sup> Thus, the approval process for the rental housing development proceeded through an elaborate gauntlet of various government agencies for the remainder of 1957 and well into 1958, creating public frustration in the community with the perceived slow pace of the project. <sup>49</sup> Bert Klahn, executive director of the Marin County Housing Authority, announced that that PHA had approved preliminary plans for the low rent housing project and was authorizing John Carl Warnecke and Aaron Green to proceed with preparing construction documents. <sup>50</sup>

A model of the five-story apartment building was published in the *Daily Independent Journal* on April 18, 1958.<sup>51</sup> Plans and specifications for the project were sent to the U.S. Public Housing Administration at the end of September 1958 for final approval.<sup>52</sup> Aaron Green received a preliminary review of the drawings, and was reported to be quickly making minor revisions requested by the PHA. As a result, the Marin County Housing Authority issued a cautious statement that the project might be ready for bid by November 1, 1958.<sup>53</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> "S.F. Architect Named To Redesign Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, January 8, 1957, 1; "Architects Named for Marin City," *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 12, 1957, 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> "Clarification of In-Lieu Plan Asked," *Daily Independent Journal*, April 2, 1957, 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> "Site, Building Plans Shown For Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, June 4, 1957, 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> "Government Approves Marin City Financing," *Daily Independent Journal*, June 27, 1957, 1.

<sup>45 &</sup>quot;Marin City's Master Plan Gets Approval," *Daily Independent Journal*, October 15, 1957, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Archives of Aaron Green, Aaron Green Associates.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> "Beginning Of The End For Marin City Housing," Daily Independent Journal, November 5, 1957, 1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> "Report Given On Aid To Sausalito Schools," *Daily Independent Journal*, November 5, 1957, 16

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> "Session Called On Marin City Redevelopment," *Daily Independent Journal*, February 28, 1958, 1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> "U.S. Approves Plans For Marin City Houses," Daily Independent Journal, March 4, 1958, 2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> "New Look For Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, April 18, 1958, 25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> "Marin City Plans Go To U.S. Agency," *Daily Independent Journal*, September 27, 1958, 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> "Bids May Be Called Nov. 1 On Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, October 7, 1958, 12.

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Final plans were dated November 3, 1958 and sent out for bid on November 13.<sup>54</sup> Twelve general contracting firms expressed interest in bidding on the project.<sup>55</sup> Five bids were read on December 17 and the low bid of \$3.8 million was awarded to the general contracting firm of Williams and Burrows. This contractor was already working nearby at the major development for the Baptist Theological Seminary campus designed by architect John Carl Warnecke. Aaron Green expressed particular pleasure with the bids, "The figures are under our estimates and we are especially happy with caliber of the firms who bid." The next day, Supervisor Vera Schultz spoke on a local radio station's program and when asked of her view regarding Marin County accomplishments for 1958, she declared, "Positive advancement for Marin City redevelopment at last," and declared this "an answer to those who claimed Marin City redevelopment was a dream impossible of realization." <sup>57</sup>

The bid was formally accepted by both the Marin Housing Authority and San Francisco Office of the Public Housing Authority on January 15, 1959 with Aaron Green establishing a timetable of 650 days to construct the 300 units of housing and an additional 150 days to install landscaping. The contract also stipulated that 100 of the apartment units would be completed in 400 days. <sup>58</sup> Construction officially commenced with the General Contractor's move onto the site on February 2, 1959.<sup>59</sup> Actual building construction was underway by the week of April 6, with report that the contractor was pouring the concrete caissons (below grade pier support structure) and that all 300 units were expected to be completed by summer of 1961. 60 Housing Authority Director Klahn reported on August 3 that the project is "considerably ahead of schedule" with the first 100 units expected to be completed by March 1960.<sup>61</sup> Still, work slowdowns arose resulting from regional labor disputes. A Teamsters Union strike in San Francisco slowed the delivery of reinforcing steel to the project. A field representative for Aaron Green's office expressed concern that the project could fall behind schedule if the strike were to persist. Still, he indicated the project was still well ahead of schedule and 30 percent complete. The full completion date was projected for November 19, 1960.<sup>62</sup> By November 2, 1959, Klahn was reporting that the project was 55 percent complete, yet a local carpenter's strike resulting in a six-day walkout slowed construction once again and nearly shut the project down. 63. By December 8, it was announced by Director Klahn that two apartment units would be rushed to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> "Bids Called Thursday On Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, November 11, 1958, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> "Dozen Developers Interested In Marin City Low Rent Job," *Daily Independent Journal*, December 2, 1958, 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> "\$3.8 Million Marin City Bid Lowest," *Daily Independent Journal*, December 18, 1958, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> "Supervisors Sum Up 1958 Accomplishments," *Daily Independent Journal*, December 18, 1958, 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> "Initial Work Set To Start Feb. 2 On Marin City Low-Cost Project," *Daily Independent Journal*, January 16, 1959–11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> "Redevelopment Starts In Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, February 2, 1959, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> "1st Apartments Start Going Up In Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, April 8, 1959, 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> "Housing Work Well Ahead At Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, August 4, 1959, 3.

<sup>62 &</sup>quot;Truck Strike Slows Project In Marin City," Daily Independent Journal, August 21, 1959, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> "Improvements Set At Hilarita Project," *Daily Independent Journal*, November 3, 1959, 9; "Strike Over, But Marin City Work Slows," *Daily Independent Journal*, November 11, 1959, 1.

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completion by February in order that prospective residents could preview the interiors. One unit would be furnished for this purpose. <sup>64</sup>

On January 11, 1960, the Marin County Housing Authority began accepting applications for rentals of the apartments, with priority given to residents displaced by the removal of wartime housing in order to make way for the construction of the new housing underway. Also on January 11, the Marin County Grand Jury, after a procedural investigation of the project, presented the Marin County Board of Supervisors with a resolution commending the Redevelopment Agency and the Housing Authority for adding to the beauty of Marin County and for the handling of a project of this magnitude in an orderly, economical and expeditious manner. They praised the transformation of wartime Marin City, from one of the county's most blighted areas into a new planned community, also noting, "No Marin City family has been forced to leave the area due to redevelopment. No direct cash outlay by the County of Marin and no direct financial obligation will fall upon the taxpayers of Marin County."

During the months of February and March, a series of town meetings were held to discuss with Marin City residents questions regarding progress of the project, eligibility matters, and tenant leases and responsibilities, as well as the actual physical transition between the wartime housing and the new apartment buildings.<sup>67</sup> At the beginning of March, Housing Authority Director Bert Klahn announced that families were expected to start moving into the first apartment units between March 15 and April 1. He indicated that the contractor expected to have the units ready by that time. Within 35 to 40 days, Klahn estimated that 135 families would be occupying the new buildings. A public dedication was scheduled for March 19.<sup>68</sup> On March 7, Klahn reported that there were 382 applications from Marin City wartime housing tenants for spaces in the new low-rent housing and that the project was 80 percent complete.<sup>69</sup>

"The front door of Marin County has been preserved in beauty...by a respect for nature and working with her to preserve beauty..." These were the words of tribute spoken by County Supervisor Vera Schultz at the formal dedication ceremony held at the Marin City project on March 19, 1960. A *Daily Independent Journal* reporter noted that, "Mrs. Schultz cited the seven-year struggle to get the redevelopment project underway and noted that the 'stormy struggle' had been rewarded with the producing of the 'most beautiful low rent residential installations in the United States." U.S. Public Housing Authority regional director J.G. Melville, who originally negotiated the purchase of the land in 1942 for the federal government, also spoke at the ceremony, held on the lawn in front of the new administration building. Both architects Aaron Green and John Carl Warnecke attended and spoke at the ceremony, with Warnecke noting that, "this is the first link in transforming a rundown relic to one of the finest communities in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> "2 Marin City Apartments To Be Rushed," *Daily Independent Journal*, December 8, 1959, 8.

<sup>65 &</sup>quot;First Requests For Marin City Housing Filed," Daily Independent Journal, January 11, 1960, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> "Jury Praises Marin City's Redevelopment," *Daily Independent Journal*, January 20, 1960, 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> "Marin City Meeting On Housing Slated," *Daily Independent Journal*, February 12, 1960, 2; "Meeting Set On Housing," *Daily Independent Journal*, March 21, 1960, 14.

<sup>68 &</sup>quot;Marin City Move Will Start Soon," Daily Independent Journal, March 2, 1960, 22.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> "Applications Total 382 At Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, March 9, 1960, 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> "First 6 Buildings Dedicated In Marin City Development," *Daily Independent Journal*, March 19, 1960, 1.

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world." Following the ceremony, the public was invited to inspect the first six completed buildings. The more than 300 attended the ceremonies, some of them prospective tenants. The public was informed that rents would range from \$35 to \$84 a month and prospective tenants would have to meet certain economic requirements. For example, a family with three or more children was eligible if annual income was not in excess of \$5,000.

On March 21, Rev. S.L. Banks of the Village Chapel of Marin City spoke to an audience during a meeting of the Marin City Tenant Council emphasizing the importance of Marin City citizens taking pride in their new homes. "The new low-rent housing facilities are good; we should show the same fight in keeping them good as we did to get them." "Marin City is the greatest experiment in democracy" he went on. "This is a community where Southern whites and Southern Negroes have learned to live together in harmony…and this is our opportunity."<sup>73</sup>

Moving day was postponed until April 15 after an inspection of the contractor's work was found unacceptable to the architect and the Housing Authority. The additional time would allow correction of the deficiencies. <sup>74</sup> Final inspection was schedule for Friday, April 15 at 8:00 am. Housing Authority Executive Director Bert Klahn indicated that he thought that the inspection and signing of the acceptance would be completed by 9:00 am by which time the tenants could immediately begin to move in. <sup>75</sup>

True to Klahn's schedule, the inspection and signed acceptance were concluded that Friday and the first 40 families began to move into completed low-rise apartment units, noting features they had never experienced in the years living in the wartime housing: sidewalks, street lights, their own yard with lawn and private terrace, bathtubs (only showers before), sliding glass windows, wood ceilings that pitched with the roof supported by exposed beams, drapery, double sinks in the kitchen, and forced-air heaters. Apartments faced onto a landscaped court that had redwood and concrete benches with sandboxes for children. Klahn noted that, "there is no segregation or discrimination in the project. Families are placed side-by-side according to their needs and size of families." Marin City's oldest resident, Catherine "Mother" Washington, 99, was the first resident to move into the new apartments. When Director of the Marin County Housing Authority Bert Klahn greeted Mrs. Washington, he asked, "Well, how do you like it?" She gave him a smile that moved a cascade of wrinkles in her face. "Son," she replied, "I never expected to live in anything like this." She strolled into her one-bedroom apartment, glanced at the pastel walls and beamed ceilings, and remarked, "This is the best ever."

The tenants met with Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin on the evening of June 27, 1960 to discuss landscaping underway around the housing campus. A representative of the Housing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> "Housing Dedicated, Marin City Buildings Await First Tenants," *Daily Independent Journal*, March 21, 1960, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> "Marin City's New Housing Dedicated," San Francisco Chronicle, March 20, 1960, 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> "Upkeep of Marin City Emphasized," *Daily Independent Journal*, March 22, 1960, 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> "Marin City Move Delayed A Week," *Daily Independent Journal*, April 6, 1960, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> "Friday May Be Moving Day In Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, April 12, 1960, 11.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> "Big Move Gets Underway In Marin City," *Daily Independent Journal*, April 15, 1960, 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> "Big Move Gets by Marin City Families," San Francisco Chronicle, April 16, 1960, 2.

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Authority indicated that tenants would be responsible for their landscaping and gardening after the present work was accepted. 78

At the end of November, the Housing Authority announced another open house for the public, this time at one of the newly completed five-story apartment buildings to review three unit types of one-, two-, and three-bedrooms.<sup>79</sup>

In March 1961, the County of Marin received a national award as an "All-America City" in which the 300-unit housing project was featured along with the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Civic Center, then under construction, as well as parkland being developed, including the prospect of a 53,000-acre Point Reyes National Seashore. The annual contest was sponsored by the National Municipal League and *Look* magazine, in which both cities and counties "must show noteworthy accomplishments through alert, continuing citizen participation." The award announcement declared that "Marin citizens met in their own area a problem facing the whole nation—the rescuing of our natural scenic resources. Proud of the rare natural beauty of their county, citizen conservation groups in Marin have fought subdividers and saved thousands of acres of shore and woodland for the creation of county, state and federal parks."

Marin County Administrator Donald Jensen, who prepared and submitted the application on behalf of the County, noted, "Because of citizen action, coming generations will reside in a planned community with beauty and recreation available and preserved." The reporting in the *Daily Independent Journal*, in a caption for an artist's rendering of the public housing project, indicated that, "preservation of natural beauty in this area, too, contributed to Marin County's winning an All-America Cities award." Jensen noted, "Although there may appear to be little similarity between a redevelopment project, a Civic Center, and development of recreational areas, they are all part of the same goals of the citizens of the community. These goals are primarily to preserve for Marin County the beauty that has made it unique and to provide for orderly development in a manner that will make it a beautiful place in which to live."

By the beginning of April 1961, the Marin County Housing Authority reported that all 300 units of the low-rent housing project were filled. The organization was accepting applications for residents outside Marin County and already had received 100 unsolicited requests by this time.<sup>82</sup>

The U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) took exception to the low-rent housing project, reporting to Congress in April 1962 that design, planning, and construction costs were "unnecessarily wasteful" due to "uneconomical design features and use of expensive materials." The auditors admitted that the overall cost was below the legal maximum allowed for the project.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> "Marin City Tenants Hear Architect Talk," *Daily Independent Journal*, June 28, 1960, 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> "Open House Slated At New Marin City Apartments," *Daily Independent Journal*, December 1, 1960, 16.

<sup>80 &</sup>quot;Marin Wins National Award As 'All-America City'," Daily Independent Journal, March 15, 1961, 1;

<sup>&</sup>quot;Administrator Puts County Over As All-America City," Daily Independent Journal, March 15, 1961, 17;

<sup>&</sup>quot;Redevelopment Of A Slum Helped Marin Win City Contest," Daily Independent Journal, March 15, 1961, 17;

<sup>&</sup>quot;Marin Beauty Preserved Through Work," Daily Independent Journal, March 15, 1961, 18.

<sup>81 &</sup>quot;Tense Moments Due In Contest: Is Marin Best City?," Daily Independent Journal, October 28, 1960, 21.

<sup>82 &</sup>quot;Low-Rent Housing Applications Still Are Being Taken," Daily Independent Journal, April 4, 1961, 11.

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Still, they sharply objected to many features of the five-story buildings that they believed could have been made even less expensive, such as composition roofing instead of clay tile and laundry yard fencing from some less expensive material than concrete block, as well as objecting to outside corridor access, a private balcony for each unit, and view windows.

The Governor's Advisory Commission and the Public Housing Commissioner all defended the project as well as Marin County Housing Authority Director Bert Klahn who stated that the project was not extravagant in any way, adding "We are proud of it. We feel it is a step in the right direction for future housing projects." <sup>83</sup> Klahn declared, "This is the proper time for housing authorities to take a firm stand in the promotion of imaginative and resourceful design." <sup>84</sup> Architect Aaron Green blasted the report, stating, "This report is the kind of mediocrity in Government which is responsible for the unfortunate image public housing projects have presented nationally for a long period of time. <sup>85</sup> We considered the needs of the people who will occupy the homes and the relationship of the buildings to the community. The people of Marin are extremely aware of the beauties that surround them." Green continued, "We don't feel we have a thing to apologize for. The architects dedicated themselves to do a better job than the usual horrible examples of public housing throughout the country."

Later in the month of August, Representative Clem Miller spoke before Congress to address the criticism of the cost and design by the GAO. Miller praised the design and stated that the GAO was "over-reaching itself," adding, "When it [GAO] fulfills its function of saving taxpayers money, detecting fraud, deceit, waste, it is superb. When it is passing judgment, it is out of its field." Miller also noted that, "to some degree we have become a nation of accountants. The figure sheets have become sacred talisman. Among other things this leads to the destruction of beauty." He said that one only need look at the buildings going up in Washington, D.C. to see "some of the most graceless architecture conceived by man." <sup>87</sup>

In December 1963, noted urban design expert, Dr. William Wheaton, a member of the United Nations Committee on Housing and Planning, blasted builders of private and public housing in the United States and called upon on housing authorities to insist on good design for public projects. Both public and private housing projects, Wheaton said, are works of "unparalleled dullness done on an inhuman scale" and "fearful places for the human spirit..." He singled out the Marin City redevelopment project as an example of how elegance can be reached despite a low budget. "Happily, it had good architects (Aaron Green and John Carl Warnecke)," he said. Wheaton concluded that this proved how "solid design" can triumph over "ill-founded" criticism.<sup>88</sup>

<sup>83 &</sup>quot;Marin City Project Is Hotly Defended," *Daily Independent Journal*, April 7, 1962, 1, 7.

<sup>84 &</sup>quot;Cost Of Marin Public Housing Attacked," Daily Independent Journal, August 2, 1962, 8.

<sup>85 &</sup>quot;U.S. Auditors: Marin City - 'Legal' But 'Wasteful'," San Francisco Chronicle, April 7, 1962, 3.

<sup>86 &</sup>quot;Marin City Project Is Hotly Defended," Daily Independent Journal, April 7, 1962, 1, 7.

<sup>87 &</sup>quot;Rep. Miller Defends Marin City Housing," Daily Independent Journal, April 22, 1962, 16.

<sup>88 &</sup>quot;Expert's Blast at 'Awful' Private Home Projects," San Francisco Chronicle, December 12, 1963, 12.

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The federal Public Housing Authority agreed with the experts and the architect. In November 1964, during a ceremony held in Washington, D.C., the apartment development was awarded "First Honors" for design excellence from among 700 entries nationwide and regarded as "outstanding" by a jury of architects and specialists. Their statement: "This highly original design meets the challenge of the site's topography and dramatic situation. Each floor of the hillside apartment building is accessible from grade without ramps or stairs. The buildings on the lower part of the site are intimate in scale, carefully detailed, and show a sensitive selection and use of materials." Federal housing authorities declared that this project represented a "breakthrough" to better federal housing design. <sup>89</sup>

Architects Aaron Green and John Carl Warnecke both flew to Washington D.C. to be honored during the ceremony. The citation included Planning Consultant Lawrence Livingston Jr. and Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin. Green, before departure, called the award a vindication of his contention that matters of design, practicality, and aesthetics could be evaluated only by competent experts, stating, "The domination of public architecture by bookkeepers and accountants can only result in mediocrity. Imagination and practical creativity in the design of the Marin City project brought higher standards and better living to many citizens without increasing costs." 90

For Aaron Green, the success of Marin City led directly to his being selected, in November 1966, from among sixteen applicants as the prime consultant to master plan the Hunters Point neighborhood of San Francisco. The Hunters Point Joint Housing Committee, a volunteer group representing an amalgam of individuals, clubs, church groups, and poverty program organizations, told the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, after a contentious three-month period of meetings with the Agency, that they wanted Aaron Green to plan the redevelopment of their neighborhood. This marked a first in American urban renewal, an Agency spokesman claimed: consultation with citizens from a target area to select the consultant for urban renewal. <sup>91</sup>

<sup>89 &</sup>quot;Marin City Honored for Design," San Francisco Chronicle, October 23, 1964, 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> "Marin City Project Design Wins Award," *Daily Independent Journal*, October 21, 1964, 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> "A Meeting Of Minds on Hunters Pt.," San Francisco Chronicle, November 2, 1966, 2.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 Marin City Public Housing Marin, California Name of Property County and State 9. Major Bibliographical References **Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.) **Books** Green, Aaron G. and de Nevi, Donald P. An Architecture for Democracy: The Marin County Civic Center. San Francisco: Grendon Publishing, 1990. Radford, Evelyn M. *The Bridge and the Building*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Danville, CA: Pradbin Publishers, 1998. \_. Vera, First Lady of Marin: A biography of Vera Lucille Smith Schultz. Sonoma, CA: Hilltop Publishing Co., 1998. Walker, Peter and Melanie Simo. Invisible Gardens: the Search for Modernism in the American Landscape. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1994. Documents Garcia Kellar, Alison. Golden Gate Village Marin City, CA: Historic Resource Evaluation. San Francisco: Garavaglia Architecture, June 2015. Newspapers Daily Independent Journal, San Rafael, CA, 1952-1964. San Francisco Chronicle, San Francisco, CA, 1957-1964.

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Wilson, Mark Anthony. "Marin City: The rich history and current challenges of a historic African-American enclave." *Marin Magazine*, Volume 11, Issue 12 (December 2015).

\_\_\_\_\_\_. "Paving New Roads: Marin County's first female Supervisor, Vera Schultz, was a woman ahead of her time." *Marin Magazine*, Volume 12, Issue 9 (September 2016).

larin City Public Housing		California
ame of Property	County a	nd State
Previous documentation on file	(NPS):	
preliminary determination of previously listed in the National previously determined eligible designated a National Historic American recorded by Historic American recorded by Historic American recorded by Historic American	f individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested and Register ble by the National Register	ed
Primary location of additional d	lata:	
State Historic Preservation C Other State agency Federal agency Local government University X Other Name of repository: Aaro  Historic Resources Survey Num		
10. Geographical Data		
Latitude/Longitude Coordinates Datum if other than WGS84:  (enter coordinates to 6 decimal plane)	s 	
1. Latitude: 37.871380	Longitude: -122.509191	
2. Latitude: 37.871485	Longitude: -122.507462	
3. Latitude: 37.866836	Longitude: -122.507350	
4. Latitude: 37.866710	Longitude: -122.510800	
5. Latitude: 37.868663	Longitude: -122.513027	
6. Latitude: 37.869353	Longitude: -122.512096	

United States Department of the International	erior
National Park Service / National Re-	gister of Historic Places Registration Form
NPS Form 10-900	OMB No. 1024-0018

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# **Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Bounded on the north by Drake Avenue and Donahue Street, on the east by Highway 101, and on the west and south by the wooded hills and open space of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is that which is designated by the Assessor's Map for the property and historically defined as the complete site for the development.

11. Form Prepared By	
name/title: _Daniel Ruark, Architect_ organization:	
street & number: 61 Buckelew Street city or town: Marin City state: California zip code: 94965	-
e-mail_ <u>daniel@danielruarkarchitect.com</u> telephone:_(415) 302-7932	
date: March 2017; Revised May 2017	

#### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

# **Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

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**Photo Log** 

Marin City Public Housing Name of Property:

City or Vicinity: Marin City County: Marin State: California Photographer: Daniel Ruark

Date Photographed: Photos 1-28 October 20, 2016; Photos 29-33 April 27, 2017

Descriptio camera:	n of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of
1 of 33	Type A five-story apartment building, looking northwest
2 of 33	Type A five-story apartment building, looking west
3 of 33	Type A five-story apartment building, entry elevation with each level at grade, looking west
4 of 33	Type A five-story apartment building, private balcony elevation, looking east
5 of 33	Type A five-story apartment building, rear elevation, looking north
6 of 33	Type A five-story apartment building, entry access gallery, looking north
7 of 33	Type A five-story apartment buildings, looking east along Drake Avenue (from upper floor of building)
8 of 33	Type A five-story apartment buildings, looking west along Drake Avenue
9 of 33	Type A five-story apartment buildings, looking west
10 of 33	Type A five-story apartment building, looking northeast, integral color block enclosure of laundry yard, entry to laundry room at right, on grade
11 of 33	Type A five-story apartment building, looking northeast, integral color block enclosure of laundry yard
12 of 33	Steel stair tower addition representative of owner's security alterations (not required by Building Code) to four of the eight Type A buildings
13 of 33	Access stair and walkway from Cole Drive down to area of low-rise buildings, looking northeast with Type B two-story apartment building in background; concrete stair likely original, railings have been updated to be Code compliant; Silk Oak trees conform to the Halprin landscape plan

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# Marin City Public Housing Name of Property Type C one-story apartment building, looking east Administration and Maintenance building, looking west Type C one-story apartment building, looking northeast from 5<sup>th</sup> floor of adjacent Type A building Type A five-story apartment buildings upper part of photo, low-rise apartment buildings at right of center, looking west along Drake Avenue (from upper floor of Type A building); corresponds to Figure 30

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

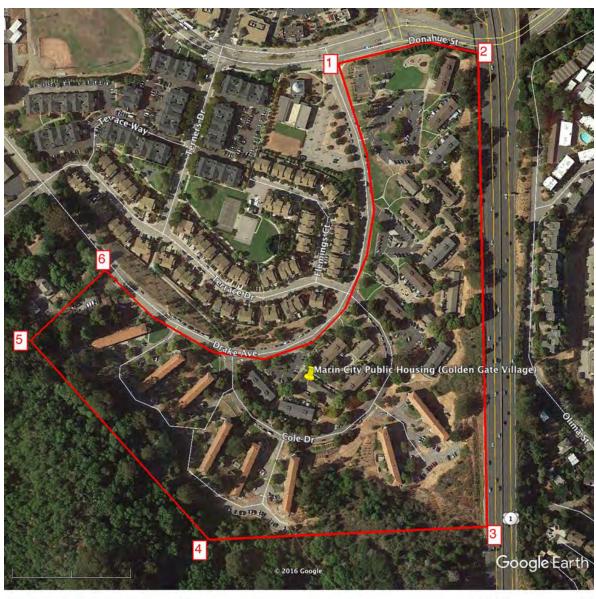
**Estimated Burden Statement**: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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## Figure 1. Location Map

1.	Latitude:	37.871380	Longitude:	-122.509191
2.	Latitude:	37.871485	Longitude:	-122.507462
3.	Latitude:	37.866836	Longitude:	-122.507350
4.	Latitude:	37.866710	Longitude:	-122.510800
5.	Latitude:	37.868663	Longitude:	-122.513027
6.	Latitude:	37.869353	Longitude:	-122.512096







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Figure 2. Sketch Map/Photo Key

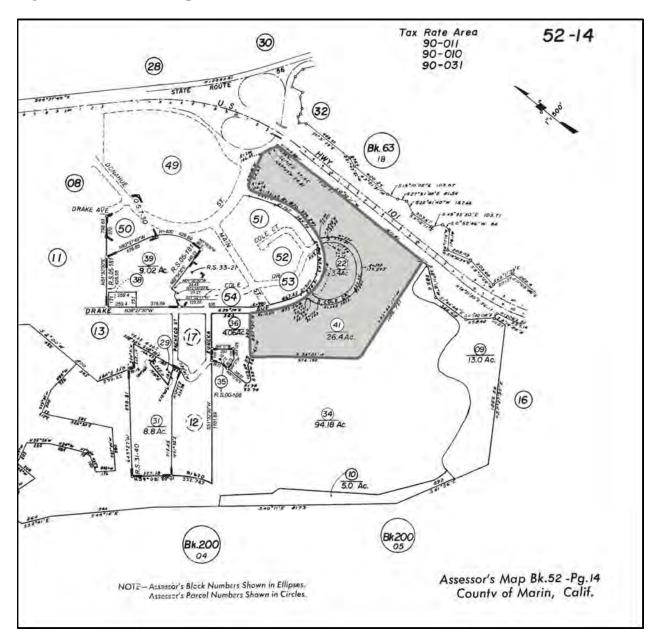


Base drawing from Presentation Site Plan prepared by Aaron Green Associates, circa 1957 Source: Aaron Green Archives

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Figure 3. Assessor's Map



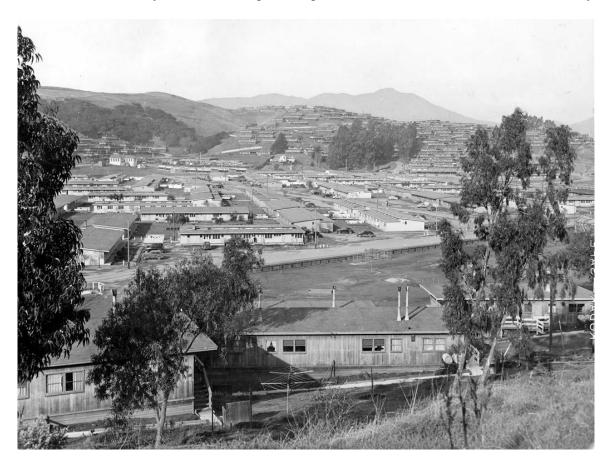
Source: Garavaglia Architecture, *Historic Resource Evaluation* Shading to indicate property area added by Alison Garcia Kellar, June 2015

Name of Property

**Figure 4.** Marin City circa 1942; Temporary wartime housing for ship builders, future site of Marin City Public Housing in upper third of photograph Source: Sausalito Historical Society

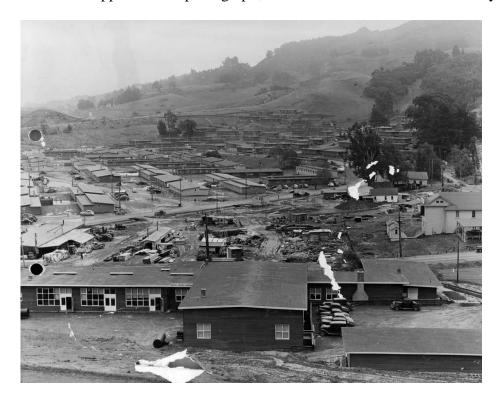


**Figure 5.** Marin City circa 1943; Looking west from future site of Highway 101, future site of Marin City Public Housing in foreground; Source: Sausalito Historical Society



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**Figure 6.** Marin City circa 1944; Looking east, future site of Marin City Public Housing in upper third of photograph; Source: Sausalito Historical Society



**Figure 7.** Marinship, Sausalito, circa 1944; Marin City at upper right Source: Sausalito Historical Society



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Figure 8. Marin County Supervisor Vera Schultz, 1960; Source: Marin Independent Journal



**Figure 9.** Marin County Planning Director Mary Summers, circa 1960 Source: The Marin Conservation League



**Figure 10.** Architect Aaron Green in his San Francisco Office, circa 1963 Source: Aaron Green Archive



Figure 11. Architect John Carl Warnecke, 1954; Source: San Francisco History Center



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Figure 12. Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin, circa 1960; Source: AP Photo



Figure 13. City Planner Lawrence Livingston, Jr., 1956; Source: San Francisco History Center



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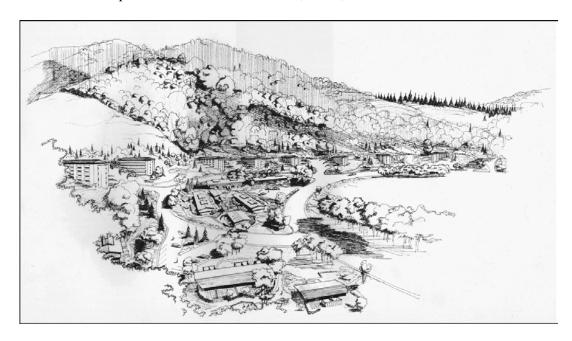
Name of Property

**Figure 14.** August 1, 1957 Frank Lloyd Wright visits site and studies a topographical map for future Marin County Civic Center; Marin County Planning Director Mary Summers at center, Frank Lloyd Wright, right of center, Aaron Green, Marin City Public Housing Architect, far right (three gentlemen at left unidentified) Source: Aaron Green Archive

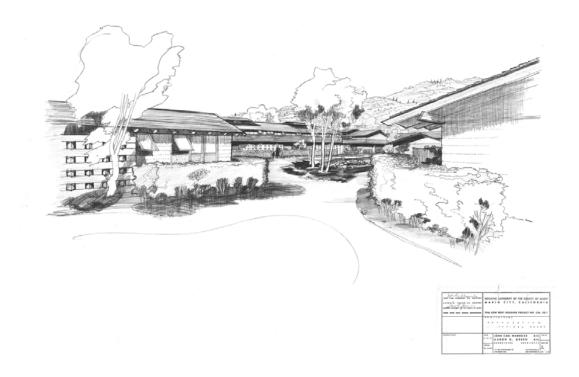


Name of Property

**Figure 15.** Aerial view rendering created by the Aaron Green office, published in the *Daily Independent Journal* October 15, 1957; Source: Aaron Green Archive

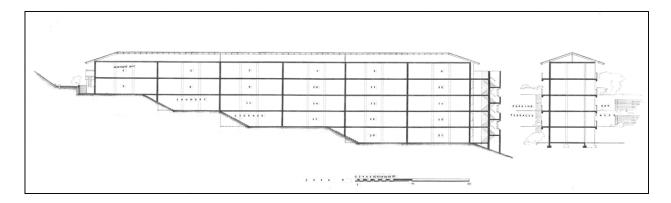


**Figure 16.** View of low-rise apartments, looking towards common courtyard, created by the Aaron Green office, dated November 27, 1957; Source: Aaron Green Archive

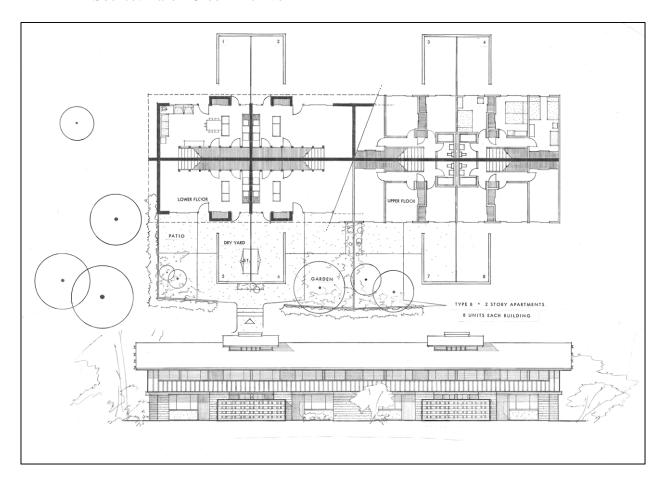


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**Figure 17.** Presentation Documents, Type A Apartments, Cross Sections, circa 1957 Source: Aaron Green Archive

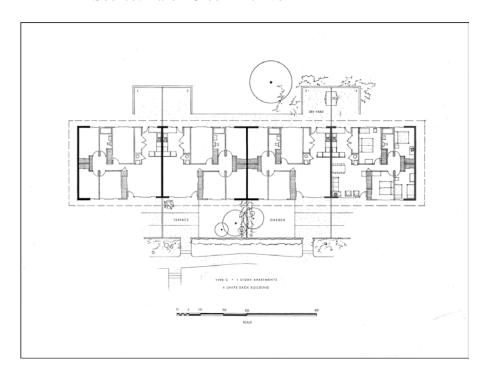


**Figure 18.** Presentation Documents, Type B Apartments, Floor Plans and Elevation, circa 1957 Source: Aaron Green Archive

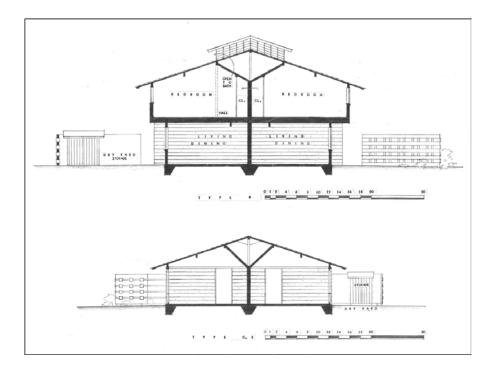


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**Figure 19.** Presentation Documents, Type C Apartments, Floor Plan, circa 1957 Source: Aaron Green Archive



**Figure 20.** Presentation Documents, Type B, C, and E Building Sections, circa 1957 Source: Aaron Green Archive

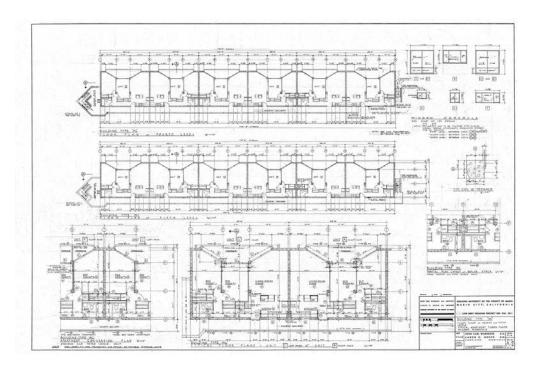


Name of Property

**Figure 21.** Scale model for the Type A apartment buildings, photos of model published by the *Daily Independent Journal*, April 18, 1958; Source: University of California Environmental Design Archives



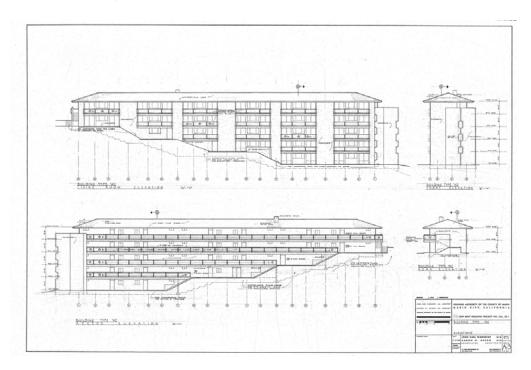
**Figure 22.** Construction Documents, Type A Apartments, Floor Plans, November 3, 1958 Source: Aaron Green Archive



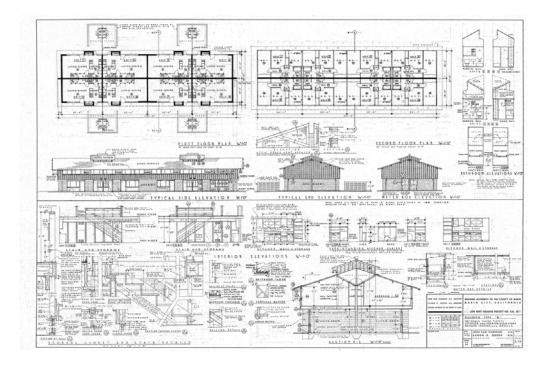
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**Figure 23.** Construction Documents, Type A Apartments, Exterior Elevations, November 3, 1958; Source: Aaron Green Archive

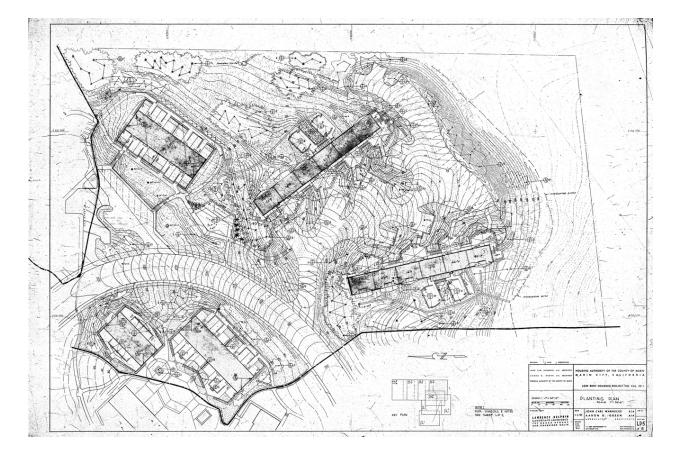


**Figure 24.** Construction Documents, Type B Apartments, November 3, 1958 Source: Aaron Green Archive



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**Figure 25.** Construction Documents, Landscape Plan, Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin, November 3, 1958; Source: Aaron Green Archive



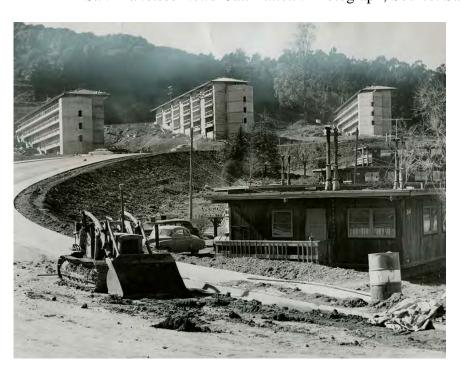
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**Figure 26.** Under construction, January 1960, five-story Type A apartment buildings, looking west; Photographer Ken Molino; Source: Sausalito Historical Society



**Figure 27.** Under construction, March 1960, five-story Type A apartment buildings separated from typical 1942 wartime housing by new Drake Avenue, looking southwest *San Francisco News-Call Bulletin* Photograph; Source: San Francisco History Center



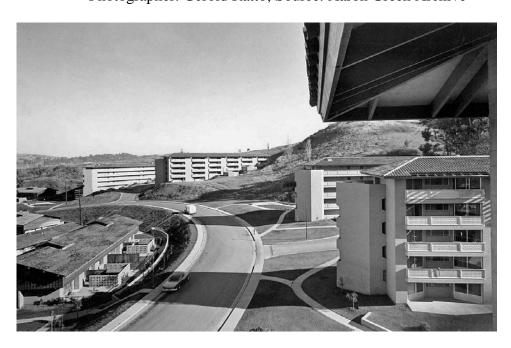
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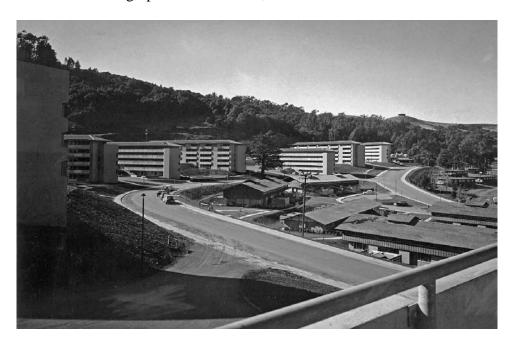
**Figure 28.** Under construction, October 1960, Drake Avenue separates old and new, aerial view looking southeast; Photographer: Aero Portraits; Source: Aaron Green Archive



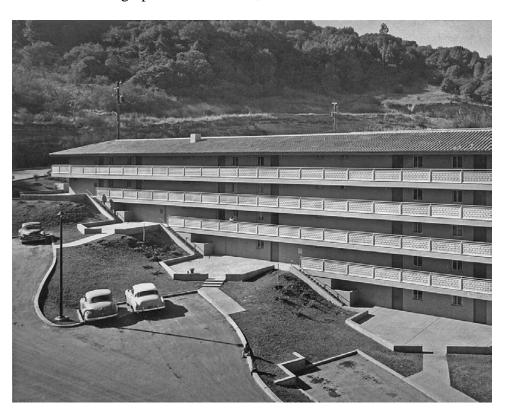
**Figure 29.** View from fifth floor of Type A apartment building looking east, circa early 1961 Photographer: Gerold Ratto; Source: Aaron Green Archive



**Figure 30.** View from fifth floor of Type A apartment building looking west, circa early 1961 Photographer: Ken Molino; Source: Aaron Green Archive



**Figure 31.** View of typical on-grade entries for Type A apartment buildings, circa early 1961 Photographer: Ken Molino; Source: Aaron Green Archive



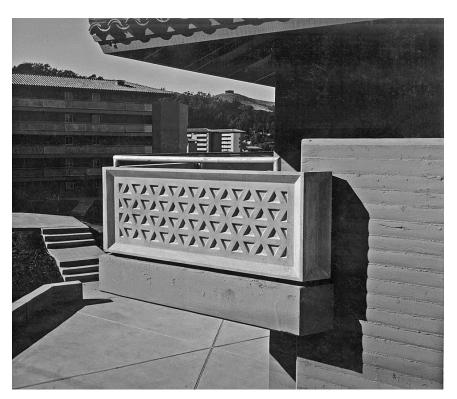
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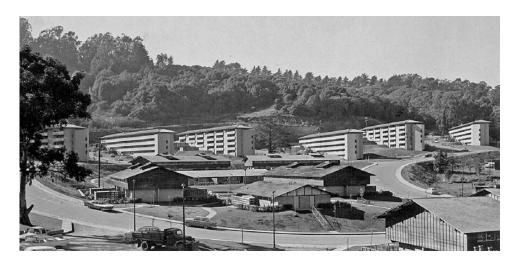
**Figure 32.** View from terrace of Type A apartment building looking north to Richardson Bay, circa early 1961; Photographer unknown; Source: Aaron Green Archive



**Figure 33.** Detail of fifth floor corner of entry galley, at rear of Type A apartment buildings, circa early 1961; Photographer: Ken Molino; Source: Aaron Green Archive



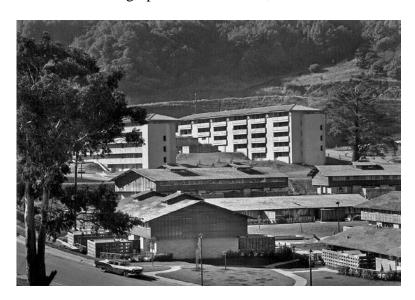
**Figure 34.** View of Type A, B, C, and E apartment buildings looking southwest, circa early 1961 Photographer: Gerold Ratto; Source: Aaron Green Archive



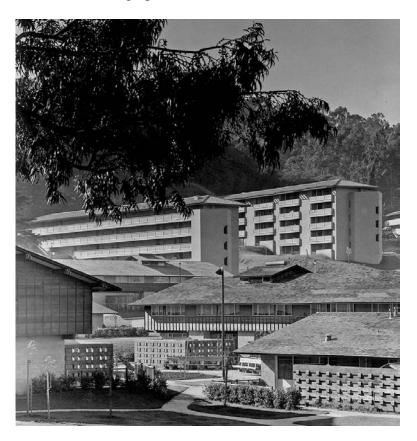
**Figure 35.** View of Type A, B, and E apartment buildings looking southwest, circa early 1961; Photographer: Ken Molino; Source: Aaron Green Archive



**Figure 36.** View of Type A, B, C, and E apartment buildings looking southwest, circa early 1961 Photographer: Gerold Ratto; Source: Aaron Green Archive



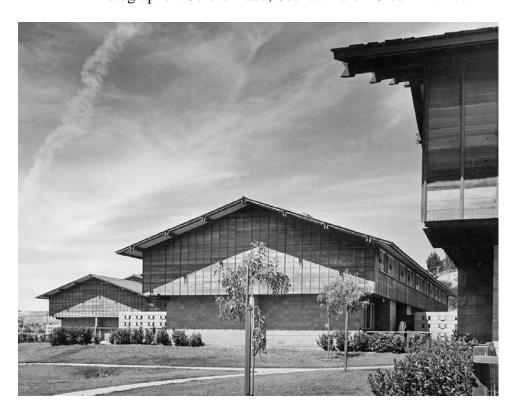
**Figure 37.** Detail view of apartments looking southwest, circa early 1961 Photographer: Gerold Ratto; Source: Aaron Green Archive



**Figure 38.** View of two-story Type B apartment building looking west, circa early 1961; Photographer: Ken Molino; Source: Aaron Green Archive

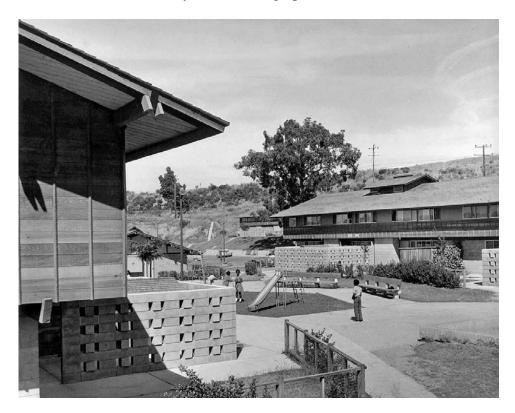


**Figure 39.** View of two-story Type B apartment building looking northeast, circa early 1961 Photographer: Gerold Ratto; Source: Aaron Green Archive



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**Figure 40.** View of two-story Type B apartment building and community courtyard, looking east, circa early 1961; Photographer: Gerold Ratto; Source: Aaron Green Archive



**Figure 41.** View of Type A apartment building looking southwest from playground, circa early 1961; Photographer unknown; Source: Aaron Green Archive



**Figure 42.** Type B apartment, second floor hallway and stair, circa early 1961 Photographer: Ken Molino; Source: Aaron Green Archive



**Figure 43.** Type E one-bedroom apartment, view to kitchen from dining area, circa early 1961 Photographer: Ken Molino; Source: Aaron Green Archive



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**Figure 44.** Type E one-bedroom apartment, kitchen, circa early 1961 Photographer: Ken Molino; Source: Aaron Green Archive



**Figure 45.** Public Housing Administration First Honor Award for Design Excellence Marin City Public Housing, 1964; Source: Aaron Green Archive



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**Figure 46.** Letter to Aaron Green from Alan Bruce, Marin County Administrator, 1971 Source: Aaron Green Archive

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ALAN BRUCE JOHN F. BARROWS THOMAS F. CAMPANELLA COUNTY OF MARIN ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS CIVIC CENTER SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA TELEPHONE 479-1100 June 28, 1971, Mr. Aaron Green 319 Grant Avenue San Francisco, Ca., 94108 I would like to take the occasion of my departure from County government to extend a special commendation for your architectural services to Marin County. You and I have worked together for nearly 14 years. Looking back, several aspects of your working approach stand out: You always have been patient and temperate in dealing with a cantankerous governmental client, characterized by divided authority and frequent changes in course. You have taken unusual pains to learn, understand, and design to functional needs and inter-relationships. You have kept within budget, yet kept an eye on future costs. You have managed with apparent ease, from beginning to post completion caretaking, projects of great magnitude and complexity. You have on occasion and with courage talked back to the client as a true architect must. County Administrator AB:dm



































































### National Register of Historic Places Memo to File

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination			
Property Name:	Marin City Public Housing			
Multiple Name:				
State & County:	CALIFORNIA, Marin			
Date Rece 8/4/201		List: Date of 16th Day: 9/18/2017	Date of 45th Day: 9/18/2017	Date of Weekly List:
Reference number:	SG100001604			
Nominator:	State			
Reason For Review	r.			
X Accept	Return	Reject <b>9/1</b>	8/2017 Date	
Abstract/Summary Comments:	The Marin City Public House in the areas of Social Histo Landscape Architecture. Of 1957 and 1960, the housin Marin City community follow the Marinship shipyard. The Green and John Carl Warn excellent, if atypical, local excarefully landscaped, and comaginative modernist designally assailed the typical fees sought to provide a positive post-war public housing depost-war civic planning and historic significance.	ry, Community Planning & constructed by the Housing complex reflected the property of the end of World Wasse creative design collaborates, and landscape arches ample of post-war feder displaying a handsome may and site-sensitive planderal public housing design alternative to the normal sign. The complex represensative represensatives.	A Development, Arc g Authority of Maria rogressive planning ir II and the subseq ration of Bay-area nitect Lawrence Ha al public housing— odernist/Wrightian in standards of the lly mundane forms sents an important	chitecture and in County between gefforts to rebuild the uent dismantling of architects Aaron Glarin, resulted in an sensitively scaled, aesthetic. In its uning complex not period, but also commonly found in local reflection of
Recommendation/ Criteria	Accept NR Criteria A and C	2.		
Reviewer Paul L	usignan	Discipline	Historian	
Telephone (202)3	54-2229	Date	09/18/2017	
DOCUMENTATION	l: see attached comment	s : No see attached S	LR : No	

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

#### Marin City Public Housing Marin City, Marin County Staff Report

Marin City Public Housing, known as Golden Gate Village since the 1990s, is located on a 29.8-acre site in southern Marin County, directly northwest of the City of Sausalito. The topography ranges from tree-covered hillsides at the southwest that gently slope down northerly to level ground. The property encompasses 29 contributing buildings—28 apartment housing units ranging in size from one to five stories and a single one-story office and maintenance facility for the Marin County Housing Authority—and one contributing site, the designed landscape. All the buildings were planned and arranged to provide privacy and views within an open landscaped green campus. The building style was strongly influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright, reflective of Design Architect Aaron Green's architectural philosophy and practice, an individual who was trained by as well as then serving as Wright's West Coast Representative. The campus was constructed by the County of Marin, using federal funding, as the first phase of the redevelopment of Marin City from a temporary wartime labor town of quickly constructed wood frame buildings to a permanent solution providing housing for low- to mid-income residents who settled in the area. All buildings are structurally sound and materially intact with few alterations, and retain all aspects of historic integrity.

Marin City Public Housing is eligible at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Community Planning and Development as a product of post-WWII urban development in Northern California, and under Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture for its association with three prominent mid-century designers: Architects John Carl Warnecke and Aaron G. Green, and Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin. The period of significance is 1955 to 1960, representing a span of events beginning with County Supervisor Vera Schultz' lead role in acquiring the land for redevelopment as a permanent community—particularly for low-income workers who lost their jobs at the close of the Marinship shipyard—through Master Planning for the new community by County Planning Director Mary Summers and her department, the selection of Architects John Carl Warnecke and Aaron G. Green as associated architects for the design of the 300 unit low-rent housing project, the design and approval process for the project, and construction.

The property is nominated by Royce McLemore as Executive Director of "Women Helping All People" in support of the Golden Gate Village Resident Council, and the nomination was prepared by a third party. Nineteen letters of support have been received to date. A response letter is on file from the public agency property owner, Marin Housing Authority (MHA), commenting on the March 2017 draft nomination. The May 2017 draft nomination as posted and sent to the State Historical Resources Commission addressed many of the concerns identified in MHA's letter. Correspondence was received from counsel on behalf of MHA and SHPO responded. An additional letter was received from counsel on behalf of MHA and SHPO proposed a conference call. During the call, the property owner accepted the SHPO's offer of a copy of the staff report to date. Copies of all written communications were distributed to the Commission. At the Commission hearing, the property owner submitted a notarized letter of objection and the Marin County Third District Supervisor submitted a letter requesting the Commission continue its decision. Staff supports the nomination as written and recommends the State Historical Resources Commission determine Marin City Public Housing is eligible under National Register Criteria A and C at the local level of significance with a 1955 to 1960 period of significance. Staff recommends the State Historic Preservation Officer approve the nomination for forwarding to the National Park Service for listing on the National Register.

Amy H. Crain State Historian II August 3, 2017 To whom it may concern,

I am writing to support the nomination of Marin City Public Housing to the National Register of Historic Places.

I grew up in Mill Valley, one of the two small cities closest to Marin City, during the 1950's and 1960's. I can recall driving past Marin City before the current buildings were constructed. The old buildings were the subject of some fear: they were a place not to be visited, full of people we weren't supposed to know. I don't recall the reasons why we were supposed to fear them, but I definitely remember the fear- a sense that arose whenever we saw those old buildings.

By the time I was in High School—at Tamalpais High, the only public high school in the immediate area—the new buildings had been constructed, and they utterly changed the feeling of the community. I was fortunate enough to be in high school at a time after many of the advances of the Civil Rights era had been made. Attending a school with a population that was 40% African-American was unusual in predominantly white Northern California, but it was not something to be feared, in part due to a remarkable faculty and staff at the high school who made it clear that to at least them, race was not an issue.

Outside Tamalpais High School, it was decidedly still an issue. George Wallace was active in national politics, and I can recall hearing white adults suggesting that the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. was a secret communist!

I was a member of the school choir, and one day had the opportunity to stop by the apartment of a fellow choir member's family in Marin City. It was the first time I had ever been in the home of an African-American, and also the first time I had ever come closer to Marin City than the freeway. I was a bit nervous, having no idea what to expect, but having a vague remembrance of the fear we had been taught as children. However, I knew and trusted my friend Myra, and was pleased at the invitation.

What I saw inside that day influenced me deeply: It was a lovely, clean, handsomely decorated apartment, of which the inhabitants took pride, and welcomed their friends, both black and white. It was a "level playing field" from which the two wonderful daughters of the household could launch their lives, and never need to feel shame nor the sense that their friends would be afraid to visit.

When I drive by Marin City today, I understand that the Public Housing in Marin City was a vital part of the Civil Rights movement in a quiet but powerful way. It symbolized a new era. It also made a significant statement to all the inhabitants, not only of Marin City, but to all the people who drove by, that the residents were people who we could be comfortable knowing, going to school with, singing with, and living with. That was a particularly important piece of knowledge for me, and I treasure my visit to my friend's home in those beautiful towers to this day.

For the sake of the vital history they represent, the Marin City Public Housing buildings deserve to be recognized, and honored.

Thank you,

Steven M. Crain

Tamalpais High School Class of 1969

Stevr M. Crain

## Oshalla Diana Marcus

415. 299. 7571 oshalladee@gmail.com

To whom it Concerns,

Although V am unable to attend This neeting Today I monetheless am here in the Spirit to Preserve Golden Gate Village as a California State Heritage Site. My reasons speak not only because The buildings themselves are designed in The Classic Style of Frank J. Wrights Vision of Community & Nature het also to continue the thistory of affrodable.

Housing in Main County.

To cont oshalla.com

I was raused in Poblic Housing. In 30 years my mother lived & saised of children. I have Sensed moved on to (me in Ther places but Marin Certy remains The Community of my heart. I will be saddened not only to see The buildings of Emolished. but also to see the tradional. african - american Community futher destroyed as it is being throughost Durin to all of us. Ospalla Diana Thank you fu your Consideration. Marcu From: OHP, CALSHPO@Parks

To: Correia, Jay@Parks; Crain, Amy@Parks; Burg, William@Parks

Subject: Fw: essay- re: nomination-- Marin City Public Housing, 07/28/17

**Date:** Monday, July 31, 2017 9:11:31 AM

Here is a thank you from a citizen of Marin (the thank you statement comes at the end of her other comments), regarding the SHRC vote on Golden Gate Village.

**From:** Sue Foley <suefury@gmail.com> **Sent:** Saturday, July 29, 2017 2:38 PM

To: OHP, CALSHPO@Parks; whap@marin.org

**Subject:** essay- re: nomination-- Marin City Public Housing, 07/28/17

Honorable Members of the State Historical Resources Commission,

I live on Donahue Street in Marin City with my partner and five year old child. My partner and child emigrated from Russia four years ago. On behalf of our family and as residents, we support your nomination of Marin City Public Housing in the Registry. We anticipate with great pleasure the proper protections and accolades for these structures that come with such a nomination! My five year old even said "Miss Royce beat the bad guys".

I'm new to Marin City, and I don't know much about it, but like other people, I like to go on and on about things I know little about. A great deal of American civic life and conventional wisdom is speculative, after all.

I think that your decision to declare Marin City's Public Housing historically and culturally relevant affirms a message to the world that is long overdue: that the community itself has great value and significance to our region, country, and world history. I feel like this notion is virtually absent in everyday civic life, with utter complacency toward an existing modern day 'apartheid' dynamic, and the appalling and insidious legacy of denying Californians their civil rights.

I am as ecstatic as I am certain that this event-- your decision to approve this nomination-- is in itself historic, because of its potential impact on Marin City. It promotes equity where it is deficient. I thank you for being an informed 21st Century government body, and for doing good work as such. I thank you in advance for the ripple effect it may have. You saw--with great ease I might add-- Marin City Public Housing for what it is, for what is was, and for it always will be: home to some, historically and culturally relevant, worthy of merit, and cause for celebration by many!

The laborers, kin, and friends of those who engaged in maritime industry on behalf of our

nation and her allies in WWII deserve the recognition of the state, country, and world. It is no secret that the world's greatest treasures, economies, and victories can be attributed to people of color and the poor. This is true today, as CA surpassed France as the 6th largest economy in the world. I think the world deserves to know why the likes of a cohort of Andrew Lloyd Wright would design and create something for the working poor, especially something as important as a place to call home!? Most of the world--then and now-- typically offers the working poor an infinite cache of prejudice, discrimination, exploitation, neglect, deportation, incarceration. Things like invisibility or stereotypes, myths, slurs, low wages, harmful food and water, subpar education, easy access to liquor stores and illicit drugs, arbitrary criminal charges, violence, and premature death also come to mind. It should be noted that in the process of opposing the historical status, the Marin Housing Authority publicly confessed to promoting unsafe living conditions for its residents! Public Housing is unfit for the Registry because it lacks structural integrity!? Did anyone else find this to be unacceptable and somewhat terrifying?

What's also interesting around this nomination is what little I have gleaned in my (albeit tiny) two years experience of living in the 94965. I'm white, so I (have privilege, including that of moving here from Oakland, and before that, Santa Fe NM) can freely roam between the two harbor villages that make up the 94965, and without being closely monitored by a police officer or sheriff. I have observed that Southern Marin County (and most of CA, the US, and world, for that matter) is so committed to promoting a modern day apartheid, that where I live, there are two Easter celebrations and two Independence Day celebrations in two parks within 1.9 miles of one another occurring on the same day. No lie. I've been told by Sausalito residents that Marin City is 'dangerous' and 'a bad place to live' and although my friends, coworkers, and friends in faith in Marin City don't bad-mouth Sausalito, they go about their lives as though Sausalito doesn't exist. I find this dynamic toxic in that creates the perfect conditions for Californian-on-Californian crime. White collar crime like this: there are buildings on Phillips that are home to my child's preschool and after school program. It is alleged that Marin City Community Development Corporation (MCCDC) and Marin City Community Services District (MCCSD) helped to orchestrate the sale of this building (and the sale of most of the city, aka Gateway Center, Target) and families in Marin City are now looking at losing a safe place for their kids to learn and play while their parents are at work. Poof!! Dozens (40+) of families will encounter instability perhaps resulting in unemployment that may result in homelessness because affordable daycare will no longer be available to them. This doesn't even take into account the dozen or so (15+) staff and their families, who will also be destabilized. Why? Because the affected population has ZERO clout or means to legal representation: poor people, undocumented and documented immigrants, ESL speakers, people of color. Non-governmental organizations and local and state government entities whose missions are to "promote economic and social well-being" are acting as accessories to these kind of crimes, and it is happening all over. Worst of all, there is absolutely no recourse, no challenge, no way that Californians can protect themselves from the forces of

'development'. Unfettered capitalism. Sprawl. This undermines not only the Constitution of the United States, but it can also have disastrous environmental consequences.

I know you are not a default gentrification control center, nor a social inequality hotline. But I am so glad you are in the world, and I thank you for your expertise, your good work, and your commitment to California.

Thank you for seeing Public Housing with such clarity.

Sue

From: OHP, CALSHPO@Parks
To: Crain, Amy@Parks

Subject: Fw: Support: Marin City Public Housing for Historic District Preservation

**Date:** Friday, July 28, 2017 4:48:01 PM

Hi Amy,

You may have received a hard-copy of this at today's meeting, but since this email does not seem to have been sent to your email, I will go ahead and send it along as an fyi just to be safe.

Thanks!

Diane

From: Ora Hatheway <oahbein@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 28, 2017 7:39 AM

To: OHP, CALSHPO@Parks

**Subject:** Fwd: Support: Marin City Public Housing for Historic District Preservation

Written July 27, 2017 by Ora Anne Hatheway, Designs for Life & nests (neighbors engaged in sustainable transformations) PO Box 150432, San Rafael, CA 94914

July 28, 2017 Hearing in San Rafael, Ca 94915 State Historical Resource Commissioners Dear Amy Crain, CA State Historian II

> I strongly support the nomination of the Marin City Public Housing, (Golden Gate Village (GGV)) Marin City, Marin County, CA. to be placed on the National Registry as an Historic District. Marin City Public Housing has 29 buildings, and 29.8 acres, includes terraces, parking and open space and borders the GGNRA.

> Over the past five years I have walked the property, been welcomed into homes, as I assisted Alison of Garavaglia Architects in their HRE research. I have found this place, called Golden Gate Village, to be very worthy of preserving and renewing. It is architecturally significant by design, Wrightian, Modern Architecture, Aaron Green, ran Frank Lloyd Wright's West Coast Office, and world renown landscape architect, Lawrence Halprin. Also, civically and socially historically significant, it was created in 1955-1960 during the U.S. Civil Rights Movement. Planning for GGV was driven by the first woman Supervisor of Marin County, Vera Schultz, and the first woman Planning Director in the U.S., Mary Summers. The same people involved in creating Marin City Public Housing, GGV, also concurrently created the Marin Civic Center, which makes GGV stand apart as a very unique Place and an historically significant District worthy of this nomination to the National Registry as an Historic District.

> In recognizing it's direct relationship to the Marin Civic Center, lead architect, Aaron Green, in his book, "An Architecture for Democracy", primarily about Frank Lloyd Wright's Marin Civic Center, wrote that GGV was another contribution by Frank Lloyd Wright to Marin County, and another example of "An Architecture for Democracy." The uniqueness of this relationship of the Civic Center, Court House and the only Family Public Housing project in Marin Co. was planned for, designed and built concurrently by the same folks. Marin County Supervisor Vera Schultz, and Architects Aaron Green and Frank Lloyd Wright. Much has been written about this unique history, of the struggle for

a more inclusive government represented by these sister projects, Marin City Public Housing, (GGV) and the Marin County Civic Center.

> The original planning of Marin City Public Housing was and still is unique and an enduring example of the Marin County ideal to practice Democracy, to allow difference of opinions and preferences. Preserving this district will further Equity in a County where Restrictive Covenants against African American's owning land is still written into some land deeds in Marin County....Another reason I support the nomination to Preserve the whole Village as an Historic District as a rich National, State and Local Historic Resource. It is the right action, and there is no better time to do it.

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- > Marin City is a unique place with a legacy history. Liberty ships and tankers were built in Marinship for WW II, building the Legacy of Marin City....As a Place of Innovation. People came from all over to build ships and tankers. Descendants of these workers and some who worked in the shipyard remain, a people of high integrity and worthy of protecting. The buildings and the landscape were designed to house a very special population...and many...many of them and descendants are living in and around the Marin City public housing today and still can not move due to the current implicit and explicit bias. These are the very descendants of folks and folks themselves that fought to win a war, built tankers and ships and were the most innovative...nominated and given the distinction for the shipyard that created the most advances in safety..Marin City has been a refuge and a Place made for a Legacy People, and has continued to be the most integrated and diverse Place to live in Marin County.
- > We are now facing an Equity crisis in this nation to equal the Civil Rights Era and this is another compelling argument to restore and revitalize Marin City Public Housing through Historic Preservation by using this project as a living laboratory on how to "Preserve People in Place". Marin City can continue to showcase innovation and rise again, to bring back the legacy manufacturing....21st century science! Bring back the glory, the legacy of innovation into the future...to be known and acknowledged, while building a network of strong local economics within the county and the region. With Preservation, people will be able to work and uplift their homes while uplifting themselves.
- > In the midst of monetary wealth in Marin County, CA, the greatest in the nation, there is this island of spiritual wealth that is equal, if not greater, in strength, Golden Gate Village, Marin City Public Housing. It is the right action, to approve this nomination and to place Marin City Public Housing, (GGV) on the National Historic Resource Registry as an "Historic Village, Historic District".

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- > In Jack Tracy's book "Sausalito, Moments in Time", he writes about the historic value of Sausalito, having established integrity " By the late 1940s Sausalito had the form and content that it has today." The same can be written of Marin City Public Housing, in 1960 it had the form and content it still has today and it is as worthy of restoring and revitalizing with twenty first century science. (materials and methods) as Sausalito Historic District was in 1980s.
- > I understand from studying the construction documents that the housing was built to withstand wartime and earthquakes. I have a copy of the construction documents and the design sketches by Aaron Green, lead architect, construction documents by Carl Warnecke and Landscape by Lawrence Halprin. This morning I looked again at the numerous photographs of the land and built environment which firmly support the facts presented in the Draft Nomination that a very high level of integrity remains for both.
- > The Architectural Integrity of the landscape and buildings has withstood the decades of neglect that dwindling Federal dollars and a lack in commitment from HUD officials has created. Still, I was struck with the clean and elegant interiors of GGV homes that have been maintained by residents, above and beyond the minimal maintenance that has become standard from MHA maintenance and shrinking Capital Fund Dollars.

>

> Placing GGV on the National Registry insures that Marin City Public Housing, GGV, will continue to defend itself

against those who in promoting the present would destroy the future and lose the past. Marin City Public Housing is worthy of Historic Designation as a Historic Village or District. I fully support this nomination.

> Sincerely, Ora

Ora Anne Hatheway Designs for Life and nests 415 618-9741

- >
- >
- >
- > Sent from my iPad



70 Mountain View Avenue Mill Valley, CA 94941 July 28, 2017

State Historic Resources Commission 1725 23rd Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

Subject: Marin City Public Housing—Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places

#### Ladies and Gentlemen:

As a lifelong resident and business owner in southern Marin County, I heartily endorse the nomination of Golden Gate Village as a Historic Place.

I support the nomination on behalf of the spirit of Golden Gate Village – as it was conceived by its advocates, designers, and residents 60 years ago, and as it will hopefully continue exist 100 years from now. In addition to its substantial historic, aesthetic and social significance, Golden Gate Village also represents a rare example of redevelopment done right – despite the burden of deferred maintenance and inappropriate modifications that it and many other historically significant places now face.

The Bay Area is home to numerous examples of redevelopment done wrong and vibrant communities crushed, typically due to fiscal or demographic pressures, and often with the best of intentions.

During my lifetime, I have observed a legacy of missteps by generations of Marin County government officials, who in the late 1950's opposed the construction of the Frank Lloyd Wright designed Marin County and a decade later, approved development of the ill-conceived Marincello development which would have created a new city in the heart of what's now the Golden Gate Recreation Area.

If Golden Gate Village is not protected and preserved, I see a grave danger of its being replaced by a kind of 21<sup>st</sup> century mini-Marincello, blighting its highly visible site adjacent to the GGNRA.

Having grown up and worked in my early years with my father, prominent city planner Lawrence Livingston, Jr., and his colleagues and collaborators, including Lawrence Halprin, John Carl Warnecke and Aaron Green, I recognize the importance of preserving California's unique mid-century architectural heritage. Golden Gate Village is one of the most extensive and fully-realized examples of this, rivalled only by Palm Springs and Pacific Palisades. Ironically, it is located in the heart of Marin County, where a hodgepodge of 20<sup>th</sup> century development has created few sites of architectural or historic significance.

At a time when racial, economic and other forms of diversity are being challenged in our country, and irreplaceable historic sites have been dynamited on the other side of the globe, I look to the State Historical Resource Commission to support registration of this important site, and to the communities of Marin County to provide resources for its revitalization in conjunction with just treatment of its residents.

Sincerely,

Jor**l**athan L. Livingston

OFFICE OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES COMMISSION STATE OF CALIFORNIA 1725 23 RD STREET, SUITE 100 SACRAMENTO CA. 95816

RE: MARIN CITY PUBLIC HOUSING BY AARON GREEN AND ASSOCIATES. ARCHITECTS.

I SUPPORT THE NOMINATION OF THE MARIN CITY COMPLEX TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. I BELIEVE THE BUILDINGS SHOULD CONTINUE TO SERVE THE LOW INCOME FAMILIES OF MARIN AND THE DESIGN OF THESE BUILDINGS AND THE BEAUTIFUL SITE WILL CONTINUE TO FILL THE NEEDS OF THESE FAMILIES BETTER THAN ANYTHING THAT COULD REPLACE THEM.

MARIN CITY WAS DESIGNED BY AARON GREEN, FAIA, WHOSE WORK IS BECOMING HIGHLY REGARDED AGAIN AS IT IS BEING REDESCOVERED BY THE MILLINIALS. HE WAS A MAJOR DESIGN FORCE DURING HIS CAREER AND HAS NUMEROUS MAJOR BUILDINGS TO HIS CREDIT AS WELL AS WORK WITH FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT. A BOOK OF HIS WORK IS IN PUBLICATION AND WILL BE OUT BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

I HAVE A DONE ENOUGH HISTORIC PRESERVATION WORK TO PROVE THAT IT IS MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT AND "GREEN" TO RESTORE A BUILDING RATHER THAN DESTROYING IT AND REPLACING WITH NEW.

IF THE BUILDINGS AND SITE ARE NOT PROTECTED, IT IS VERY LIKELY THEY WILL BE DEMOLISHED AND REPLACED BY HIGH DENSITY TRASH. WHEREAS, BY APPROVING THIS PROJECT FOR LISTING ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER, ITS FUTURE IS SECURE AND ITS PLACE IN HISTORY ASSURED.

7/24/17

THANK YOU FOR PROTECTING ITS FUTURE.

**SINCERELY** 

FRANZ STEINER. KIA

VBN ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS

To the State Preservation Officer:

My name is Terry Thompson. I live at 89 Cole Drive # 1 in Marin City, CA. I heard that Golden Gate Village is being nominated to be put on the Historic Preservation list.

My family has lived in Marin City since 1941. I was born here in 1950. I have seen families live and die here. This place has a rich history of really good people. Please help keep Golden Gate Village preserved. This is truly a Historic part of the United States. I know almost everybody here. I have four sons here. I and others think the people have a right to have a future here where there ancestors roamed.

God Bless,

Terry Thompson

Deny 2 hougeson

State Historic Resources Commission 1725 23rd Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

Subject: Marin City Public Housing—Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places

July 24, 2017

To the Commissioners:

I'm writing in support of the nomination of the Marin City Public Housing Project to the National Register of Historic Places.

This project is a rare example of a public project that was a success on all levels: aesthetically, fiscally, environmentally and socially. And it still is. We need to recognize, honor and preserve the few projects that accomplish all of this, if only to prove that it can be done.

Thank you for your consideration.

Allan Green



#### WILLIAM JOSEPH SCHWARZ, AlA, ARCHITECT POST OFFICE BOX 1525, MILL VALLEY, CA 94942 = TEL & FAX: (415) 491-1447

July 21, 2017

State Historic Resources Commission 1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

Re: Marin City Public Housing-Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places

#### **Dear Commissioners:**

This letter is written to urge and support a finding by your Commission that the Marin City Public Housing is eminently eligible for listing on the National Register and your approval of the nomination presently under consideration for presentation to the State Historic Preservation Officer for certification and forwarding to the Keeper of the National Register for final review and determination.

I have read the nomination document and find it to amply set forth the merits of the subject property and establish it as deserving of listing on state and national registers.

I shall not repeat information contained in the nomination document. The site planning of the property is masterful. Particularly with respect to the arrangement of the eight Type A buildings located at the higher elevations on the property, their varyingly designed orientations accomplish several benefits. Figures 15 and 41 in the nomination document illustrate how the bulk of these largest buildings is minimally evident to southbound Highway 101 passers by, as a consequence of their sensitive orientation and placement on the site.

Frank Lloyd Wright became aware of these Type A buildings under design in 1957 and the manner by which their floors step progressively further up onto the sloped terrain towards the South and West at the very time he was to design the Marin County Civic Center in San Rafael, several miles north of the Marin City Public Housing site. Wright utilized this same feature of progressively extending upper floor levels further onto the four sloped hills in another masterful integration of buildings and landforms that is now under consideration for inscription as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Accordingly the Aaron G. Green/ John Carl Warnecke-designed Marin City Public Housing project served to inform Wright's nearby and now world famous Marin County Civic Center in a very significant manner.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Schwarz, A. I. A.

WJS:th

State Historic Resources Commission 1725 23rd Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

Attention: Amy Crain

Subject: Marin City Public Housing Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places

Dear Members of the State Historic Resources Board.

It is a great honor and pleasure to share a brief overview of the life and career of Aaron G Green FAIA Architect. To do this best I am providing you with an excerpt of the celebration of Aaron Green's life written in 2001 for international publication by distinguished Pulitzer Prize winning architectural critic Alan Temko:

"Aaron Green was the Bay Area's foremost proponent of Frank Lloyd Wright's "organic architecture" and in his own right a designer of striking originality and grace.

Just a week before his passing, he had been awarded the first Gold Medal of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation in recognition of a career that dated back more than half a century in San Francisco, where he set up a joint office for himself and Wright in 1951.

Mr. Green participated in several of Wright's famous designs, notably the V. C. Morris Shop in Maiden Lane (which was later carefully restored by Mr. Green and renamed Folk Arts International) and the visionary "Butterfly-Wing" Bridge that was never built across the lower bay.

Perhaps his most important contributions to Wright's achievement figured in the sweeping horizontal forms, plastic roofs and mighty arches of the Marin County Civic Center in San Rafael. Officially designated as its associate architect, Mr. Green in some respects was virtually a codesigner of this palace of modern drive-in democracy, overlooking Highway 101. In all, he took part in about 30 Wright designs, built and unbuilt, in Northern California.

That alone would have been a life's work for many architects. But Mr. Green's own independent practice -- clearly discernible from Wright's, although they shared the same principles -- was also remarkably diverse and rich. It ranged from churches and schools to an array of handsome houses and multiple dwellings, which in low-rent housing in Marin City and Hunters Point were considerable achievements of social art.

Mr. Green's innovative spirit filled even relatively modest buildings with strong civic meaning. The retractable skylight of the Union City Civic Center, a charming piece of municipal art, opens the whole central hall to warmth and sunlight.

And his design methods are beautifully revealed in a series of Roman Catholic parish churches in the East Bay -- St. Stephen's in Walnut Creek, St. Monica's in Moraga, St. Joan of Arc in San Ramon and, most recently, St. Elizabeth Seton in Pleasanton -- each different from the others.

Mr. Green handled all of this work with a buoyant elegance. He was busy in his office until a day or two before his brief final illness, conferring with his staff, and refining details of the Hebrew High School in Greensboro, N.C., a coed boarding school primarily intended for Jewish students but philosophically open to the world.

Mr. Green, who won a national competition for the job, not only master- planned the campus, but also designed all 74 broad-roofed buildings centered around a domed synagogue. Seven classroom buildings and dormitories are under construction, with more to be built on a long-range schedule, and the trustees are committed to Mr. Green's designs. Already his concepts of order and clarity, enriched by landscaping, can be sensed on the wooded site.

Some features of the plan are less evident -- for instance, the geothermal energy system, one of the three or four largest in the country. Heat is harnessed by "wells" deep beneath the playing fields, which should provide for the school's energy needs for the foreseeable future.

Mr. Green, always open to new building technologies, called such design "bio-technic" architecture. To him, machines could co-exist with the natural world if human needs were put first. Moreover, the surrounding Tarheel woods offer a further insight into Mr. Green's whole life and thought.

Aaron G. Green (his seldom used middle name was simply "Gus") was a Southern boy who retained a trace of a drawl all his life. He was born in Corinth, Miss., on May 4, 1914. Most of his childhood, however, was spent in Alabama, not too far from the hydroelectric dams and powerhouses of the Tennessee Valley Authority, which provided his first impression of functionalist modern architecture.

His father had been a painter and his mother appreciated art. Together, they encouraged his ambition to become an artist.

After enjoying a privileged youth in Florence, Ala, he went North to school. After a stint at the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts, he went to Cooper Union in New York, then, as now, a stronghold of rationalist design.

What changed the course of his life was his decision to join Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin in Wisconsin and the Western Taliesin outside Phoenix. He became a full-fledged member of the Wrightian community before he enlisted in the Air Force and served three years as a bombardier in the Pacific.

After the war, in a surprising shift, he did not return to Taliesin but went to work in Los Angeles for industrial designer Raymond Loewy, a businessman, as opposed to Wright, the master artist. Mr. Green worked on interior design for department stores and a couple of movie sets, until Wright asked him to join him in San Francisco.

Their office, designed by Wright, is now literally a museum piece. Because no San Francisco museum or collector had the sense to acquire the furnishings when the lease ran out in the 1980s, they were transferred, more or less intact, to the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, near Wright's famous house, Fallingwater.

The office was a delightful working environment, doubly delightful by candlelight after work, when Mr. Green could enjoy a drink with friends. Occasionally, Wright himself would come -- Taliesin people always called him Mr. Wright, even after he died. There was a wonderful sense of wholeness, of joy, that Mr. Green never lost.

A fellow of the American Institute of Architects, Mr. Green received many professional awards and citations, but the honor closest to his heart was a remark by Wright when asked what their relationship was. The master replied, "Aaron is my son."

I whole-heartedly and *unequivocally* support the nomination of Marin City to the National Register of Important Places!!!!!!!!

Sincerely yours, Jan Novie, Berkeley, CA, cell: 415-271-3441 • email: jnovie@aol.com • Associate of Aaron Green's for almost 4 decades • Member: Taliesin Fellows Board of Directors Advisor • Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Board of Advisors

In addition please also see the two attachments, which are pages from the following book. It relates to Marin City and I believe you will find it all very interesting and important to the cause of the nomination.

Title: "The Architecture of Affordable Housing"

Author: Sam Davis

Publisher: University of California Press By the Regents of the University of California

Date: 1994

See: all of page 14 and 15. Sam Davis discusses the severe limitations of imposed on public housing design and "lo and behold" illustrates the solution with Marin City as an example.

exodus to the suburbs. Cities were dirty, noisy, and ugly; suburbs, only a short drive away in an elegant car on an uncongested superhighway, were clean, quiet, and bucolic. Developers like William Levitt, the creator of Levittown, New York (1949), had little need for architects. Strong demand from young families, available financing, encouragement from the government, and a product with an unassailable image combined to create a market boom in which design had little impact on homebuyers' acceptance of the new communities.

The 1949 Housing Act was the first in a series of government pronouncements on the need for a decent home for everybody. It seemed to anticipate the growing disparity between haves and have-nots, between suburb and city, between homes and housing, and between mainly white, middle-class Americans and the poor. One group had choices and control, the other had few options and little say in their housing circumstance. But while these issues were becoming clearer, the ultimately deleterious effect of single-family houses at low density, both on affordability (even for the middle class) and on the environment, was either not yet understood or not yet acute enough to be worrisome.

In both forms, the single-family house and urban social housing, the role of the architect was increasingly superfluous. For both the production home builder and the land speculator, the frontend cost of design seemed to have little effect on the salability of their product. Before this huge potential market architects only saw their status diminish, a situation all the more lamentable because the builder houses were of uninspired design. The Federal Housing Administration, which insured the mortgages, further undermined the position of architects by discouraging design innovation, particularly modernism, as a potential financial risk. Houses were generally designed by a builder's in-house staff, only some of whom were architects; other designs came from plan services,

which simply sold them, or "lumberyard architects" who offered minimal design services when building materials were purchased, much like interior design services at present-day furniture stores. 
A few enlightened developers did understand that architectural design was a means of communicating a lifestyle and thereby increasing sales. Joseph Eichler in California was one such developer. His courtyard houses, many designed by Anshen and Allen and Jones & Emmons, were distinctly Californian; with large expanses of glass, patios, and open courtyards for outdoor living, they embodied an unencumbered and unadorned aesthetic, a relaxed modernism for an increasingly informal and active lifestyle.

In public housing architects were needed, but they were kept on a short leash. As the expansive and humane attitude of the early reformers was replaced by the myopia of bureaucrats, the rules, regulations, and standards multiplied. By the inception of the "alphabet soup" programs of the 1960s, like 221(d)3, the guidelines for design filled a prodigious manual of several hundred pages. These programs recognized the political imperative for clearing the slums and dealing with increasingly intransigent poverty, but they could not reconcile that imperative with qualitative issues like design.

Standards intended to protect the disenfranchised poor had the opposite effect, as the prescribed minimums were interpreted as maximums and low cost became the primary goal. Architects working in this context became only more frustrated and beleaguered as the logistics of building planning and rule conformance led to a stalemate: if a project was innovative, it would be criticized by the funding agencies; if it was uninspired, it would be criticized by the public.

Several architects succeeded in spite of the federal government, often in collusion with local authorities or communities. One example is Marin City, built north of San Francisco in 1962 (fig. 5).

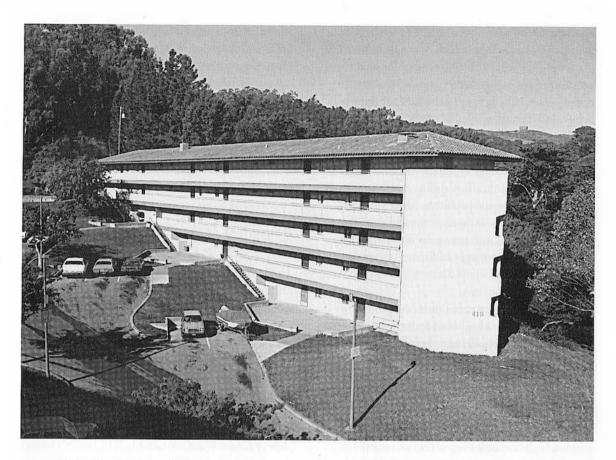


FIG. 5. Marin City (1962), north of San Francisco, circumvented cost-containment rules to make a sturdier and more dignified housing complex.

Its architect, Aaron Green, a protégé of Frank Lloyd Wright, bent all the rules for design and material specification. The complex was set on a slope with wonderful views, and its design included clay tile roofs, concrete balconies with solid molded handrails, and lavish landscaping. In 1964 it won the first award for design excellence given by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), but the Government Accounting Office lambasted the excesses of the completed

project, which stands today, over thirty years later, in relatively sound condition.

These small successes notwithstanding, by the early 1960s social housing was a mess, both administratively and architecturally. The reformers' agenda had been perverted and demeaned. The projects of the previous decades were in decay, and the remedies of increasing regulations and government control seemed to exacerbate their condition. The social turbulence of the 1960s empha-

From: terriegreen1@comcast.net

To: <u>Crain, Amy@Parks</u>

Subject: Golden Gate Village State Historic Preservation Site

**Date:** Friday, July 21, 2017 2:09:02 PM

#### Hello Amy,

My name is Terrie Green and I am a homeowner in the Marin City community. I fully support Golden Gate Village in becoming a historic preservation site in Marin City, California. The architectural design of the buildings is absolutely magnificent and the whole world needs to see it. The research has been done and the buildings are sound and we must preserve them for all to see. Aaron Green with the Frank Lloyd Wright influence must be kept as a monument for the residents of Marin City and the Nation to see an outstanding example of architectural design and building construction that's a rarity to see in our country.

Terrie Green

State Historic Resources Commission 1725 23rd Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

By email to Ms. Amy Crain, State Historian II California State Office of Historic Preservation: amy.crain@parks.ca.gov

Also copied to general office mailbox: <a href="mailbox">calshpo@parks.ca.gov</a>

Dear Commissioners,

Aaron Green, the architect of the Marin City Public Housing Project, was my father. As his son, I support the nomination of the project to the National Register of Historical Places. As a citizen, doubly so.

I support the egalitarianism expressed through the thoughtful architecture of the Marin City project. We need this now more than ever.

Why is it acceptable to use taxpayers' money to build ugly housing for people who need and deserve a place to live they can be proud of? People — all people — have a fundamental right to a decent home with quality architecture, not building as usual.

The Marin City project should be preserved as an example of what happens when residents of public housing live in a place that was built for them with respect. Say "public housing" and people think of crime and graffiti. Marin City, so strikingly free of graffiti, is a testament to its residents' affection for their home.

The Marin City project is an example of how peoples' lives can be improved by public housing when its builders listen to the voices of their better angels — and architects.

Please approve the nomination.

Sincerely yours,

Frank Haber Green

From: OHP, CALSHPO@Parks

To: <u>Correia, Jay@Parks</u>; <u>Crain, Amy@Parks</u>; <u>Burg, William@Parks</u>

**Subject:** Fw: Golden Gate Village Historic Designation

**Date:** Friday, July 21, 2017 8:44:02 AM

From: Linda Rames < ljrames@gmail.com> Sent: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 12:22 PM

**To:** Correia, Jay@Parks; OHP, CALSHPO@Parks **Subject:** Golden Gate Village Historic Designation

July 8,2017

#### Members of the Commission:

As residents of Mill Valley for more than 40 years and observers of Golden Gate Village, we believe that Golden Gate Village deserves to be placed on the state register and nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for the following reasons.

- 1. Golden Gate Village was architecturally designed by Aaron Green, a protégé of Frank Lloyd Wright with help from the legendary landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, and John Carl Warnecke who also designed homes in Marin County during the 50's and 60's. As you know, Mr. Wright designed our beloved and historic Civic Center and he has a huge presence in Marin County. Golden Gate Village was designed and built during that historic time in Marin history.
- 2. Golden Gate Village has always been an example of how public housing should work. From the beginning, this housing has been occupied by families who originally came to California to work in the shipyard in Sausalito during World War II. Many of the descendants of these original families still occupy housing in Marin City.
- 3. Over the years, Golden Gate Village has been the center of Marin City. There is a family feel here which doesn't always exist in public housing. People who live here have always tried to look after each other.
- 4. Residents of Golden Gate Village are proud of their history in Marin County and are very anxious to preserve their homes and lifestyle. The best way for this to happen is the granting of the historic designation.

We do not believe the Marin Housing Authority needs any further

study or delay of this designation. Marin Housing Authority has been aware of the desire of Golden Gate Village residents to seek historic designation for several years. They have held numerous meetings with residents and the public on this issue and should, by now, understand the ramifications of this action.

Please vote to preserve this historic place in Marin County.

Best regards,

Linda & Robert Rames 240 Morning Sun Avenue Mill Valley, CA 94941 415-388-8492 To the State Historic Preservation Officer:

Golden Gate Village is in truth rural living in an urban setting. When Vera Schultz and Mary Summers came together to forge the political will to hire Frank Lloyd Wright to build Marin Civic Center (MCC), a significant selling point for her and Marin County Planning Director Summers, the first woman to hold that title, was Wright's insistence on maintaining the natural beauty of landscape by virtue of his "refusal to level the site into a development pad."

Adopting GGV Resident Council strategy for "Deep Green Renovation & Restoration" and Historic Preservation of a unique low-income housing development is a choice analogous to the choice Schultz and Summers made; a "refusal to level" the innovation that is GGV into a "development pad."

While Historic Preservation protects architectural gift, our strategy for "Deep Green Renovation and Restoration" protects the gift in design of a unique low-income community, restoring legacy of a local economy supporting working families.

#### **Renovation and Restoration goals:**

- First net-zero energy public housing on National Register of Historic Places.
- Create a model of energy efficiency and sustainability, while preserving original character of place.
- By following GSA Renewable Energy Lab Precedent that:
  - Turns GGV buildings into net zero producers of energy.
  - Balances modernization with historic preservation.
  - Brings building's original historic features back to life.

http://bit.ly/GSAPrecedentGreenRenovate

These goals are met by establishing equalizing infrastructure, <u>leveraging investment</u> in innovative revitalization, creating:

- a. Incentives for Local Small Business to supply green materials.
- a. Apprenticeships building skill of residents in all age groups to meet local business needs generated by smart revitalization.
- b. New Market and R&D tax credits that are readily available and better managed than Affordable Housing tax credits.
- c. Local Hire initiatives paired with Apprenticeships delivering sustainable growth for current residents of GGV vs. typical gentrification.

http://bit.ly/GGVFundingSources

The end result is immediate path to living and middle-class wages for populations like Marin City that have been disproportionately impacted by shifts in the economy. Relationships with local community colleges, foundations, community development institutions, and socially responsible local businesses make this approach possible, feasible, and viable. Adopting strategy for evolution of employment and ownership via investment in innovative (clean) new manufacturing and place-based thinking, is the best method of moving Marin City legacy into a rich future for both people and place.

The Resident Plan also uses national, regional, and local precedents for evolution of homeownership. The most recent example, a real story of effort by community:

"Townhomes on Capitol Hill is unique because its setup as a limited-equity cooperative. All residents own a share of the overall property. Each resident's initial payment to buy-in to the

cooperative as well as their carrying charge is based on their yearly income. Equity and shared ownership brings property to life for residents, resulting in financial self-sufficiency that does not require ongoing funding or subsidies from HUD to operate. A version of this concept currently in Marin City is "The Ponderosa Estates."

There is existing history of success and excellence in GGV residents executing contracts to maintain the property – grounds were spotless and the property was in the black.

#### Marin City is celebrating 75 years as a community.

Marin City has an inner strength that always mitigated external challenge. As in the 1950's when Marin County attempted to eliminate the Black population and all odds were against our elders, they stood up and said:

"Redlining and racism is everywhere in Marin. We didn't have anywhere to live and to feel safe in this County, so we decided to stay in Marin City!"

On the Historic Registry, Golden Gate Village is the only the property in Marin City that is left as a reminder of the history of a Black people who were left behind and a woman who went to Washington against all odds to get land to build permanent housing for them. This housing, not like any other, had the honor of being designed by Aaron Greene and a team of well-known architects to make this the best built public housing in the United States.

This is the turning point for our generation to leave a legacy for future generations in Marin City. The legacy continues to live because, "We shall not be moved!"

Sincerely,

Royce McLemore, resident of Marin City for 71 years President, Women Helping All People, the Golden Gate Village Resident Council Marin City Community Services District Board member RICHARD S. LOWRY, ARCHITECT 54 WOODLAND AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94117 RSL\_ARCH@MAC.COM TEL: 415-665-4304 CEL: 415-297-4304

State Historic Resources Commission California State Office of Historic Preservation Attn: Ms. Amy Crain, State Historian II 1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

Subject:

Marin City Public Housing Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places

Dear Ms. Crain.

The nomination of the Marin City public housing project for designation to the National Register of Historic Places should proceed without delay. This historically important project should not be demolished or replaced, but should be preserved, restored, and maintained.

The buildings and landscaping were unique and advanced when originally designed and built, and continue to be an outstanding example of well designed publicly supported housing.

The history of the site is unique. Marin City built initially as temporary wartime housing in support of the Marinship shipyard in Sausalito, and later rebuilt as high quality permanent housing. The design team led by Aaron G. Green, FAIA selected by the local housing authority was highly respected and very qualified to create a unique concept that has stood the test of time.

The lack of ongoing maintenance over the past 67 years is not a sufficient reason to demolish the buildings and the landscape. Most building that old will require an infusion of funds to keep them operating in a safe and efficient manner, and Marin City is no exception. The best use of pubic funds will be to continue to upgrade the building systems and restore the original appearance of the historic project. The insensitive and ill-informed alterations made to the buildings over the years can and should be reversed, and the original as-built appearance be restored.

The historic context of this post war project includes the other major projects ongoing in Marin County at the same period including the Marin County Civic Center, the improvements to Highway 101, and the hundreds of mid-century homes being built all over the Marin County.

A comparison to the many other public housing developments being built around the country in the 1950s will show most have not stood the test of time, and have been demolished. Marin City is still functioning as designed, and can continue indefinitely if restored, upgraded and then maintained.

If the dwellings are torn down and replaced, the residents of this well-established community will be uprooted and dispersed. It is doubtful that a replacement would be as distinctive or as appropriate to the site as the existing buildings.

For all the reasons noted above, and for the many reasons outlined in the application I urge the Commission to approve and certify the application for Marin City Public Housing.

Respectfully, Richard S. Lowry, Architect C5693

From: Oren Lavee
To: Crain, Amy@Parks

Cc: Oren Lavee; OHP, CALSHPO@Parks

Subject: Marin City Public Housing-Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places

**Date:** Wednesday, July 19, 2017 6:58:17 PM

July 20, 2017

#### STATE HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100

Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

Subject: Marin City Public Housing-Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places

Honorable Commission Members,

I am writing to add my support for the nomination of the Marin City Public Housing project, designed by highly respected San Francisco Architect Aaron G. Green, in association with John Carl Warnecke and Associates and famed landscape architect Lawrence Halprin.

This development is significant as it demonstrates the ability to implement high quality low-income housing that consciously sought to elevate the quality of living, it is a prominent Marin County landmark, and it is an outstanding example of organic architecture. The community has a rich and important history that warrants preservation, and is tied to the Liberty Supply Ships and Tankers built in neighboring Sausalito for the effort that followed the bombing at Pearl Harbor. In 1964, Marin City received an Award Of Excellence from HUD that praised the "highly original" concept that "meets the challenge of the site's topography".

Respectfully,

Oren Lavee, Architect, LEED-AP 1413 Greenfield Avenue #203 Los Angeles, CA 90025 **State Historic Resources Commission** 1725 23rd Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95816-7100

#### **Dear Commissioners:**

I write in support of the publication and nomination of Marin City Public Housing, a.k.a. Golden Gate Village, to the National Register of Historic Places. The 29 buildings and landscaped site are well qualified for nomination due to their historical, cultural, and social significance as well as their association with an extensive list of important people.

The well-defined link to WWII shipbuilding is a qualifying event. The direct associations with Frank Lloyd Wright, Aaron Green, Vera Schultz, Lawrence Livingson, Jr., Lawrence Halprin and John Carl Warnecke represent eligibility in a second category. The highly visible structures and planned campus retain historic integrity in design, materials, and feeling. These are reasons enough to merit designation.

Additionally, Golden Gate Village is living documentation of the social and cultural significance of population movement and social development in California's Marin County: egress of whites from blighted, temporary wartime housing and restrictive racial covenants facing black families are important to remember as a part of our history. That Golden Gate Village evolved as integrated, low-cost housing, and remains as affordable public housing may be its highest significance.

As a resident of Marin County, I find the Marin Housing Authority's agency's lack of support for this nomination shameful. Even more reprehensible is the agency's citation of benign neglect as the ostensible cause. In your determination, I urge the Commission to disregard the Marin Housing Authority.

To preserve and restore Golden Gate Village is statement about equality, and the human right to live in a graceful and pleasant community. Placed on the National Register, Marin City Public Housing, Golden Gate Village, will stand as an education about our past, a statement about our present, and an expression of faith in our future.

This is a monument worthy of recognition by Nomination.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Garril G. Page

70 Fawn Drixe

San Anselmo CA/94960

cc: Julianne Polanco, Executive Secretary, SHRC

Daniel Ruark, AIA

From: OHP, CALSHPO@Parks

To: <u>Correia, Jay@Parks; Crain, Amy@Parks; Burg, William@Parks</u>

Subject: Fw: Marin City Public Housing

Date: Friday, July 14, 2017 1:41:20 PM

From: barbara landy <barbaralandy44@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 12, 2017 4:08 PM

To: OHP, CALSHPO@Parks

**Subject:** Marin City Public Housing

I am writing to encourage your approval of placing the Marin City Public Housing on the National Register of Historic Places. As an admirer of everything produced by Frank Lloyd Wright and his school, I am very excited at this opportunity to preserve the entire site. We would be foolish to destroy such a rare example of a successful and beautiful large scale public housing site designed by a Wright pupil.

Thank you, Barbara Landy 4 Sycamore Avenue Larkspur, CA 94939 From: OHP, CALSHPO@Parks

To: <u>Correia, Jay@Parks</u>; <u>Crain, Amy@Parks</u>; <u>Burg, William@Parks</u>

Subject: Fw: Please designate Golden Gate Village in Marin City/Sausalito CA a National Historic Landmark

**Date:** Friday, July 14, 2017 1:38:19 PM

Arrived in the OHP general inbox.

From: Joanne Orion Miller < jorionmiller@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 12:24 PM

To: OHP, CALSHPO@Parks

**Subject:** Please designate Golden Gate Village in Marin City/Sausalito CA a National Historic

Landmark

The State Historical Resources Commission will meet on Friday July 28th to hear the Golden Gate Village Resident Council's application to place the Golden Gate Village public housing apartments project on the National Historic Register of historically significant buildings.

Golden Gate Village is under threat of being demolished and replaced with 600 – 900 units. Current residents will not be given any priority: tenants would be selected from a Bay Area wide lottery. If listed on the National Historic Register, these buildings can be renovated but cannot be torn down, and current residents will be able to stay. This proposal also includes a "deep green" retrofit and rehabilitation of the entire complex to restore and preserve this invaluable community and national resource.

A National Historic Register designation appears to be the only way to save this community from gentrification and preserve the homes of your fellow Marinites -- 296 households, nearly 700 people, who are Marin's lowest income residents of color. (Many are third and fourth generation Marin residents whose families worked in the U.S. Navy's shipyards during WWII.)

Joanne Miller

2 Ash Ave., #6

Kentfield, Ca 94904



July 27, 2017

Via E-mail (julianne.polanco@parks.ca.gov)

Julianne Polanco State Historic Preservation Officer California Office of Historic Preservation 1725 23rd Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95813 4020 Civic Center Drive San Rafael, CA 94903-4173

> Executive Director Lewis A. Jordan

Re: Owner Response to National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public Housing

Dear Ms. Polanco:

Thank you for our call yesterday morning. In light of the information you shared with us about your process and your office's position regarding the proposed Nomination for Marin City Public Housing (the Nomination), the purpose of this letter is to advise you pursuant to your April 11, 2017 letter concerning the above-referenced Nomination, that the Marin Housing Authority respectfully opposes the Nomination at this time pending receipt of further information in support of the Nomination request.

As we proposed on our call, we are interested in working collaboratively with your office and the nominator in the near future to obtain the missing information that we believe is necessary to inform the Nomination package for the Commission and the public's review.

0111001011

Lewis Jordan

Housing Authority of The County of Marin

415/491-2525

(FAX) 415/472-2186 (TDD) 1-800-735-2929

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate veri to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness	ifies only the identity of the individual who signed the documents, accuracy, or validity of that document.
County of	
Date	Mahsa Ghaffac Garakan Here Insert Name and Title of the Officer
personally appeared Lewis Jon	dan Name(s) of Signer(s)
o the within instrument and acknowledged to me tha	ature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity
MAHSA GHAFFARI GARAKANI* Commission # 2090827 Notary Public - California	I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.
Marin County My Comm. Expires Nov 21, 2018	WITNESS my hand and official seal.
Place Notary Seal and/or Stamp Above	Signature of Notary Public
Completing this information can d	ONAL  deter alteration of the document or form to an unintended document.
Description of Attached Document Title or Type of Document:	
Document Date: July 27, 2017	Number of Pages: ONE
Signer(s) Other Than Named Above:	
Capacity(ies) Claimed by Signer(s)  Signer's Name:	Signer's Name:

ENERGY SERVICES STATEMENT OF THE SERVICE STATE



Third District



Marin County Civic Center 3501 Civic Center Drive Suite 329 San Rafael, CA 94903 415 473 7331 T 415 473 3645 F 415 473 6172 TTY KSears@marincounty.org

www.marincounty.org/bos

July 28, 2017

Commissioner Marshall McKay, Chair Members of the State Historical Resources Commission California State Office of Historic Preservation calshpo@parks.ca.gov

RE: Item X.A.2 - application to confer historic status on the Public Housing property known as Golden Gate Village in Marin City, and recommend it to the National Register of Historic Places

Dear Commissioners,

The request before you to confer historic status on these buildings is in itself an historic moment. It reminds us of the important legacy that we celebrate in Marin City: the Liberty ships built during WWII, the tightly-knit community that grew up around that effort and, of course, the reason we are here today - the buildings that replaced the original military worker housing that is now known as Golden Gate Village.

I hope you have been able to tour this beautiful property, as these apartments are indeed iconic. They are also in need of significant restoration, repair, and refurbishing.

I have listened carefully to the community and have heard their voices, loud and clear. The approach to lifting up the community that lives in public housing by lifting up their quality of life through improving their environment is a goal we all share. This revitalization is essential, and I want to make sure that we are able to get there, sooner rather than later. The vision of creating beautifully renovated apartments that are up to code and energy efficient, with enhanced social and community benefits, job training and employment opportunities, is central to revitalization and is a vision that I share with the community and with the Marin Housing Authority.

I or my staff have attended the many community planning meetings convened to address the complex issues that this property faces. I am familiar with the economic, social and physical analyses performed by impartial experts. And I have consulted with the Executive Director of the Marin Housing Authority and with various members of the community who have shared their ideas and concerns.

As a member of the Board of Supervisors representing this community, and as a Commissioner on the Marin Housing Authority Board, I am committed to ensuring that we honor this proud community; that we create the best possible

July 28, 2017 California State Historical preservation Commission Page 2

RE: Item X.A.2

environment for residents of Golden Gate Village, which is Marin's only public housing for families; and that we are able to find the funding to realize these goals.

While I understand that your focus is properly on historic and architectural significance, I worry about unintended consequences that may make it more difficult for the applicants – and all of us – to achieve what we hope for.

It would be a cruel irony if a historic status designation for Golden Gate Village makes it even more difficult or even impossible to make the improvements that must be made to turn what are now sub-standard buildings into beautiful apartments – without losing the original vision of the architect.

I also have heard concerns from the Marin Housing Authority that they did not receive all the information they needed regarding the application to provide a well-informed response to the Commission. As a decision maker myself, I want to be sure that you have all the information you properly should have for thoughtful deliberation.

I am asking the Commission to continue its decision to a future meeting so that these informational issues can be addressed, further analysis can be performed, and the impacts of a historic status designation can be fully examined and understood by the applicant and the Marin Housing Authority.

I have confidence in the management expertise of Lewis Jordan, the Executive Director of the Marin Housing Authority, and I respectfully ask that you grant the Housing Authority's request for more time on this matter.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Supervisor Kathrin Sears

Commissioner, Marin Housing Authority

CC: Senator Mike McGuire

Assembly Member Marc Levine

Julianne Polanco, State Historic preservation Officer

From: Guerra, Alicia

To: <u>Polanco, Julianne@Parks</u>; <u>Ijordan@marinhousing.org</u>

Cc: <u>ljordan@marinhousing.org</u>; <u>ifilmus@marinhousing.org</u>; <u>Saunders</u>, <u>Jenan@Parks</u>; <u>Lynch</u>, <u>Tara@Parks</u>; <u>Cotter</u>,

Kathryn@Parks; Correia, Jay@Parks; Crain, Amy@Parks

Subject: RE: Correspondence to SHPO Chairman McKay from A. Guerra re Owner Response to National Register of

Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public Housing [IWOV-BN.FID2406517]

**Date:** Monday, July 24, 2017 5:20:49 PM

Thank you, Ms. Polanco. We will hold the time, accordingly.

Alicia

From: Polanco, Julianne@Parks [mailto:Julianne.Polanco@parks.ca.gov]

Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 5:07 PM

To: Guerra, Alicia; Ijordan@marinhousing.org

**Cc:** ljordan@marinhousing.org; ifilmus@marinhousing.org; Saunders, Jenan@Parks; Lynch, Tara@Parks;

Cotter, Kathryn@Parks; Correia, Jay@Parks; Crain, Amy@Parks

Subject: RE: Correspondence to SHPO Chairman McKay from A. Guerra re Owner Response to National

Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public Housing [IWOV-BN.FID2406517]

Ms. Guerra.

I think it would be useful to have a call this Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. I think it will help to understand the purview of the SHRC, process, meeting procedures, public input opportunities, and answer any questions you may have.

Please hold that time and someone will contact you tomorrow with a conference call number.

Juli Polanco

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
California Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23rd St, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816-7100
916 445 7000 phone
916 445 7053 fax
juliannepolanco@parks.ca.gov
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

From: Guerra, Alicia

Sent: Monday, July 24, 4:57 PM

Subject: RE: Correspondence to SHPO Chairman McKay from A. Guerra re Owner

Response to National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public Housing

[IWOV-BN.FID2406517]

To: Polanco, Julianne@Parks, <u>ljordan@marinhousing.org</u>

Cc: <u>ljordan@marinhousing.org</u> , <u>ifilmus@marinhousing.org</u> , Saunders, Jenan@Parks, Lynch, Tara@Parks, Cotter, Kathryn@Parks, Correia, Jay@Parks, Crain, Amy@Parks
Ms. Polanco,
Thank you for your offer to schedule a call with Mr. Jordan, Mr. Filmus and myself this week to discuss the Commission's upcoming workshops and meetings. We are available for a conference call with you at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, if that is still an option for you and your staff.
Regarding the confusion about the upcoming workshop, I was able to obtain a copy this morning from the Commission's website of the notice of the workshop scheduled for Thursday. Based on my review, I understand that the Thursday workshop is for a purpose other than the proposed Marin City Public Housing nomination. Therefore, the notice available today has addressed any confusion regarding the Thursday workshop, and I understand that based on your letter to Mr. Jordan from Friday, that you intend to proceed with the proposed nomination at the Commission meeting scheduled for this upcoming Friday.
I apologize for any confusion regarding the Commission's notices. Please advise if you would like to proceed with the call on Wednesday.
Thank you for your consideration,
Alicia Guerra

#### Buchalter

#### Alicia Guerra, Shareholder

**T** 415.227.3508

**C** 925.899.0915

aguerra@buchalter.com

55 Second Street, Suite 1700

San Francisco, CA 94105-3493

www.buchalter.com

From: Polanco, Julianne@Parks [mailto:Julianne.Polanco@parks.ca.gov]

**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2017 3:50 PM

To: ljordan@marinhousing.org

**Cc:** Guerra, Alicia; <u>ljordan@marinhousing.org</u>; <u>ifilmus@marinhousing.org</u>; Saunders, Jenan@Parks; Lynch, Tara@Parks; Cotter, Kathryn@Parks; Correia, Jay@Parks; Crain, Amy@Parks

**Subject:** Re: Correspondence to SHPO Chairman McKay from A. Guerra re Owner Response to National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public Housing [IWOV-BN.FID2406517]

Mr. Jordan,

OHP is in receipt of your letter to Chairman McKay. In it there seems to be some confusion as to the scheduled State Historical Resources Commission workshop and meetings.

I would like to offer the opportunity to have a phone conversation of it would be helpful to you. Our team can be available tomorrow from 3-4 or Wednesday between 9-11.

Please let me know if you would like to talk and what time works best for you.

Juli Polanco

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
California Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23rd St, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816-7100
916 445 7000 phone
916 445 7053 fax
juliannepolanco@parks.ca.gov
www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

From: Johnson, Erin

Sent: Friday, July 21, 5:08 PM

Subject: Correspondence to SHPO Chairman McKay from A. Guerra re Owner Response to National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public Housing [IWOV-

BN.FID2406517]

To: OHP, CALSHPO@Parks

Cc: Guerra, Alicia, Polanco, Julianne@Parks, <u>ljordan@marinhousing.org</u>, <u>ifilmus@marinhousing.org</u>, Saunders, Jenan@Parks, Lynch, Tara@Parks, Cotter, Kathryn@Parks, Correia, Jay@Parks, Crain, Amy@Parks

Dear Chairman McKay:

Please see attached correspondence from Alicia Guerra, counsel for Marin Housing Authority regarding the above-referenced matter. Original has been sent via U.S. mail.

Thank you,

Erin Johnson Assistant to Alicia Guerra Buchalter A Professional Corporation

1000 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1500 | Los Angeles, CA 90017-2457

Direct Dial: (213) 891-5601 | Main Number: (213) 891-0700 Email: ejohnson@buchalter.com | www.buchalter.com

From: Polanco, Julianne@Parks [mailto:Julianne.Polanco@parks.ca.gov]

**Sent:** Friday, July 21, 2017 2:44 PM

To: ljordan@marinhousing.org

**Cc:** Guerra, Alicia; <u>IFilmus@marinhousing.org</u>; Johnson, Erin; Saunders, Jenan@Parks; Lynch, Tara@Parks; Cotter, Kathryn@Parks; Correia, Jay@Parks; Crain, Amy@Parks **Subject:** RE: Correspondence to J. Polanco from A. Guerra re Owner Response to National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public Housing [IWOV-

BN.FID2406533]

Mr. Jordan,

Please find the attached response to Ms. Guerra's letter requesting a delay of hearing for the Marin City Public Housing National Register of Historic Places nomination.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Juli Polanco

#### Julianne Polanco

State Historic Preservation Officer

California Office of Historic Preservation

1725 23rd St, Ste 100, Sacramento CA 95816-7100

916 445-7000 phone

916 445-7053 fax

julianne.polanco@parks.ca.gov

www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

From: Johnson, Erin [mailto:ejohnson@buchalter.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 17, 2017 5:30 PM

To: Polanco, Julianne@Parks < <u>Julianne.Polanco@parks.ca.gov</u>>

Cc: Guerra, Alicia <aguerra@buchalter.com>; IFilmus@marinhousing.org;

ljordan@marinhousing.org

Subject: Correspondence to J. Polanco from A. Guerra re Owner Response to National

Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public Housing [IWOV-

BN.FID2406533]

Dear Ms. Polanco:

Please see attached correspondence from Alicia Guerra, counsel for Marin Housing Authority regarding the above-referenced matter.

Thank you,

Erin Johnson Assistant to Alicia Guerra

**Buchalter** 

A Professional Corporation

1000 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1500 | Los Angeles, CA 90017-2457

Direct Dial: (213) 891-5601 | Main Number: (213) 891-0700

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# **Buchalter**

July 21, 2017

55 Second Street Suite 1700 San Francisco, CA 94105 415.227.0900 Phone 415.227.0770 Fax

File Number: M3334-0002 415.227.3508 Direct aguerra@buchalter.com

#### VIA E-MAIL (CALSHPO@PARKS.CA.GOV) & U.S. MAIL

Mr. Marshall McKay, Chairman State Historical Resources Commission P.O. Box 942896 Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Re: Comment on the nomination of Marin City Public Housing

Dear Chairman McKay:

Buchalter represents the Marin Housing Authority (MHA), the property owner of the Golden Gate Village public housing development and the provider of desperately-needed affordable housing for many vulnerable low income families, elderly, and the disabled throughout Marin County. Buchalter is advising MHA regarding the proposed nomination to the National Register of Historic Places of the Marin City (now known as Golden Gate Village) public housing development located in Marin City, Marin County (Marin City Nomination or the Nomination).

The purpose of my letter is to respectfully request that the State Historic Resource Commission (Commission) defer any consideration of the Marin City Nomination until a later date after the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) prepares the missing information necessary for the Commission to consider the proposed Nomination, and after OHP remedies prejudicial procedural defects in this process. We are requesting this continuance because there are serious deficiencies in the way OHP has processed this proposed Marin City Nomination due to OHP's failure to notify MHA, Marin County, or the public, of the proposed Nomination, and the office's failure to provide the requisite technical information required to support the Nomination in accordance with your own regulations.

Please be advised that I directed my concerns on behalf of MHA to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Ms. Polanco, at the Deputy's request, and I requested that the Nomination be pulled from the agenda for the above-mentioned reasons. Ms. Polanco advised us

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Los Angeles Napa Valley Orange County Sacramento San Francisco Scottsdale

## **Buchalter**

Mr. Marshall McKay, Chairman July 21, 2017 Page 2

today that the Marin City Nomination is still scheduled for the July 28<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting. I am forwarding a copy of our July 17, 2017 written comments to the Commission's attention, along with our request that the Commission defer any action on the Marin City Nomination until information regarding the Nomination package is made available to MHA and the public for review and comment in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act and the State Historic Preservation Act and implementing regulations.

Since that time, I also noticed that after we submitted our letter to the SHPO, the OHP has now scheduled a workshop with the Commission for some time next week, at a time to be determined. It is unclear if this workshop is meant to provide an opportunity to take public comments on the Marin Housing Nomination or some other nomination. Please be advised that this last minute notice of a yet-to-be scheduled workshop regarding an undisclosed subject is further confusing the notice that the Commission has provided to the public and fails to comply with the Bagley Keene Act. Due to this additional procedural defect, the Commission must defer any further discussions regarding any pending nominations scheduled for the July 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Please contact me and the MHA representatives identified below at your earliest convenience to advise us regarding the status of the pending Marin City Nomination. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

**BUCHALTER** 

A Professional Corporation

Alicia Guerra

AG:ei

Attachment

cc (via email): Ilya Filmus

Julianne Polanco, SHPO Lewis Jordan Jenan Saunders Tara Lynch Kathryn Cotter Jay Correia Amy Crain

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  We note that the date of the workshop is reported as "Wednesday, July 28, 2017," but Wednesday is July 26, 2017, and the Commission hearing is on Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.

## OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100 SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100 (916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053 calshpo@parks.ca.gov www.ohp.parks.ca.gov



July 21, 2017

Lewis Jordan, Executive Director Housing Authority of the County of Marin 4020 Civic Center Drive San Rafael. CA 94903-4173

Subject: Marin City Public Housing

Marin County, California

**National Register of Historic Places Nomination** 

Dear Mr. Jordan:

I write in response to Ms. Alicia Guerra's letter of July 17, 2017 requesting the above-referenced National Register nomination be deferred to a future meeting of the State Historical Resources Commission (Commission). Due to public noticing requirements, nominations cannot be removed from the Commission's agenda once it is posted. Even if your written request was received prior to posting of the agenda, there is no legal basis in this instance that allows the nomination to be deferred by me as the Executive Secretary to the Commission.

The Commission, itself, can decide to defer a nomination but must act in a public meeting. I will provide the Commission with a copy of your letter and request so that they may decide, at the July 28, 2017 meeting, how they wish to proceed.

I would also like to clarify that Marin City Public Housing is being proposed for nomination under the National Register of Historic Places. This process is governed by Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 60. Specifically, the rules for owner notification can be found in 36 CFR 60.6(c). As such, the California Public Resources Code in relation to notification requirements does not apply.

Please contact me with any questions at 916-445-7050 or julianne.polanco@parks.ca.gov

Sincerely,

Julianne Polanco State Historic Preservation Officer

# **Buchalter**

July 17, 2017

55 Second Street
Suite 1700
San Francisco, CA 94105
415.227.0900 Phone
415.227.0770 Fax
415.227.3508 Direct
aguerra@buchalter.com

#### VIA E-MAIL (JULIANNE.POLANCO@PARKS.CA.GOV)

Julianne Polanco State Historic Preservation Officer California Office of Historic Preservation 1725 23rd Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95813

Re: Owner Response to National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin

City Public Housing

Dear Ms. Polanco:

Buchalter represents the Marin Housing Authority (MHA), the property owner of the Golden Gate Village public housing development and the provider of desperately-needed affordable housing for many vulnerable low income families, elderly, and the disabled throughout Marin County. Buchalter is advising MHA regarding the proposed nomination to the National Register of Historic Places of the Marin City (now known as Golden Gate Village) public housing development located in Marin City, Marin County (Marin City Nomination or the nomination). The purpose of my letter is to respectfully request that you remove the scheduled item from the State Historic Resource Commission's (Commission) July 28, 2017 meeting, and defer any consideration of the proposed nomination until your office obtains and reviews the requisite information in accordance with the California Office of Historic Preservation's (OHP) regulations. We are requesting this continuance because there are serious deficiencies in the way OHP has processed this proposed Marin City Nomination.

It is unfortunate that I have no other option but to send this formal request to you regarding the continuance of the Marin City Nomination to a future date. As a matter of courtesy, and as one public agency to another, my client attempted to discuss their concerns about the handling of the nomination process with the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer (Deputy), Jenan Saunders, on Tuesday, July 12, 2017. I understand, however, that the Deputy advised my client to submit all concerns in writing to your attention for your consideration when

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## **Buchalter**

Julianne Polanco July 17, 2017 Page 2

you return to the office. Accordingly, I am submitting this letter to you to formally document our concerns regarding the incomplete nomination package and to request more time for your office and the nomination proponent to provide the missing information to the Commission, MHA, as the property owner, and the public to inform the nomination process. Until that happens, the nomination is incomplete and fails to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act, the California Public Resources Code and OHP's regulations.

While I understand the need to record any objections in writing, it would seem to me that as a matter of courtesy between two public agencies, it would be reasonable for one public agency to reach out to another in the spirit of cooperation in an effort to resolve agency concerns. Nonetheless, I am submitting this letter on behalf of MHA, at the Deputy's direction, to highlight our key concerns regarding the pending Marin City Nomination. Accordingly, please be advised that if OHP proceeds with the proposed nomination for your Commission's consideration on July 28, 2017, MHA will be left with no other option but to formally object to any and all proceedings until a complete nomination package is made available for public review and comment in accordance with the statutory requirements and OHP's own regulations.

OHP should defer the Marin City Nomination due to its failure to provide notice and an opportunity for the property owner and the public to comment on the new nomination package.

OHP notified MHA on April 11, 2017 of its receipt of the proposed nomination of Golden Gate Village. My client then submitted a response on June 28, 2017 requesting that the item be calendared for a full discussion at the July 28, 2017 meeting to discuss the deficiencies in the nomination package. The letter OHP sent my client on April 11, 2017 notified MHA of the receipt of a nomination, but indicated that the nomination was a preliminary draft subject to change upon completion of OHP's review. We understand that OHP may have posted a revised nomination on your website in late May; however, this was done without notifying my client that there was a new nomination submitted, nor did OHP inform MHA of the status of OHP's review of a new application. In fact, on June 13, 2017, MHA's consultant, ICF, asked Ms. Amy Crain (the OHP staff), whether the initial draft of the nomination had been updated and Ms. Crain responded that the pending nomination had not been updated. Consequently, MHA invested considerable resources to analyze and prepare a response to an outdated nomination package.

Shortly after MHA submitted its response on June 28, 2017, I understand that Ms. Crain informed ICF that MHA responded to the wrong nomination and that a new nomination was submitted and uploaded to OHP's website in May 2017. It bears repeating that MHA's consultant was informed in June that no revisions were made to the initial draft of the nomination, but was later informed (after MHA submitted a response to the original nomination) that a *new* nomination was uploaded to OHP's website in May. While my client received a formal notice from your office that the nomination had been calendared for the Commission's

Julianne Polanco July 17, 2017 Page 3

July 28, 2017 hearing, the notice did not specify that a new or revised nomination had been submitted. To further complicate the situation, the initial nomination is dated "March 31, 2017," and the new nomination is dated "March 2017." In reviewing the two nominations, side-by-side, a reasonable person would assume that the version dated "March 2017" preceded the version dated March 31, 2017, because the 31<sup>st</sup> is the last day of the month. We are unable to confirm that is the case, however, and it appears that the nomination with the March 31<sup>st</sup> date may actually be the obsolete nomination form. The foregoing, alone, constitutes violations of State Administrative Procedures Act requirements, and your office has deprived the Commission, the public, and the property owner of a meaningful opportunity to review and comment on the nomination.

Moreover, OHP has failed to follow the rules and regulations set forth in the Public Resources Code governing the eligibility and treatment of historic resources as a matter of State Law, and according to OHP's own regulations set forth in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations set forth in section 4850 et seq. For example, Public Resources Code section 5026 states that a nomination to the National Register requires that SHPO must "first submit the application to the appropriate city council or county board of supervisors for comment." The city council or the county board of supervisors has 45 days from the date of receipt in which to transmit written comments to the Commission, and those comments must be provided to each member of the Commission at least 15 days prior to the scheduled hearing. This has not been done. Your office did not transmit the new nomination package for comment by the Marin County Board of Supervisors or the MHA. Consequently, those dates have not been met here, and cannot be met because we have insufficient time to provide our written comments regarding the new nomination package before the Commission meeting on July 28th. Your office failed to comply with its own procedures with respect to the review of the revised application, and we request that the item be deferred to a subsequent meeting date when all of the required information is available and after OHP has met its own requirements.

Moreover, OHP is required by its own regulations, set forth in Section 4855 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, to provide the public at least 60 days prior to the Commission hearing to consider the nomination and any of the available information concerning the nomination. OHP did not do that. In fact, OHP failed to notify MHA and the public that a new nomination was submitted; in what way it was revised; and which version is the revised version. It appears that the new form was uploaded sometime in May, but there is no way that a member of the public would be able to ascertain the changes or new basis for the nomination based on a review of the new form, nor can a member of the public ascertain which form constitutes the new nomination. Thus, the Commission, MHA and the public had less than 30 days to review the new nomination package before the Commission meeting on July 28, 2017. Therefore, OHP violated its own regulations by failing to provide the public with the requisite information at least 60 days before the Commission meeting. Thus, the Commission would not

Julianne Polanco July 17, 2017 Page 4

be in a position to lawfully act on the nomination package and we request that your office defer the item to a later date.

# SHPO must commence the notice and review process for a new Nomination rather than continuing the Marin City Nomination package.

For a property to qualify for the National Register, the property must meet one of the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. It must be associated with an important historic context AND retain historic integrity of those features that are necessary to convey its significance. While my client has not had sufficient time to review the new nomination package in detail, we note that the original nomination package proposed listing of Golden Gate Village based on 3 of 4 National Register criteria: Criterion A – Association with Social History, Criterion B – Association with Community Planning and Development, and Criterion C – Architecture and Landscape Architecture. The new nomination package available on the Commission website indicates that the nomination may now be based only on Criterion A and Criterion C. Thus, the findings of this nomination package differ from the original nomination for which OHP provided notice of the pending action. Because OHP failed to notify the Commission, the property owner and the public of the new nomination in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, the Public Resources Code and OHP's own regulations, OHP must either pull or continue the nomination from the Commission's agenda and schedule the item for a later date after it corrects the defects.

The pending nomination package is incomplete in violation of the Commission's regulations and National Register eligibility requirements, and must be deferred until the nomination complies with the law.

As set forth above, for a property to qualify for the National Register, it must be associated with an important historic context AND retain historic integrity of those features that are necessary to convey its significance. The information contained in the nomination package is incomplete regarding the historic context (for the individual buildings and a district with respect to the buildings as contributing elements of a proposed district) AND it fails to document the historic integrity of the property. In fact, it appears that some people believe the buildings should be listed on the National Register because Golden Gate Village stands "intact as a pleasant community" (see Marin Independent Journal, article entitled "Marin City debates future of public housing complex," dated Saturday, July 15, 2017). A "pleasant community" hardly meets the definition of retaining integrity as a history resource, and as MHA's prior June 28, 2017 comments stated, the existing buildings are suffering from over 16 million dollars worth of repairs and deferred maintenance in the first year and over 50 million dollars over 20 years. Your office must take into consideration the integrity of the structures before the Commission can determine the buildings' eligibility for listing on the National Register. Thus, it is premature

Julianne Polanco July 17, 2017 Page 5

for the Commission to consider this nomination request until further information is provided to support the findings for the nomination.

Importantly, none of the underlying technical reports were provided to OHP, MHA or the public in support of the nomination. OHP's checklist for submission for National Register of Historic Places Nomination Packet requires that the applicant submit "all nomination documents" as part of the packet. Applicants are required to consult the National Register Bulletins 15 and 16A for guidance on the property evaluation and completion of the nomination packet. As MHA informed you on June 28, 2017, the Marin City Nomination packet failed to include all application documents or the requisite information necessary to meet the review criteria, and without that information, the property owner and members of the public have not been afforded a meaningful opportunity for review and comment. The new nomination package suffers from the same defect. For example, the nomination seems largely based on a report prepared by Alison Garcia Kellar entitled, Golden Gate Village Marin City, CA Historic Resource Evaluation, (Garavaglia Architecture, June 2015). That privately funded report is unavailable and must be provided for full disclosure. Despite multiple requests by MHA to obtain this report, Ms. Royce McLemore has refused to divulge the full report. This implies that the report contains information that may fundamentally weaken the nomination. Consequently, this report is critical to this process and the refusal to provide the report buttresses MHA's position that the Commission cannot consider the nomination until the public and OHP has had sufficient time to review the one report upon which the nomination is largely based. Other citations similarly have not been provided, and must be made available for review and comment. To proceed without providing the documentation that purportedly supports the nomination, is yet another instance in which OHP has violated the Administrative Procedures Act, State Historic Resources Laws, and the National Historic Preservation Act.

Regarding the integrity of the property, the nomination fails to assess integrity in accordance with the National Register Bulletin entitled, "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation," and thus, it is premature for the Commission to consider the nomination request until further information is provided regarding the integrity of the property. For example, the nomination does not refer to any current photos; all of the documentary photographic evidence refers to historic photographs and the basis for integrity findings assumes reversibility of incompatible alterations that compromise the property's integrity. Historic integrity is based on *current* conditions and incompatible alterations must be considered. As MHA previously informed you, many of the structures have been altered and are in a state of substantial deferred maintenance which may compromise the historic integrity of many of the building and landscape features currently occupying the property. The proposed nomination is only furthering the delay in deferred maintenance, and potentially substantially increasing the costs associated with attempting to provide safe affordable housing to low income families in Marin County.

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A list of contributing and noncontributing features has not been provided so we are unable to comment on the full scope of the listing proposal per Section 4851 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, and no analysis has been conducted by OHP regarding whether the proposed nomination meets one or the other category of eligibility per SHPO's regulations. If that analysis has been conducted, it should be provided to the public and decision-makers for review and comment in accordance with OHP's own regulations. We anticipate submitting further detailed comments regarding the new nomination package when your office makes the missing information available regarding the nomination and adequate time is provided to review the new nomination and provide comments. In the meantime, MHA maintains the comments submitted with Mr. Jordan's June 28, 2017 letter on behalf of MHA providing a summary of our key concerns. These comments are attached hereto and incorporated by reference to assist OHP and the Commission in your deliberations.

# OHP failed to consider the local community's input regarding the Marin City Nomination in violation of SHPO's regulations.

OHP is required by its own regulations to give full and careful consideration of the local community's objections or support of a listing. OHP must provide sufficient time to take MHA's and the public's comments into consideration. In this regard, OHP has not yet responded to MHA or ICF's comments on the nomination, nor has it provided any staff analysis regarding the nomination package. Finally, it is premature to list the property as MHA is in the process of undertaking a feasibility assessment for the revitalization of Golden Gate Village in light of the current status of the buildings. To list the property at this time will deprive the Housing Authority and public of opportunities to feasibly manage the critical affordable housing resources this housing development provides for many members of the Marin community. For these reasons, we request that you defer this item to a future Commission hearing.

Sincerely,

BUCHALTER A Professional Corporation

Alicia Guerra

#### **Enclosures**

cc: Lewis Jordan, Executive Director, Housing Authority of the County of Marin Ilya Filmus, General Counsel, Housing Authority of the County of Marin

June 28, 2017

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
California Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816



4020 Civic Center Drive San Rafael, CA 94903-4173

> Executive Director Lewis A. Jordan

Via email julianne.polanco@parks.ca.gov and USPS

Subject: Owner Response to National Register of Historic Places Nomination for

Marin City Public Housing

Dear Ms. Polanco:

Thank you for providing the Draft Marin City Public Housing Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for review. The Housing Authority of the County of Marin (MHA) has carefully reviewed the nomination and as currently written, is unable to support the nomination. MHA respectfully requests that the nomination be updated to include further analysis of the property according to the National Park Service guidelines, including analysis of the property's integrity, alterations, character-defining features, and contributing/non-contributing features. We also ask that the item be continued to a later hearing so that sufficient time is allotted to conduct the additional research and evaluation needed to clarify the nomination. If this is not possible, we request that the item be moved from the consent calendar to the regular calendar for full discussion at the July 28th hearing.

By way of background, MHA is the primary source of housing for the County of Marin's very low-income households. MHA owns and operates 496 public housing units, administers approximately 2,100 Housing Choice Vouchers, provides supportive housing services for special needs populations, and financial and technical assistance for moderate-income first-time homebuyers and low-income homeowners. MHA's public housing program is administered by two managers, an office specialist, and six maintenance workers. MHA

receives guidance from residents and program participants through a variety of venues, including monthly Resident Advisory Board meetings, through

Housing Authority of the County of Marin

415/491-2525

(FAX) 415/472-2186 (TDD) 1-800-735-2929 feedback from various Resident Councils, and at MHA's public Board meetings. Recently, we have been engaged in a multi-year community process that has been driving MHA's exploration of feasible revitalization options to provide better, safer, and more viable affordable housing opportunities at Golden Gate Village ("GGV"), MHA's 296 unit family public housing property in Marin City formerly known as Marin City Public Housing.

MHA is tasked with maintaining its public housing sites, like GGV, for safety and use of its residents. Currently, HUD provides MHA with an annual grant of approximately \$800,000 to complete capital improvements and address deferred maintenance for all 6 MHA public housing properties – for GGV, these funds are enough to only address the most immediate health and safety needs, and nothing else. The other 5 public housing properties were built in the early 1970s – contemporaneous with GGV. A 2015 Physical Needs Assessment of GGV indicated that GGV alone had \$16,110,888 in immediate needs and about \$45,000,000 in deferred maintenance and capital needs over the next 20 years. These numbers have undoubtedly grown. Major obstacles at GGV include obsolescence of major utility and infrastructure systems such as domestic water, sewer and gas, as well as inadequate and outdated and dilapidated electrical, plumbing, heating, and ventilating systems inside of buildings and units. Additionally, the 32 acre site has severely degraded concrete sidewalks, patios, stairs, landings, and balconies.

As explained above, the deteriorated conditions have reached a critical point. In order to address the significant deferred maintenance and capital needs of GGV, MHA began a community process in 2014 by soliciting proposals for a group facilitator to lead a Community Working Group to lead discussions about preservation and revitalization of affordable housing at GGV. After the facilitator was selected, MHA undertook a year-long process that explored options to revitalize Golden Gate Village in Marin City. In Phase II, the facilitator convened a Task Force of GGV residents, community stakeholders and housing experts to help MHA select a feasibility consultant. The Task Force recently selected a feasibility consultant to explore the possible options for revitalization at GGV.

MHA is currently conducting a feasibility analysis to determine options for the rehabilitation of the property. At this critical juncture in the history of the Marin City Public Housing Complex, it is necessary that the nomination be as clear, thorough and accurate as possible so that it will adequately communicate the property's significance to the public; inform the feasibility analysis currently underway; and support review of future projects under Section 106 of the

National Historic Preservation Act and other environmental laws and regulations.

MHA retained a cultural resources consultant, ICF, to review the Draft National Register

Nomination for the Marin City Public Housing Complex (aka. Golden Gate Village, nomination

draft dated March 31, 2017). Attached to this letter is a memorandum from ICF outlining

detailed professional comments on the nomination in order to inform its review at the public

hearing scheduled for July 28, 2017.

As currently written, the nomination makes blanket statements about the eligibility of the

property, without adequate documentation and analysis to support these findings. ICF has

identified additional analysis needed to adequately document the significance and integrity of

the property. MHA urges the Office of Historic Preservation to postpone the July 28 hearing

in order to provide adequate time for additional research and for the applicant to revise the

nomination to better align with the National Park Service's methodology. Moreover, more

detailed analysis and evaluation of the property will help inform MHA and the public as to

which features of the property convey its significance and should be considered during future

rehabilitation efforts.

Sincerely,

Lewis Jordan

**Executive Director** 

Housing Authority of the County of Marin

Cc: Amy Crain, State Historian II, California Office of Historic Preservation

Enclosure: ICF Comment Memo



### Memorandum

To: Ilya Filmus, General Counsel

Housing Authority of the County of Marin

From: Gretchen Hilyard, Senior Preservation Planner

**ICF** 

**Date:** June 20, 2017

**Re:** Comments on Draft National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City

Public Housing (dated March 31, 2017)

At the request of the Housing Authority of the County of Marin (MHA), ICF has reviewed the Draft National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public Housing and has prepared comments. Gretchen Hilyard, a senior planner and architectural historian for ICF who has worked in the Bay Area since 2007, prepared these comments. Ms. Hilyard has focused her career on the evaluation of modern-era resources including many projects involving the work of Lawrence Halprin, John Carl Warnecke, and other masters of the Bay Area Tradition. She meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for History, Architectural History and Preservation Planning and her resume is attached to this memo outlining her qualifications to provide comments on the nomination.

ICF recommends that MHA urge the applicant and the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) to postpone the July 28 hearing in order to provide adequate time to conduct further study and analysis to support the findings of the nomination. Critical information is missing from the draft nomination, including:

- evaluation of historic integrity according to the 7 aspects of integrity,
- discussion of character-defining features,
- detailed inventory of contributing/non-contributing buildings and site elements, and
- adequate analysis of the alterations that have been made to the site and buildings over time.

ICF's comments are outlined below. The comments focus on missing information related to the integrity and analysis of alterations, character-defining features, and contributing/non-contributing features. MHA may wish to request that the State Historic Resources Commission delays consideration of the nomination until it is revised to include this important information.

#### Priority Comments:

1. The nomination lacks analysis of the property's **historic integrity** according to the 7 aspects of integrity outlined in *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. The discussion of alterations in the nomination focuses on the "reversibility" of



incompatible changes. However, large amounts of original historic fabric has been lost from the property, including multiple recreation areas designed by Lawrence Halprin to increase socialization among residents, major alterations to the high-rise tower facades and stairways, and the conversion of select garden apartment blocks to non-residential uses. Per National Park Service (NPS) guidance, an evaluation of the site's *extant* features is required to determine if the property retains sufficient historic integrity to convey significance under the National Register criteria. A discussion of reversibility is not appropriate in the evaluation, but is something that would be taken into consideration as part of a review of future projects per the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Rehabilitation of Historic Properties. The National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation clarifies this point and is guoted below:

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance. To be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, a property must not only be shown to be significant under the National Register criteria, but it also must have integrity. The evaluation of integrity is sometimes a subjective judgment, but it must always be grounded in an understanding of a property's physical features and how they relate to its significance.<sup>1</sup>

It would be helpful if the nomination provided additional photographs to illustrate the altered features of the property and the change between historic and existing conditions. The significance statement argues that site planning and landscape features are important aspects of the design and the existence of these features is essential to conveying significance. Therefore, it is imperative that the nomination look beyond buildings and structures to more thoroughly analyze the landscaped master plan developed by Mary Summers, Aaron Green and Lawrence Halprin for the property.

An example of the depth of analysis required to determine integrity of the extant landscape is outlined in Appendix A for the Recreation Area. This type of analysis should be conducted for all of the open space and landscape elements of the site, as well as to assess the alterations to the high-rise towers and garden apartments.

2. The property's **character-defining features** are not identified. The nomination currently does not inventory the essential features that convey the property's significance. Providing a list of character-defining features will be critical to inform the future rehabilitation design and the analysis of the project for environmental review purposes. The analysis of character-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See *NPS Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation,* Section VIII: How to Evaluate Integrity of a Property available online at: <a href="https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15">https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15</a> 8.htm



- defining features should include landscape features and site planning elements, as well as buildings, all of which are important components of the master planned property.
- 3. Contributing/non-contributing elements of the property are not well-defined. A more thorough analysis of each element's integrity to determine whether, in fact, it contributes to the significance of the property is needed. For example, several of the high-rise and garden apartment buildings have been altered from their original appearance and major aspects of the original Lawrence Halprin landscape design have been removed. Based on these alterations, it is not clear whether these elements contribute to the property's significance. Elements to reconsider include:
  - 4 of the 8 high-rise towers have had undergone major alterations to the original facades, including removal of original concrete panels and replacement with incompatible metal railings, construction of incompatible exterior stairs and permanent modification of the existing stair towers, and the addition of multiple story structural steel braces on the exterior of the buildings that compete with the horizontality of the original design. Although the location of these buildings is intact, the workmanship, materials, and design have been altered such that they could be considered non-contributing buildings.
  - 2 of the 20 garden apartment blocks have been modified at the ground floor to accommodate new uses and structural upgrades to address failing features. Site and landscape features have also been removed at the base of these buildings to accommodate new uses. The changes need to be analyzed further to determine if these modified buildings should contribute to the historic district.
  - The loss of the main Recreation Area landscape as described in Appendix A. This is the main shared public space on the property and it does not retain integrity to the Halprin design. The level of analysis outlined in Appendix A needs to occur for all of the private and shared open spaces and major landscape features of the property.
  - Major alterations to multiple residential courtyards that served as the primary place for socialization among familiar, including the removal and replacement of original paving materials, landscaping, fencing, and furniture.

#### Other Comments:

4. **Significance under Criteria B and C** is not adequately supported. ICF agrees that the property appears eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A, but the nomination lacks sufficient evidence to conclude that the property is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criteria B and C. The nomination will benefit from a more robust historic context section and significance evaluation to establish how the housing project fits within regional and national contexts. Comments on the evaluation sections are outlined below and seek to encourage more robust analysis to support the nomination's conclusions.

**Criterion B:** Association with Significant Persons:



The information presented in the Criterion B evaluation would fit more appropriately in the historic context under the Public Housing in Marin heading. The nomination lacks a clear argument for eligibility under Criterion B.

The *Public Housing in the United States Multiple Property Submission* (MPS)<sup>2</sup> has a clearly outlined methodology for evaluating public housing properties under Criterion B. Relevant text from this section of the MPS is quoted below and emphasis is added in bold. The Criterion B evaluation in the nomination provides biographies of the 2 individuals (Vera Schultz and Mary Summers) involved in the planning of the project, but does not outline a significant association between the subject property and these two women's careers. Further analysis according to the MPS methodology should be included.

Criterion B evaluation guidance quoted from the MPS:

The public housing context study concentrates largely on the events and on the design and construction associated with the federal housing programs of the period, rather than on the individuals involved. As a result public housing projects as a whole are unlikely to be eligible under Criterion B, which recognizes a property's association with the lives of significant persons, unless the project was the direct product and major achievement of an individual's career. If research on a particular housing project can demonstrate association with an individual who made important contributions to the local housing effort, the public housing project made be eligible under Criterion B. The individual or individual's in question must have made contribution to history that can be specifically documented and that are directly associated with **both the historic context and the historic** public housing property under consideration. .... A local public housing project that was conceived, planned, and built as the direct result of the single-minded efforts of an individual may quality for listing if those direct connections can be authenticated.

An essential component of the evaluation of properties under Criterion B is establishing the *direct link between the important individual* and the specific housing project.

https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/guidance/Public%20Housing%20in%20the%20United%20States%20MPS.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Public Housing in the United States, Multiple Property Submission prepared by the National Park Service in 2004:



To determine if a property is significant ... under Criterion B several important steps will be necessary:

- Determine the importance of the individual
- Determine the length and nature of the person's association with the public housing property
- Determine if the person is individually significant within the historic context
- Determine if the property is associated with the time period during which the individual made significant contribution to history

Compare the property to other properties associated with the individual to determine if the property in question best represents the individual's most significant contributions.<sup>3</sup>

#### Criterion C:

- Design/Construction: The evaluation under Criterion C states that: "it is clear that the buildings present at Golden Gate Village were an innovative example of a public housing complex in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century." However, the text that follows outlines the significance of the Marin Civic Center (a concurrent project) and the biographies of the designers. The nomination lacks justification for the statement above and does not provide adequate comparison to the designs of other public housing projects in the Bay Area or the United States to show how the subject property differs. Further evaluation of the design of the property in comparison to other public housing projects of this period is needed to assess its eligibility under Criterion C.
- Work of a Master Lawrence Halprin: More credible sources beyond Wikipedia should be consulted on the work of Lawrence Halprin in order to analyze this project within his well-documented career, which spanned from 1945 until his death in 2009. It is important to note that Halprin was involved in numerous projects in the Bay Area contemporaneous to the Marin City Public Housing project. Halprin made no mention of this project in his comprehensive chronology of projects prepared for the SFMOMA retrospective publication, Lawrence Halprin: Changing Places, in 1986. Sufficient evidence has not been presented in the nomination to establish a significant association between this project and Halprin's long career.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Public Housing in the United States, Multiple Property Submission prepared by the National Park Service (2004): Section F, pages 75-76

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Alison Garcia Kellar, *Golden Gate Village Marin City, CA Historic Resource Evaluation* (Garavaglia Architecture, June 2015), quoted in the draft nomination, Section 8, page 13.



More robust evaluation of the Lawrence Halprin designed elements of the landscape is required to determine if sufficient historic fabric and integrity remains to be eligible for association with Halprin under Criterion C.

- Work of a Master John Carl Warnecke: Warnecke's role in the project is not clearly documented. The nomination outlines that Warnecke's firm was hired to complete As-Built drawings for the project. Insufficient evidence has been presented in the nomination to establish a significant association between this project and Warnecke's career. There is no evidence provided that credits Warnecke with any aspect of the design or site planning.
- Attribution of site plan/design: Newspaper articles quoted on Section 8, page 19 attributes the site planning to Planning Director Mary Summers, this is not studied further in the report. With further research, the site planning design may be attributable to Ms. Summers, which should be discussed and evaluated under Criterion C.
- 5. The period of significance is not clearly justified. According to the NPS, "period of significance refers to the span of time during which significant events and activities occurred. Events and associations with historic properties are finite; most properties have a clearly definable period of significance."5 The period of significance varies throughout the document and is listed as both 1957-1964 and 1952-1964 (see Section 8, page 9 and 10). The period of significance needs to align with the historic context of the property under each criteria. The justification as currently written does not adequately tie the period of significate to the property's historic context, but instead spans from the date Vera Schultz was elected and extends though the date in which the project won an award. Neither of these dates directly relates to the property's significant associations or physical features. If significance is established under Criterion B, then the period would need to be shortened such that it relates to the time period during which Ms. Schultz was directly associated with the property. Identifying a discrete period of significance under each evaluation criteria (A, B, and C) would resolve this omission.
- 6. The **Historic Context** section lacks a comparative framework under which the property is evaluated, including background information about relevant patterns and trends in history under which the property is associated. The National Park Service provides guidance on historic contexts stating that:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> National Register Bulletin: Researching a Historic Property Available online at: https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb39/nrb39 II.htm



The significance of a historic property can be judged and explained only when it is evaluated within its historic context. Historic contexts are those patterns or trends in history by which a specific occurrence, property, or site is understood and its meaning (and ultimately its significance) within history or prehistory is made clear.<sup>6</sup>

The historic context section on Public Housing in Marin does not provide information about the larger public housing context in the Bay Area or the United States. Although the development of the subject property is chronicled, there is not sufficient information provided to place the property within the larger regional and national context. Without comparative analysis, it is impossible to support statements in the nomination such as: "it is clear that the buildings present at Golden Gate Village were an innovative example of a public housing complex in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century."<sup>7</sup>

The *Public Housing in the United States Multiple Property Submission* (MPS)<sup>8</sup> provides a detailed framework under which to evaluate public housing properties. This well-established context and evaluation methodology was created by the National Park Service to guide the evaluation of public housing properties in the United States. As a late example, the Marin City Public Housing Complex falls outside of the 1933-1949 period of significance established in the MPS. Nevertheless, the MPS provides a framework for how to appropriately contextualize the property within the larger national public housing movement and to place this project within the arc of public housing in the Bay Area.

Although the MPS is briefly mentioned on section 8, page 13 in a quoted passage from the Garavaglia HRE, there is no direct reference to this important document by the nomination author and it not clear if the MPS was used to establish the evaluation methodology for the property. This document should inform the historic context section of the nomination and the

https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/guidance/Public%20Housing%20in%20the%20United%20States%20 MPS.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See *NPS Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, Section V: How to Evaluate a Property Within its Historic Context available online at: https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15 5.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Alison Garcia Kellar, *Golden Gate Village Marin City, CA Historic Resource Evaluation* (Garavaglia Architecture, June 2015), quoted in the draft nomination, Section 8, page 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Public Housing in the United States, Multiple Property Submission prepared by the National Park Service in 2004:



evaluation methodology should be utilized to prepare the evaluation section of the nomination.

- 7. **Unpublished Sources** The significance evaluation in the draft nomination quotes heavily from a historic resource evaluation prepared by a consultant in 2015 (referenced below). It is important that this report be made publically accessible, such that the original source materials referenced in this evaluation can be consulted and verified. If it is impossible to make this report available, then the nomination should be re-written to consult primary sources and other publically available secondary sources to frame the evaluation. This would ensure that the full administrative record is available in the future to support detailed impacts analysis of the property that may required under Section 106 and other environmental review processes. MHA would specifically benefit from the review and consideration of information provided in this report to inform the ongoing feasibility analysis.
  - Alison Garcia Kellar, Golden Gate Village Marin City, CA Historic Resource Evaluation (Garavaglia Architecture, June 2015).



#### APPENDIX A - Alterations Analysis Example: Main Recreation Area

Below is an example of the level of detail appropriate to compare the existing site features to their historic condition. This will aid in the analysis of integrity.

The Main Recreation Area has undergone many alterations to the original Halprin design and these changes are not fully described in the nomination. Collectively, the changes described below have altered the recreation area from a mostly open and flexible space to a programmed space without a discernible master plan. As a result of these changes, the recreation area is no longer recognizable as a work of Lawrence Halprin. **Figures 1 and 2** offer a comparison of the original site plan and 2017 aerial images to illustrate the loss of historic fabric associated with the Halprin design. These changes include:

- Removal of sections of the perimeter tree row at northwest and northeast corners of the site which opened up the visibility at the corners of the site and altered the relationship to the adjacent street.
- Reconfiguration and addition of pathways around the play area that change the geometry of the original plan.
- Alteration of the west courtyards and ground floor of garden apartment Block 101-107 facing the play area. This change was completed to convert these buildings from residential use to a tutoring center. This change altered the relationship between the garden apartment block and the play area and removed/reconfigured the pathways/landscape features in the space between the buildings and the play area.
- Alteration/removal/addition of specimen trees throughout the site, including removal
  of trees that served as a buffer between the play area and the adjacent baseball field
  to the west.
- Removal of baseball diamond and insertion of a basketball and tennis court (later converted to a now defunct skate park). These changes altered the overall layout and relationship of site planning features and the ratio of hard surfaces to grass.
- Alteration of the play area as follows:
  - Reduction in size and complete reconfiguration of the plan/shape of the play area.
  - Demolition of the outer perimeter pathways and trees to the west side of the play area.
  - Alteration of pedestrian pathway on the east side of the play area and insertion of paving adjacent to the garden apartment in this area.
  - Removal of the sand box feature.
  - Substitution of varied play surfaces (grass, sand, tanbark) with tanbark.
  - Addition of rock sculptures, play equipment, and fencing.
  - Flattening of site topography features including the mound near the site of the drinking fountain and the slight slope forming the boundary between the play area and former baseball diamond.



Figure 1: Recreation area - Left: 1958 Halprin Planting Plan. Right: 2017 Google Aerial.

#### Altered historic features:

- Removal of sections of the perimeter tree row at northwest and northeast corners of the site which changes the boundary condition and relationship to the street.
- Reconfiguration and addition of pathways around play area that change the geometry of the original plan.
- Alteration of the west courtyards and ground floor of garden apartment Block 101-107 facing play area to convert from residential use to tutoring center. This change alters the relationship between this adjacent building and the play area.
- Alteration/removal/addition of specimen trees throughout the site, including those that served as a buffer between the play areas and adjacent uses.
- Removal of baseball diamond and insertion of a basketball and tennis court (later converted to a now defunct skatepark). These changes altered the overall layout and relationship of site planning features and the ratio of grass to hard surfaces.
- Alteration of the play area (see detailed analysis below)

Extant historic features: Overall shape of block and location of built features (parking lots and garden apartment blocks), pedestrian pathways near buildings, portions of original site plan and select plantings/trees remain.



Figure 2: Detail of play area (outlined in red): Left: 1958 Halprin Landscape Layout. Right: 2017 Google Aerial.

#### Altered historic features:

- reduction in size and reconfiguration of the plan/shape of the play area,
- alteration of pedestrian pathway on the east side of the play area, insertion of paving adjacent to the garden apartment in this area.
- demolition of a portion of the walkway/boundary around the play area,
- removal of the sand box,
- removal of drinking fountain/sculpture,
- substitution of varied play surfaces with tanbark,
- addition of rock sculptures, play equipment, and fencing,
- flattening of site topography features including the mound near the site of the drinking fountain and the slope up to the site of the baseball diamond.

**Extant historic features:** presence of tanbark materials, portion of concrete pathways surrounding play area.

#### **GRETCHEN HILYARD**

#### Senior Historic Preservation Planner

Gretchen Hilyard is a senior historic preservation planner and cultural landscape specialist with a decade of experience in cultural resource evaluation, project management, and design review. Through her past work as a historic preservation planner, Gretchen was responsible for managing multidisciplinary consultant teams in the preparation of technical studies in support of environmental review documentation for large- and small-scale development projects in California. She has authored numerous technical studies, including historic context statements, historic resource evaluations, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) alternatives analyses, cultural landscape reports and related CEQA and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance documentation. Gretchen specializes in the history of designed landscapes and has researched and analyzed a variety of resource types including mid-century modern suburban neighborhoods, municipal parks, master planned transportation corridors, vernacular industrial complexes, and municipal utility systems. Gretchen's specialty in cultural landscapes demonstrates her unique big-picture perspective on cultural resource management and bridges the divide between traditional built, cultural and natural resource practices. Gretchen teaches adult continuing courses in historic preservation and landscapes and has spoken widely at professional conferences and trainings. Additionally, she has experience with geographic information systems (GIS) mapping and database management through her work on various survey projects in San Francisco and Los Angeles. Gretchen meets the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualification standards for architectural history, history, and preservation planning.

### Key Skills

**NEPA/CEQA.** Gretchen provides senior expertise on cultural resources aspects of NEPA/CEQA compliance services. She has managed, written, and contributed to numerous NEPA, CEQA, and joint environmental documents.

**Cultural Landscapes.** Gretchen is a leader in the field of cultural landscape preservation and has contributed to several publications on the topic. She has conducted cultural landscape survey and technical studies for federal, state, and local agencies and was a co-author of the National Park Service's (NPS) Professional Procedures Guide for the preparation of Cultural Landscape Inventories. Gretchen has a

depth of experience in researching and evaluating cultural landscapes of varying scales, contexts,



Years of Experience

- Professional start date: 06/2006
- ICF start date: 08/2016

#### Education

- MS, Historic Preservation, University of Pennsylvania, 2006
- BA, Architectural History, University of Virginia, 2004

#### Professional Memberships

- The Cultural Landscape Foundation, Stewardship Council Member
- California Preservation Foundation
- California Historical Society
- Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS), Former Co-Chair
- San Francisco Planning & Urban Research Association (SPUR)
- Docomomo U.S./Northern California Chapter, Former Chapter President and Board Member

#### **Professional Appointments**

 California Cultural and Historical Endowment, Preservation Grants Peer Review Panelist (for distribution of over \$7 million in preservation grant funding), Sacramento, California, 2010



and time periods. Gretchen provides senior expertise on cultural landscape methodology, evaluation and practice for NEPA/CEQA compliance services.

Languages

- English, fluent
- German, conversational

**Historic Architecture.** Gretchen has 10 years of experience in

examining buildings, sites, landscapes, linear features, utility infrastructure, and related cultural resource types. She has an undergraduate degree in Architectural History and has an extensive knowledge of American Architectural History and its place within the broader context of history. Her built environment work has included surveys and research throughout California and the east coast. She has worked on numerous projects for federal, state, and local agencies and is familiar with the means and methods to research historic structures from numerous archival sources.

**Preservation Planning.** In addition to her expertise in regulatory compliance, Gretchen assists federal, state, and local agencies and private sector clients in the development of proactive solutions for the management of historic and cultural resources. She has unique experience having worked in both public and private sectors throughout her career. Gretchen's preservation planning work includes completion of comprehensive surveys, development of design strategies and treatment plans for both built and landscape resources, and site-specific master plans. Her work also includes project-specific analysis including environmental impact review, development of cultural resources management plans, reuse guidelines, treatment plans, and long range development plans.

**Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).** Gretchen has both private and public sector experience in the implementation of NHPA for development projects in California. She has assisted federal agencies with their responsibilities under the NHPA, including project-level and programmatic approaches to compliance with Section 106. Gretchen has also served as a local agency peer reviewer of Section 106 compliance for federally funded projects through her role as a Preservation Planner in San Francisco. This work included consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and other federal agencies.

### Project Experience

#### *Military*

Treasure Island and Yerba Buena Island Design for Development—Treasure Island Development Authority, San Francisco, California, 2009 – 2010

**Lead Writer.** Gretchen served as lead writer for historic resources context and evaluation of Treasure Island and Yerba Buena Island. The site has a complex and rich history—originally constructed for the Pan Pacific International Exposition (PPIE) and later became a naval station during and after World War II. While employed at Page & Turnbull, Gretchen performed a survey, research, and evaluation which informed the proposal to comprehensively redevelopment of the islands into a dense urban neighborhood, while preserving the main historic buildings remaining from the PPIE.

#### Institutional Facilities

Civic Center Cultural Landscape Inventory—San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, San Francisco, California, 08/2012 – 09/2015

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen was responsible for management of consultants in conducting a survey of historic landscape features that contribute to the Civic Center Historic District. Her duties included review of GIS survey



database, survey report, and technical guidance on research methodologies and cultural landscape evaluation. The CLI informed the Civic Center Sustainable District Plan.

### San Francisco Fire Department Historic Facilities—San Francisco Public Works, San Francisco, California, 01/2016 – 08/2016

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner for the environmental review, design review, and Secretary of the Interior's Standards compliance for over a dozen historic fire stations. The review included evaluation of both individually eligible stations and a discontiguous district of Mid-Century Modern era stations across the city.

### San Francisco Police Department Historic Facilities—San Francisco Public Works, San Francisco, California, 02/2016 – 03/2016

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner for the environmental review, design review, and Secretary of the Interior's Standards compliance for five historic police stations (Ingelside, Park, Taraval, Richmond, and the Police Academy).

## San Francisco War Memorial Monument—San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center, San Francisco, California, 08/2012 – 08/2012

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner for the environmental review and Certificate of Appropriateness entitlement for the rehabilitation of the War Memorial Court, including installation of a contemporary memorial. Her duties included conducting original research and evaluating landscape elements of the War Memorial Complex and Thomas Church courtyard, providing design guidance to the multi-disciplinary team of landscape architects, artists, facilities staff, and others; analysis of the impacts of the proposed design under CEQA; and providing technical support and process guidance for multiple city agency stakeholders.

#### Parks, Trails, and Open Space

## Golden Gate Park (Various)—San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, San Francisco, California, 11/2013 – 11/2015

**Preservation Planner and Project Manager.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner and project manager for various alteration projects in Golden Gate Park, a National Historic Landmark District. All projects were reviewed for compliance with the Golden Gate Park Master Plan and examples projects included: park-wide tree replanting master plan, San Francisco Police Department Horse Comfort Station Rehabilitation, and the 45th Avenue Boat Playground Rehabilitation.

# Balboa Park Poolhouse Renovation—San Francisco Recreation & Parks Department, San Francisco, California, 10/2014 – 06/2015

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner for the environmental review for the rehabilitation of the Balboa Park Poolhouse and site. Her review included presentation before the San Francisco Arts Commission Civic Design Committee, review for compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, and analysis of the impacts of the proposed design under CEQA.



## Alta Park Plaza Historic Resource Evaluation and Rehabilitation—San Francisco Recreation & Parks Department, San Francisco, California, 01/2015 – 04/2016

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner for the environmental review for the Alta Plaza master plan. She reviewed the master plan for compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, Certificate of Appropriateness, and CEQA requirements.

### Great Highway Comfort Stations: Historic Resource Evaluation and Rehabilitation—San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, San Francisco, California, 2012 – 2013

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen performed research and writing of Historic Resource Evaluation for two WPA-era comfort stations operated by the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. She identified historic context, significance, and character-defining features. Gretchen also performed close collaboration consulting architect to ensure conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

#### Roeding Park—City of Fresno Planning Department, Fresno, California, 2012 – 2013

**Project Manager and Lead Writer.** While employed by Page & Turnbull, Gretchen served as project manager and lead writer for a cultural landscape assessment of Roeding Park. Her research included extensive study of the park's various facilities including historic context for zoo, playland and arboretum use. She provided design review and analysis of proposed park master plan for conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and local planning commission review.

### Badger Pass Ski Area Cultural Landscape Report—National Park Service Concessionaire (DNC), Yosemite National Park, California, 2011 – 2012

**Lead Writer.** While employed by Page & Turnbull, Gretchen served as lead writer for a Cultural Landscape Report of the Badger Pass Ski Area at Yosemite National Park. Work included archival research, on site GPS survey of all features, GIS mapping, evaluation of the site's various landscape features, buildings and structures, and design review of the proposed site master plan for conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

#### Transportation—Rail and Transit

## California High-Speed Train, San Francisco to Merced and San Francisco to San Jose Sections—California High-Speed Rail Authority, Northern California, 08/2016 – Present

**Senior Preservation Planner.** Gretchen is the primary author for the built resources section of the EIR/EIS for two sections of the California High-Speed Rail project. She coordinates closely with the project management and design teams as well as the High-Speed Rail Authority to evaluate the impacts to cultural resources and develop mitigation measures for the proposed project.

### San Francisco Rail Tracks Historic Context and Evaluation—San Francisco Public Works, San Francisco, California, 01/2017 – Present

**Senior Preservation Planner.** Gretchen is serving as project manager for the completion of a Citywide Historic Context Statement and Historic Resource Evaluation for abandoned rail track segments located throughout San Francisco. The project will delve into the important role of private railroads in facilitating development and industrial expansion in the 19th and 20th centuries. The project will establish an evaluative framework to ensure consistent review of railway features associated with public works projects city-wide.



## Chinatown Transit Station Historic Resource Evaluation and EIR—San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, San Francisco, California, 01/2015 – 02/2015

**Preservation Planner and Lead Writer.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner and lead writer for historic evaluation and EIR for the Chinatown Transit Station—an infill project within the Chinatown Historic District. She was responsible for cultural resources technical report, design review of the proposed plaza and head house design for conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, and analysis of the impacts of the proposed design under CEQA.

#### Transportation—Roads, Bridges, and Highways

## Dolores Street Median Historic Resource Evaluation (Multiple Locations)—San Francisco Public Works, San Francisco, California, 03/2013 – 05/2016, 04/2015, and 12/2015

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner for the review of roadway and pedestrian safety improvements along Dolores Street. Her review included extensive research on the evolution of the historic streetscape and development of standard design guidelines for how to apply the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation to streetscape improvements according to the needs and constraints of the San Francisco Public Works.

### Mid-Market Street Redevelopment Survey—San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, San Francisco, California, 02/2011 – 01/2013

**Preservation Planner and Project Manager.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner and project manager. She was responsible for management of consultant survey deliverables including DPR survey forms, historic context statement, and survey database for approximately 300 properties.

#### Ports and Harbors

#### Pier 24-1/2—San Francisco, California, 2008

**Lead Writer and Architectural Historian.** While employed by Page & Turnbull, Gretchen served as lead writer and architectural historian to complete a historic resource evaluation for Pier 24-1/2 in support of the adaptive re-use project to convert the vacant pier into a photography archive and event space. Her review included design guidance, review for conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, and analysis of the impacts of the proposed design under CEQA.

#### Water and Wastewater

## India Basin EIR—San Francisco Recreation & Parks Department, San Francisco, California, 10/2015 – 08/2016

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen reviewed the master plan to redevelop India Basin. The project involved a public-private partnership to construct new housing, a new city park, and associated services along San Francisco's waterfront. Gretchen served as technical lead for historic architecture and cultural landscape evaluation for the EIR review.



### 554 Fillmore Street Historic Resource Evaluation and Design Consulting—554 Fillmore Street LLC, San Francisco, California, 09/2016 – Present

**Senior Preservation Planner.** Gretchen is providing technical review and guidance on the adaptive reuse of the historic Sacred Heart Church. Her responsibilities include QA/QC review of technical documents, guidance on research and evaluation methodologies, projects management and coordination with client. ICF's work will provide the architectural design team with strategies for conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for the Rehabilitation of Historic Properties and the City of San Francisco's Certificate of Appropriateness process.

### Parkmerced Mitigation Monitoring—Maximus Development, San Francisco, California 02/2015 – 08/2016

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as lead reviewer for the HABS documentation, interpretive display and other cultural resource CEQA compliance efforts for the development project at Parkmerced, a World War II-era housing complex designed for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

# Better Market Street, Market Street Cultural Landscape Evaluation—City of San Francisco Department of Public Works, San Francisco, California, 12/2014 – Present

**Senior Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner and project manager, and was responsible for reviewing consultant technical reports and providing technical. Gretchen continues her work on this project with ICF as a senior reviewer, providing technical guidance on the creation of a Cultural Landscape Evaluation for a 2.5 mile stretch of San Francisco's Market Street.

## One Vassar Historic Resource Evaluation and Adaptive Reuse Design Strategies Memo—One Vassar, LLC, San Francisco, California, 08/2016 – Present

**Senior Preservation Planner and Project Manager.** In coordination with colleagues, Gretchen is developing a Historic Resource Evaluation (HRE) and design options memorandum for the One Vassar urban redevelopment project. Her responsibilities include QA/QC review of technical documents, guidance on research and evaluation methodologies, projects management and coordination with client. ICF's work will inform the architectural design and its consistency with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for the Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.

#### Parkmerced Historic Resource Evaluation—San Francisco, California, 2007 – 2009

**Lead Author and Cultural Landscape Specialist.** While employed by Page & Turnbull, Gretchen served as lead author and cultural landscape specialist for the historic resource evaluation of Parkmerced, a World War II-era housing complex designed for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Her review included extensive archival research, evaluation for historic significance, and review of the impacts of the proposed master plan under CEQA. The proposed project will triple the residential density of the existing site.

### Strand Theater Historic Resource Evaluation—A.C.T., San Francisco, California, 05/2012 – 12/2012

**Preservation Planner.** While employed at the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation planner for the adaptive reuse of the Strand Theater, a historic movie house in San Francisco's Mid-Market neighborhood that was rehabilitation into a live performance theater for A.C.T. She was responsible for making findings about the significance of the theater, reviewing the proposed design for compliance with the Secretary of the Interiors Standards for Rehabilitation



and potential impacts under CEQA, and working with the design team to make modifications to ensure compliance with local preservation guidelines.

### South Mission and South of Market Avenue (SOMA) Historic Resource Surveys—San Francisco Planning Department, San Francisco, California, 07/2007 – 01/2011

**Architectural Historian.** While employed by Page & Turnbull, Gretchen was responsible for management of Access survey database of approximately 3,800 properties. Her other duties included survey form creation, QA/QC review, and GIS mapping of survey progress, historic districts, identified resources and deliverables.

### Atchison Village Historic Structures Report and Preservation Treatment Plan—Richmond, California. 2008 – 2009

**Project Manager and Cultural Landscape Specialist.** While employed by Page & Turnbull, Gretchen served as project manager and cultural landscape specialist for the Preservation Treatment Plan of Atchison Village—a defense workers' housing complex built in 1941. Her review included development of design guidelines and preservation treatment approaches for the housing complex.

#### Citywide Historic Surveys

## SurveyLA Historic Resources Survey—Los Angeles Department of City Planning, Los Angeles, California, 01/2009 – 01/2011

**Architectural Historian.** Pilot and Phase 1 surveys for the West Hollywood and Sunland-Tujunga neighborhoods. Gretchen was responsible for field survey, data entry into the proprietary SurveyLA database, coordination with city staff for survey database testing and QA/QC, survey management and resource allocation for survey teams, review of survey content, GIS mapping and related survey content.

## City of Burlingame Historic Resource Evaluations—City of Burlingame Planning and Zoning Department, California, 01/2009 – 01/2011

**Project Manager and Architectural Historian.** While employed by Page & Turnbull, Gretchen's duties involved research, field analysis, production of DPR Survey Forms, and coordination with the City's Community Development Director to perform CEQA review and compliance for the evaluation of proposed development projects for several single-family residential properties.

## San Francisco Property Information Map—San Francisco Planning Department, San Francisco, California, 06/2015 – 08/2016

**Preservation Team Liaison.** While employed by the San Francisco Planning Department, Gretchen served as preservation team liaison to co-manage the historic survey data in the city's public-facing Property Information Map of over 200,000 parcels. This work included as needed QA/QC review of data, research, and correction of data associated with individual parcels as errors were discovered. This work also included close coordination with the City's GIS specialist team for ongoing improvement of data format and accuracy for ease of use by the public.

#### Agriculture Resources

## Marie Zimmermann Farm Complex National Register Nomination—Delaware Gap National Recreation Area, Bushkill, Pennsylvania

**Architectural Historian.** While employed by the National Park Service, Gretchen completed a historic resources survey, historic context statement, and NRHP evaluation in the form of a National



Register nomination for the Marie Zimmermann Far, a 1300 acre complex located within the boundaries of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. The historic farm developed from 1910 to the 1970s and includes a field stone farmhouse, various barns, corn cribs, and outbuildings that supported the operation of a small-scale dairy and family farm on the property. This property type is directly relevant to the Wilson Dairy property and Gretchen's knowledge in agricultural buildings types and operations will offer a helpful comparison to the subject property.

National Register Evaluation of the Wilson Dairy and McBride Property—U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Olympia, Washington, 09/2016 – 12/2016

**Senior Preservation Planner.** Gretchen's duties included project management, review and technical guidance on the National Register Evaluation for two historic dairy properties within the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge in Olympia, Washington. She worked closely with the client and ICF staff to successfully deliver the project on a compressed.

#### **Publications**

Hilyard, Gretchen and Courtney Spearman. Establishing a Historic Context for Modern Landscape Architecture. Forum Journal. National Trust for Historic Preservation. Volume 27 (2). Winter 2012.

Hilyard, Gretchen. A Taste of Place: Appreciation of Agricultural Landscapes through Experience. San Francisco Architectural Heritage. Heritage News. Volume XXXVIII (2). San Francisco, California. Summer 2010.

Hilyard, Gretchen. Preserving Mid-Century Landscapes: A Call to Action. San Francisco Architectural Heritage. Heritage News. Volume XXXVII (3). San Francisco, California. Fall/Winter 2009.

Hilyard, Gretchen, Robert R. Page, and Jeffrey Killion. National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory Professional Procedures Guide. Washington, DC. 2009.

### Training and Lecturing

Hilyard, Gretchen (instructor). Tools of Cultural Landscape Preservation course. University of California Berkeley Extension, Landscape Architecture Program. San Francisco, California. 2012–Present.

Hilyard, Gretchen (presenter). San Francisco Civic Center: Understanding Complex Landscapes to Inform Future Planning and Design. California Preservation Foundation Annual Conference. Presidio, San Francisco, California. 2015.

Hilyard, Gretchen (programs committee for 8 month planning period). Modern Resources track. California Preservation Foundation Annual Conference. San Diego, California. 2015.

Hilyard, Gretchen (presenter). Thinking Outside the Glass Box: Preserving Modern Resources. California Preservation Foundation Annual Conference. San Diego, California. 2015.

Hilyard, Gretchen (presenter and co-organizer). Modernism on the Brink? Assessing Threats to Modern Buildings and Landscapes. California Preservation Foundation webinar. 2015.

Hilyard, Gretchen (presenter). Cultural Landscape Documentation and Processes. California Preservation Foundation workshop. Presidio, San Francisco, California. 2014.

Hilyard, Gretchen (presenter). What to do with Parkmerced? Modern-Era Housing and The Sustainability Debate. Docomomo US National Symposium. Sarasota, Florida. 2013.



Hilyard, Gretchen (presenter). Design Review for Historic Buildings, Districts, Sites and Landscapes. California Preservation Foundation workshop. Sacramento, California. 2010.

Hilyard, Gretchen (moderator). Conservationists as Preservationists: Stewards of Historic Resources. California Preservation Foundation Annual Conference. San Francisco, California. 2010.

Hilyard, Gretchen (guest lecturer). Undergraduate Course in Historic Preservation. University of California David, Landscape Architecture Program. 2010.

Hilyard, Gretchen (moderator). Landscape Design within the Historic Context. American Institute of Architects (AIA) San Francisco. San Francisco, California. 2009.

Hilyard, Gretchen (co-presenter). Badger Pass Ski Area: Cultural Landscape Report and Historic Structure Report Findings. Yosemite Forum. Yosemite National Park, California. 2009.

Hilyard, Gretchen (presenter). Building the Modern Park Experience: A 21st Century Call to Action (Visitor Experience Track). Designing the Park Conference, Part II: The Present and Future of Park Planning and Design. San Francisco, California. 2008.

#### Recognition and Commendations

#### **Awards**

California Preservation Foundation Preservation Design Award. San Francisco Civic Center Cultural Landscape Inventory. 2016.

### **Employment History**

ICF. Senior Historic Preservation Planner. San Francisco, California. 08/2016 - Present.

City and County of San Francisco Planning Department. Historic Preservation Technical Specialist/Planner III. San Francisco, California. 02/2012 – 08/2016.

San Francisco Planning & Urban Research Association (SPUR). Public Programming Manager. San Francisco, California. 01/2011 – 02/2012.

Page & Turnbull. Architectural Historian/Cultural Landscape Specialist. San Francisco, California. 07/2007 – 01/2011.

National Park Service, Northeast Regional Office, Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. Landscape Historian. Boston, Massachusetts. 06/2006 – 07/2007.

Fairmount Park Historic Preservation Trust. Intern Conservation Technician. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 05/2005 – 05/2006.

Partners for Sacred Places. Intern Architectural Historian. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 09/2004 – 05/2005.

National Trust for Historic Preservation, Northeast Regional Office. Intern Architectural Historian. Boston, Massachusetts. 05/2004 – 08/2004.

Robinson & Associates. Intern Architectural Historian. Washington, DC. 05/2003 – 08/2003.

Ashlawn-Highland, Former President James Monroe's Estate. Docent. Charlottesville, Virginia. 05/2002 – 08/2002.

National Park Service, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. Intern Architectural Historian. Bushkill, Pennsylvania. 05/2001 – 08/2001.



# OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100 SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100 (916) 445-7000 Fax; (916) 445-7053 calshpo@parks.ca.gov www.ohp.parks.ca.gov





August 3, 2017

J. Paul Loether
Chief, National Register of Historic Places/National Historic Landmarks Program
Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C Street, NW
Washington D.C. 20240

Subject: Marin City Public Housing

Marin County, California

National Register of Historic Places Nomination

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for MARIN CITY PUBLIC HOUSING to the National Register of Historic Places. On July 28, 2017 in San Rafael, California, the California State Historical Resources Commission unanimously found the property eligible for the National Register at the local level of significance under Criteria A and C with a period of significance 1955 to 1960.

Under Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Community Planning and Development, the district is significant as a product of post-WWII urban development in Northern California. Under Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, the property is significant for its association with three prominent mid-century designers: Architects John Carl Warnecke and Aaron G. Green, and Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin.

The property is nominated by Royce McLemore as Executive Director of "Women Helping All People" in support of the Golden Gate Village Resident Council, and the nomination was prepared by a third party. Nineteen letters of support have been received to date. The public agency property owner initially commented on the nomination, followed by a notarized letter of objection submitted at the State Historical Resources Commission hearing. If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please contact Amy Crain of my staff at (916) 445-7009.

Sincerely,

Jenan Saunders

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure



September 6, 2017

Edson Beall, Keeper of the National Register National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240 edson\_beall@nps.gov

Re: Application for Golden Gate Village, Marin City Public Housing
101-429 Drake Ave, 1-99 Cole Dr.
Marin City SG100001604

Dear Mr. Beall,

The Sierra Club Marin Group is submitting this letter in support of the nomination of historically important Golden Gate Village (GGV) in Marin City, CA to the National Historic Registry.

Marin City's culturally significant Golden Gate Village public housing complex was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright protégé Aaron Green and had the involvement of American landscape architect Lawrence Halprin and architect John Carl Warnecke. Built 56 years ago, this 296-unit housing complex is a fine example of combining needed low-cost public housing with an environmentally sensitive design.

GGV abuts the Headland Trails of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). The intersection between homes, open space, and park forms a natural seamless progression. For that reason, the walking and care taking of trails in GGNRA has always been a part of day-to-day life in the Village which is exactly the type of behavior and local recreational opportunities that Sierra Club works to foster.

GGV is truly a unique, but also characteristic, Marin County community. It remains the sole African American community in the county. It's a place where families grow up learning valuable lessons

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "The redevelopment project was to provide adequate housing for the largely black population that was left marginalized after working during the World War II effort to build Liberty ships at Marinship in Sausalito. After the war ended white workers were free to migrate and live where they pleased in Marin, but covenants kept blacks from moving to other parts of the county."

Prado, Mark; Report: Marin City's Golden Gate Village deserves historic landmark status; Marin Independent Journal; 7/19/15

about stewardship of place. It's a community that is a good neighbor, always available to participate in programs and projects that teach all of us how to preserve, share, and enjoy the richness in nature.

Having witnessed the shared sense of place between housing and nature, it only makes sense that this special relationship and common history be recognized and preserved as a unique example of commitment to people and place. The residents of the community are proud of their heritage and strongly favor the designation. Therefore, we support the historic preservation of Golden Gate Village as a great and permanent part of the Golden Gate.

Sincerely,

Laura Chariton, Vice- Chair, Sierra Club Marin Group

CC: Marin County Supervisor Sears
U.S. Congressman Jared Huffman

Laure Charton

# OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100 SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100 (916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053 calshpo@parks.ca.gov www.ohp.parks.ca.gov





August 3, 2017

J. Paul Loether
Chief, National Register of Historic Places/National Historic Landmarks Program
Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C Street, NW

Subject: Marin City Public Housing

Marin County, California

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Washington D.C. 20240

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for MARIN CITY PUBLIC HOUSING to the National Register of Historic Places. On July 28, 2017 in San Rafael, California, the California State Historical Resources Commission unanimously found the property eligible for the National Register at the local level of significance under Criteria A and C with a period of significance 1955 to 1960.

Under Criterion A in the areas of Social History and Community Planning and Development, the district is significant as a product of post-WWII urban development in Northern California. Under Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, the property is significant for its association with three prominent mid-century designers: Architects John Carl Warnecke and Aaron G. Green, and Landscape Architect Lawrence Halprin.

The property is nominated by Royce McLemore as Executive Director of "Women Helping All People" in support of the Golden Gate Village Resident Council, and the nomination was prepared by a third party. Nineteen letters of support have been received to date. The public agency property owner initially commented on the nomination, followed by a notarized letter of objection submitted at the State Historical Resources Commission hearing. If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please contact Amy Crain of my staff at (916) 445-7009.

Sincerely,

Jenan Saunders

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure





September 6, 2017

Edson Beall, Keeper of the National Register National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240 edson\_beall@nps.gov

Re: Application for Golden Gate Village, Marin City Public Housing 101-429 Drake Ave, 1-99 Cole Dr. Marin City SG100001604

Dear Mr. Beall,

The Sierra Club Marin Group is submitting this letter in support of the nomination of historically important Golden Gate Village (GGV) in Marin City, CA to the National Historic Registry.

Marin City's culturally significant Golden Gate Village public housing complex was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright protégé Aaron Green and had the involvement of American landscape architect Lawrence Halprin and architect John Carl Warnecke. Built 56 years ago, this 296-unit housing complex is a fine example of combining needed low-cost public housing with an environmentally sensitive design.

GGV abuts the Headland Trails of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). The intersection between homes, open space, and park forms a natural seamless progression. For that reason, the walking and care taking of trails in GGNRA has always been a part of day-to-day life in the Village which is exactly the type of behavior and local recreational opportunities that Sierra Club works to foster.

GGV is truly a unique, but also characteristic, Marin County community. It remains the sole African American community in the county. It's a place where families grow up learning valuable lessons

Prado, Mark; Report: Marin City's Golden Gate Village deserves historic landmark status; Marin Independent Journal; 7/19/15

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "The redevelopment project was to provide adequate housing for the largely black population that was left marginalized after working during the World War II effort to build Liberty ships at Marinship in Sausalito. After the war ended white workers were free to migrate and live where they pleased in Marin, but covenants kept blacks from moving to other parts of the county."

about stewardship of place. It's a community that is a good neighbor, always available to participate in programs and projects that teach all of us how to preserve, share, and enjoy the richness in nature.

Having witnessed the shared sense of place between housing and nature, it only makes sense that this special relationship and common history be recognized and preserved as a unique example of commitment to people and place. The residents of the community are proud of their heritage and strongly favor the designation. Therefore, we support the historic preservation of Golden Gate Village as a great and permanent part of the Golden Gate.

Sincerely,

Laura Chariton, Vice- Chair, Sierra Club Marin Group

CC: Marin County Supervisor Sears
U.S. Congressman Jared Huffman

Danne Chareton

September 15, 2017

Paul Loether, National Register Chief Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Via e-mail (paul loether@nps.gov)

Owner Response to National Register of Historic Places Nomination

for Marin City Public Housing

Dear Mr. Loether:

I am writing to you regarding the National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public Housing (the "Nomination"). As you know the Marin Housing Authority ("MHA"), as the owner and operator of the Golden Gate Village ("GGV") public housing development, initially objected to the Nomination as it was prepared.

MHA agrees with the State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC) that GGV has historic significance. However, as we expressed during the SHRC hearing, we believe the Nomination lacked important information about GGV, and we are concerned that the Nomination took a very broad based approach in recommending that the entire GGV property be designated despite information indicating that some features may not be considered contributing structures. This notwithstanding, we want to emphasize that we see the Office of Historic Preservation ("OHP") as one of our partners in planning for the improvement of GGV. It is our intention to engage with OHP and other stakeholders on any future improvement plans. In the spirit of that partnership, we do not intend to appeal the Nomination. We agree that there are historically significant elements of our current campus. Because of this we are committed to redeveloping the property in a manner that respects the historical aspects of the property and provides safe and sustainable low income housing to our residents. We intend to engage in the Section 106 process to address these issues as part of our future revitalization efforts for the site.

MHA's charter and funding is to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing for low and moderate income people. GGV residents, the Marin community, the federal government, and Marin County rely on MHA to provide and maintain critical housing resources like GGV for the families of Marin. In furtherance of this, MHA is conducting a financial analysis to determine the most feasible and viable approach to revitalizing GGV. This financial analysis was prompted by MHA's significant capital needs (approximately \$60,000,000) and insufficient funding from HUD to address these needs (approximately \$500,000 per year for 6 properties, including GGV). As part of this analysis, MHA has already been, and will continue to conduct this evaluation with GGV as a historic resource.

Unfortunately, over the past few decades public housing has not been funded by the federal government as it once was, and the GGV community deserves

Housing Authority of the County of Marin

415/491-2525

(FAX) 415/472-2186 (TDD) 1-800-735-2929

www.marinhousing.org



4020 Cívic Center Drive San Rafael, CA 94903-4173

> Executive Director Lewis A. Jordan



### Fwd: Golden Gate Village - Nomination to National Historic Registry

Lusignan, Paul <paul\_lusignan@nps.gov>
To: Paul Lusignan <paul\_lusignan@nps.gov>

Mon, Sep 18, 2017 at 10:07 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Rhesa Jenkins <rhesa@frondebaliste.org>

Date: Sun, Sep 17, 2017 at 8:56 PM

Subject: Golden Gate Village - Nomination to National Historic Registry

To: edson\_beall@nps.gov

#### NOTE:

Trying to get under the wire to have my letter on record in support of the nomination of Golden Gate Village to the National Historic Registry

Marin City Public Housing 101-429 Drake Ave., 1-99 Cole Dr. Marin City, SG100001604

A passage in a recent Saving Places Blog post got me to finally sit down and write a letter of support for the nomination of Golden Gate Village (GGV) to the National Historic Registry. It is my labor day celebration. It is fitting that this letter supporting recognition of a place built as home to a special time and a special class of American workforce, be written on a day that commemorates the worker.

The passage that motivated my writing is also about holding a place for people whose lives give it definition...

"Social justice is key to ensuring that preservation centers people. It invites the preservation movement to critically analyze its role in ensuring that the basic needs of struggling communities, particularly those with deeply divided histories, are met. It positions the preservationist in a lifelong process of speaking truth to power and advocating for marginalized groups during their most trying moments."

Residents of GGV have made a great case inside and outside the margins of criteria that qualify the property for recognition. I am writing to advocate for the connection of people to place as an essential part of its historic significance.

I met the leadership of the Resident Council inside the strange and special occurrence of coincidence that somehow seems to happen in the haze of mourning the passing of a loved one. Sometimes its the birth of a child, life ending and beginning, or as in this case, the opportunity to act on what was intended and build into what's possible.

My brother, a well known jazz musician and longtime resident of Marin County, passed unexpectedly. At the time of his passing we were working to put structure around the many points of contact he created in building a business to serve the local Marin music community. He was most excited about a collaboration with the county to bring performance based jazz and classical history workshops to Marin City schools. In acting on what he intended, I decided to donate his studio piano, a baby grand, to one of the schools he chose for the classes. With all the right intention, I tried to contact the school my brother had decided to work with but was having trouble finding the right school and right person.

The coincidence in this case was a chance meeting of an old friend at a FedEx copy center while I was signing papers to store my brother's instruments and music. I had not seen her in 20 years and it just so happened she was in the process of moving to Golden Gate Village and knew the people who could accept the baby grand as donation. She offered to help me make good on my brother's intention, more than that, what she asked for in return, became the path to build into the possible.

I am a strategist by trade, having worked to build the possible across a range of scales from for the richest and largest corporations, to the much more satisfying work to bolster and bootstrap the soulful and passionate small social enterprises working on street corners and on small farms. But the possibility,

the opportunity, the privilege, to aid in building a path to a deserved future for the people and place of Golden Gate Village... ...well I never conceived what adventure and lesson it would become.

In exchange for helping me, my friend told me about Golden Gate Village Resident Council and their plan for Historic Preservation and asked if I could help. What I have learned from the people, and about this place, has been more gift to me than favor for a friend. Their story, their imagination, their path to the possible is at the same time unique and traditional. Their path is thread that is the very essence of the fabric of the story of a country.

Residents of GGV, in pursuing preservation and revitalization, are putting back together their piece of the quilt of dreams that makes this America a United States. If GGV is lost to history as a place, threads that run through so many generations may permanently disconnect from a foundation of striving and promise of recapturing a bright future. This missed opportunity would cut threads that not only impact the striving of GGV but would set a tone across a diaspora of efforts to reclaim and revitalize place and heritage.

Given the detail, care, and planning in this effort, I trust there is no need to worry.

Thank you for the opportunity to get on record for this piece of history,

Sincerely

rhesa j

rhesa jenkins executive fellow strategy & planning rhesa@frondebaliste.org | office 415-839-9409 skype fronde.baliste (contacts only)

"Above all, innovation is not invention. It is a term of economics rather than technology" Peter Drucker





Royce McLemore, President 79 Cole Drive #4 Marin City, CA 94965

Edson Beall, Keeper National Register of Historic Places, MS 7228 1849 C Street NW Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Beall:

My name is Royce McLemore and I am the President of the Golden Gate Village Resident Council. I humbly submit to you the petitions signed by the residents of GGV, who support Marin City Public housing - SG100001604 to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

It has been an honor to work on this very special project for the Marin City community - my community.

Sincerely,

Royce McLemore President

We, the residents of GOLDEN GATE VILLAGE IN MARIN CITY petition the Marin Housing Authority Commission, the Marin County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to preserve Golden Gate Village as a "Historic Neighborhood" in Marin City. We do not want to destroy the beauty and open space of our land; or erase our legacy and history of "place."

The Golden Gate Village Resident Council's plan:

"To do the deferred maintenance but not a "one" time fix, but create a path of growth of a local economy with shared opportunity of wealth for our residents."

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2	Print Name PASHA GREENE	Address (Street and # 115. DRAKE And.
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3.	Print Name Guada lupe Bettran	Address (Street and # 121 Prake Ave.
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4.	Print Name Kimberley Robinson	Address (Street and #) 129 Drake AVE
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1.	Signature Concluda Subbaluca	city 125 Drake the
2.	Signature STRALIN CONTRA	Address (Street and # 113 Prake Ave City
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X	Print Name Rocio Rovog Signature Rocio Dodoo	Address (Street and #) 168 Drake Ave City
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Print Name Jeloned N. Claner	Address (Street and #) 305 Drake aye
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1.	Signature Glantte adams	City Marin Cory 94965
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2.	Signature Suara Oliva	city Cob Cole Dr. Marin City CA 94965
	Print Name Daniele Hoff	Address (Street and # 70 cole D/
. 3.	Signature M. I.M.	City M.C.
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5.	Signature Anne J. Small	city Cole 74
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8.	Print Name Elaw Water Signature Elaw Water	city MARINCITY 94965
Y	Print Name I Sea r (Wester) Signature 415-332-2405	Address (Street and #)
9.	Signature 415-552-2403	City •

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"To do the deferred maintenance but not a "one" time fix, but create a path of growth of a local economy with shared opportunity of wealth for our residents."

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1.	Signature Delta Jama	city marin City ca: 94905
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ĐƠN XIN THE GOLDEN GATE VILLAGE RESIDENT HỘI ĐỔNG NHÂN (GGVRC) KÉ HOẠCH BÀO QUẨN TÀI SẮN, DEFFERRED BẢO TRÌ VÀ CƯ SỞ HỮU

Chúng tôi, các cư dân của GOLDEN GATE VILLAGE IN MARIN CITY kiến nghị của Ủy ban Authority Marin Housing, Ban Marin County kiểm soát và Bộ Nhà ở và Phát triển đô thị để bảo tồn Golden Gate Village là một "Vùng lân cận lịch sử" trong Marin City. Chúng tôi không muốn phá hủy vẻ đẹp và không gian mở của đất nước chúng ta; hoặc xóa di sản và lịch sử của chúng tôi "diễn ra."

Kế hoạch Golden Gate Village Hội đồng nhân cư trú:

Chúng tội sẽ không được di chuyển!

"Để làm được việc duy trì thu nhập hoãn lại nhưng không phải là" một "sửa chữa thời gian, nhưng lại tạo ra một con đường tăng trưởng của một nền kinh tế địa phương với cơ hội chia sẽ của cải cho người dân của chúng tôi."

	Chung tot se kin	ong dược di chuyen!
	Print Name GRAU TRAN	Address (Street and #)
1.	Signature Thomas	city 419 Draka are # 18 motion city ca 94965
2.	Print Name TUAN NONG Signature	Address (Street and # 419 Drake Ave # 14 City Marin Gty CA 94965
3.	Print Name NHO TRAN Signature Nho	City MARIN CITY CASH965
4.	Print Name TRAD THM Signature	Address (Street and #)  City Sausalito (A 9996)  Address (Street and #)  Address (Street and #)  Address (Street and #)
5.	Print Name MINH NINYEN Signature	City Co
6.	Print Name Curthia Gource Signature Curthia Church	City Mann CLA CL 94965
7.	Signature Madeline Varnedol	City M Zun ent Cz quali
8.	Signature Sheela Goldon	Address (Street and # City Sq ColeDe Apr 18
9.	Print Name Signature	Address (Street and #) * City

# PETICIÓN DE LA PUERTA DE ORO DE PUEBLO RESIDENTE DEL CONSEJO (GGVRC) PLAN PARA LA PRESERVACIÓN DE LA PROPIEDAD, DEFFERRED MANTENIMIENTO Y PROPIEDAD RESIDENTE

NOSOTROS, los residentes de PUERTA DE ORO DE PUEBLO EN MARIN petición CIUDAD la Comisión Autoridad Marin Vivienda, la Junta del Condado de Marin de Supervisores y el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de preservar Golden Gate pueblo como Junta del Condado de Marin de Supervisores y el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de preservar Golden Gate pueblo como Junta del Condado de Marin de Supervisores y el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de preservar Golden Gate pueblo como Junta del Condado de Marin de Supervisores y el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de preservar Golden Gate pueblo como Junta del Condado de Marin de Supervisores y el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de preservar Golden Gate pueblo como Junta del Condado de Marin de Supervisores y el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de preservar Golden Gate pueblo como Junta del Condado de Marin de Supervisores y el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de preservar Golden Gate pueblo como Junta del Condado de Marin. No queremos destruir la belleza y el espacio abierto de nuestra tierra; o borrar nuestro legado y la historia de "lugar".

El plan de la aldea del Consejo de Residentes Golden Gate:

"Para hacer el mantenimiento diferido, pero no un" uno "fix tiempo, pero crear un sendero de crecimiento de una economía local con la oportunidad compartida de riqueza para nuestros residentes."

No vamos a mudamos!

	No vamo	os a mudamos!
I.	Print Name Signature	Address (Street and #) 79 (Ule Dr.#2 City MAKIN City, CA. 949CES
2.	Print Name Saprina Wallace Signature	Address (Street and # 79 Cole Dr. # 9 City Marin City CA 94965
3.	Print Name Signature	Address (Street and #  City
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9.	Print Name Signature	Address (Street and #) City

We, the residents of GOLDEN GATE VILLAGE IN MARIN CITY petition the Marin Housing Authority Commission, the Marin County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to preserve Golden Gate Village as a "Historic Neighborhood" in Marin City. We do not want to destroy the beauty and open space of our land; or erase our legacy and history of "place."

#### The Golden Gate Village Resident Council's plan:

"To do the deferred maintenance but not a "one" time fix, but create a path of growth of a local economy with shared opportunity of wealth for our residents."

	Print Name Joe Jackson	Address (Street and #) 409 Orace ave #/1
1.	Signature OB	City Saugalito 94905
2.	Print Name Routal Brown Signature Device Brown	Address (Street and # 409 Drake Ave Fry City Sausa (ito 94965
3.	Print Name Robert L. H. M. Signature Polat AHILL	Address (Street and #
4.	Signature Mile Semen 45 MC.	Address (Street and #) City
5.	Signature Rychol Thomas	Address (Street and #)  City Marin Ctty  Address (Street and #)
6.	Signature Melum Judson	Address (Street and #9 # 3 City Marry City CA.
7.	Print Name Sharor Breary Signature Sharor Farell Breary	Address (Street and #) 789 COLD DAVE #3  City Marin City CA
8.	Print Name (Signature	Address (Street and #
9.	Print Name Signature	Address (Street and #) City

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	Print Name J GRUMED 1 CARNEY	Address (Street and #) / 85 DRAKE AVE
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2.	Print Name Jacky Struger	City Mar Car 911945
	Print Name Jawy Sampler	Address (Street and # 1/3 Orchestes 2425
3.	Signature Larry Starple	City Works City
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1 2 3	Print Name Chana Williams	Address (Street and #)
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017.	Signature ( Debug De Line)	ciry 1.75 Drak AUC
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"To do the deferred maintenance but not a "one" time fix, but create a path of growth of a local economy with shared opportunity of for our residents."  We will not be moved!	
/ Print Name	We will not be moved!  Address (Street and #)
Signature Print Name KYLAR BRYAN	Address (Street and # 400 house and + 400
Signature Kylan Bryan	Address (Street and # 409 Drake ove #18 City Marin City. Ca. 94965
Print Name acongia of Conjuer	Address (Street and # City
Print Name Public Thompson Signature Public Thompson	City Mann City A GYGUS
Print Name Madeline Varnedoe Signature Maseline Lange	City Marin City CA, 94965
Print Name Roelne Brown Signature	City Marin City CA 94965
Print Name Signature Roder Battle	Address (Street and #)
Print Name MCC/CE 12Wis Signature	Address (Street and #12 419 Drake  CityMarin city
Print Name SAM LEWIS Signature Lam Lewis	City MAriN City

We, the residents of GOLDEN GATE VILLAGE IN MARIN CITY petition the Marin Housing Authority Commission, the Marin County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to preserve Golden Gate Village as a "Historic Neighborhood" in Marin City. We do not want to destroy the beauty and open space of our land; or erase our legacy and history of "place."

The Golden Gate Village Resident Council's plan:

"To do the deferred maintenance but not a "one" time fix, but create a path of growth of a local economy with shared opportunity of wealth for our residents."

	Print Name LOWY Aclams	Address (Street and #) -19 COLE DL 1=1
1.	Signature Loury aclamic	city Maun Ctry, CA GLABE
2,	Print Name FRANCISCA ROMERO Signature June Romero	Address (Street and # 99 COLE DR #7  City MARIN CITY, GA 94965
3,	Signature medella U(800	Address (Street and # 409 Date are got # 18 City Marin City CA 94945
4.	Signature Shannan Word	City Marineity (A. 961965
5,	Print Name Dana Perez Signature Dana Perez	City Marin City, Ca. 94365
6.	Signature Chert Very Signature	Address (Street and #)  City Napin Cifey C.A. 94804
7.	Signature Museu MMA	Address (Street and #) City Cold pr. (4  Name ) Cold 10  Name 10
8,	Signature Lew u. Shu Burn	City Su Cole Dr Hill City Su C
9.	Print Name A Stu W, vm Signature	Address (Street and #) City 59 Cole # 10

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1.	Print Name Shannon Burnes Signature Shannon Burnes	Address (Street and #)  City
2.	Print Name Shalreta Boyd Signature Chaluta Rayd	Address (Street and # 49 Core DV. ADITH
3.	Signature Essent Spacett	Address (Street and # 59 Colle Apt 12) City
4.	Signature Shanekka Doncan	Address (Street and #) 19 City Marin City
5.	Signature MD 1/4	Address (Street and #) 69 (ole D. #15  City Sauschifo, Cif 94967
6.	Print Name Signature Eva Half	Address (Street and #) G G C E # 18
7.	Print Name Signature M & W & Court	Address (Street and #)  City 1 1 2 6 A C + 1 C +
X	Print Name Manique Rovers	Address (Street and # a a core Pa, #19) City Sausa (Ho, A 94965 Address (Street and #) 99 Con 20 #17
9.	Print Name Willette Williams Signature Willette Williams	Address (Street and #) 99 Com 2n # 17

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1	V	Print Name UN ESha Lynn	Address (Street and #) 79 cole Drive #20
-	V	Print Name	City Marin City CA 94960
	2.	Signature Lillie Richardson	Address (Street and # 79 Cale For #16  City Marin City Calif 94965
1	2	Print Name Jonesna Hepppstead	Address (Street and # 79 cole dv #12
	3.	Signature musher length	city man'n city ca 94945
	4.	Print Name Both RT 15les	Address (Street, and #) 79 Cole 10 3 FF13
	7.	Signature	City Marzin Giter
	/	Print Name Michelle Tuesbe	Address (Street and #) 49 Cole Dr # M
	1	Signature Muhelle Deve	City Marin City CA 94965
1	-	Print Name AND IE L. WI/SON	Address (Street and #) 69 Colo Dr#1
	6.	Signature annie D. Wilson	City Marix Elyca 94465
1	Lo	Print Name Mary Mitchell Jones	Address (Street and #) 89 Cole Dr. # 17
	1.	Signature MA	city Marin City CA 94965
	100	Print Name Mongue Rover	Address (Street and #99 Cold Derve #19
2	1	Signature M. Rovel	city Marin City (A94963
1	V	Print Name 150 00 WILLIAMS	Address (Street and #) 99 COLC DIC -# 14
	1	Signature	City MARIN CAD, Con 94961

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	Print Name CERUNB DENVICE	Address (Street and #)
1.	Signature ENUMB	city be Polity of as in CF, Cd
	Print Name South Cui	
2.	Signature	City 68 Cole D. Caty Ca
	Print Name Damy Alm Took	Address (Street and # 69 Cdo //r E/8
3.	Signature	city Marin Coly Ca 94905
	Print Name	Address (Street and #)
4.	Signature Level a Lawson	City 79 Cole DV. # 14
	Print Name Devoker & SMUSES	Address (Street and #)
5.	Signature Ventation Shows	City
	Print Name	Address (Street and #) 389 Druhe Ane
6.	Signature Demotrius McClintun	City
	Print Name	Address (Street and #) 395 Franke brue
7.	Signature White A	City
	Print Name	Address (Street and # 303 Drake Ave
8.	Signature Vanea Aymstrad	City
	Print Name	Address (Street and #)
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1.	Print Name Roberta Battle Signature RBattle	Address (Street and #) 243 Drate Ave
	Print.Name ElizaBETH TROUPE	City Sausalito CA: 94965  Address (Street and # 275 DRAKE AUE
2.	Signature EDACHON LA I FORMS	City Spright Ith an 3 9210/5
3.	Signature Signature	City Sours colleto CA 94965
4.	Signature Chris Blube more	Address (Street and #) 283 Dake que City Merry City 94966
5.	Print Name Senire Daly Signature	City Marin Cety 94965
6.	Signature Shaketa Carok	City MARIN LIFY 94965
7.	Signature Tova N. Duffin	City Camalito Ca-94965
8.	Print Name Signature  Print Name  100 100 100	Address (Street and # 25) Drahe
9.	Print Name Sephanie 7. Signature Sephanie 7.	City Maria City, A 94945

## PETICIÓN DE LA PUERTA DE ORO DE PUEBLO RESIDENTE DEL CONSEJO (GGVRC) PLAN PARA LA PRESERVACIÓN DE LA PROPIEDAD, DEFFERRED MANTENIMIENTO Y PROPIEDAD RESIDENTE

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No vamos a mudamos! Address (Street and & 94965 2. Signature Print Name 3. Signature Print Name Fernande Z 4. Signature Print Nante Address (Street and #) 5. Signature City Print Name Address (Street and #) 6. Signature City Address (Street and #) Print Name Signature City Print Name Address (Street and # 8. Signature City Address (Street and #) Print Name 9. Signature City

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1.	Print Name DON Oh W. E. A. HUNS Signature Donshu E. Butking Print Name DUANN, CHRISTOPHER Signature DON OH W. E. A. HUNG Signature DUANN, CHRISTOPHER	Cito Causaldo CA. 94965
2.	Print Name DUANN, CHRISTOPHER Signature	Address (Street and # 25 1 Prake erve  City Sansallo CA 94965
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	Print Name Wilma Masps	Address (Street and #) 221 Dunke Due
.1.	Signature Allean	City Marin, City, Ca 94965
2.	Print Name Parolina Belvah Signature Carolina Belvah	Address (Street and #/73 dia ke ave
3.	Print Name JERENE D. CARNET Signature D. CARNET	Marin City CA 94965  Address (Street and # 185 DRAKE AUE  City Marin City CA. 94965
4.	Signature Borold Willes	Address (Street and #) 165 DrAISE AVE City MARIN CITY 94965
5.	Print Name SHAYLA DAVIS Signature	City MARIN CTY CA
X	Print Name Borbora Lod Signature BARBABA LORP	Address (Street and #) 233 Drake Ave City
7.	Signature De tun Carpu	City MARIN C. Ty CA
8.	Print Name Signature	Address (Street and # 109 Druke Are Marin City Of, City Clan Marlor
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105	Print Name Glennetta (Cocas	Address (Street and #) 387 Drake Ave
1.	Signature alunt L	city Marin City CA
	Fillit Ivaine	Address (Street and # City 79 Col Fun 16
2.	Signature L'Illi Richardson	City 79 Col Tur 16
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1.	Print Name +elera GASOV	Address (Street and #) 271 DIAli Aul
1.	Signature Jul /	City MAIN CX CA 94945
2.	Print Name	Address (Street and # 1198111 C #4
	Signature CHristal Miller	City 8 COPE CO.
3.	Print Name Women Helping all People	Address (Street and # 79 Cale Das 4
-	Print Name Suga II NAME RIENCARDON	Address (Street and #) (A (A   P N C # R)
4.	Signature CIA + A	city Mario Ai
-	Print Name Kahaya adams	Address (Street and #) 20 051 0 02
5.	Signature Balance	City marin City, CA 94965
-	Print Name Danian Wargan	Address (Street and #) 79 Coless. #21
6.	Signature Om Ma	city Marin City CA.
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1/	Print Name Ebonique Cendolo	Address (Street and #)  171 Drake #
A	Signature Estatole f	honet
1	Print Name AS Niver Powell	Address (Street and # US COLC Drove # 19"
2.	Signature Ashley Powell	honeth Address (Street and # 49 cole Drove # 19) honeth (415) 532-4674 Address (Street and # 49 cole Dr. #18
Town I	Print Name Domine Ronry	Address (Street and # 49 Cole Dr. \$18
3.	Signature Dennie h-	Address (Street and #) 49 (010) Dr #17
	Print Name Thea LOUIS	Address (Street and # 49 Cole Dr #17
4./	Signature Olm 2000	205 VIOCU- 47 98
X	Print Name YOUN NOW	
1)	Signature from the Wigney	Address (Street and #) 257 Drake Aug
V	Print Name Natalie Brosmheld	Address (Street and #) 257 Drake Aug
1	Signature 11 Atal A Phase Control	00000e#(415)261-0832
7	Print Name Pauline moore Signature	Address (Street and #) 1 Cole .
7.	Wante Charotte	Address (Street and # 49 Call Dat 3
		Address (Street and # 49 Call Datis
8.	Signature Kanilch Sulb	000 ne# 95-301-96
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1/	Print Name LATherine Buguia	Address (Street and #) 205 Challe Buenue
X	Signature La Merice Buaria	City Mainfily, Ca. 94966
11	Print Name Herbert Wade Ip	Address (Street and # Call ()
2.	Signature Herbert Werd	City main city CH 94965
	Print Name Terry Thompson	Address (Street and # 89 cole Dr Apt #1
3.	Signature Dem Domoson	City Marin City CA. 94965
	Print Name June Farmer	Address (Street and #) 203 Drake Ade
4.	Signature Auce Furnier	City Marin CHr 94965
	Print Name Terme Daniels	Address (Street and #) 409 Drake Ave
5.	Signature Januas	city mann CITY, CA. 94965
	Print Name TINA CULLER	Address (Street and #) 50 Cole Delve
6.	Signature Tunal Edition	city maken City, CA-94965
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No vamos a mudamos! Address (Street and #) Print Name 1. Signature Address (Street and # Print Name 2. Signature City Print Name Address (Street and # 3. Signature Print Name Address (Street and #) 4. Signature Print Name Address (Street and #) 5. Signature City Address (Street and #) Print Name 6. Signature Address (Street and #) Print Name 7. Signature City Print Name Address (Street and # 8. Signature City Print Name Address (Street and #) 9. Signature

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1	Print Name	Address (Street and #)
op.	Signature Erra Valazacez	city 211 Drake Ave
2.	Print Name Donald Wicciaws	Address (Street and # 165 DIAKE INVE
-2.	Signature Derull Willey	City MARINCITY 94965
	Print Name U Q + HAR S	Address (Street and # 2) Country of the
3.	Signature Sheet States	City Thain Cely, Ca 94965
_	Print Name DECELERIS IF MAS	Address (Street and #) 3 NUS 10 B
4.	Signature DELPhene, thunfan-	City Marin City, (1a (9496)
	Print Name Berboroe Lord 94965	Address (Street and #)
5.	Signature 233 Prope all 3	City
	Print Name LAMerine Buguia	Address (Street and #). 205 Drafe Rive
6.	Signature Patherine Buquia	City Marin Gity, CA, 94965
K:	Print Name Shalaunda Flamings	Address (Street and #Y 2DV DRAKE AVE
61 7.	Signature Carll III	City UMarin 1A 949105
_	Print Name Debra Johnson	Address (Street and # 285 Drak & AUE
8.	Signature Defree John	City Morin Oity CA. 94963
of	Print Name M Pohelle 2-16	Address (Street and #)
9.	Signature Days	City 45 Maria city CA 99965.

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	Print Name De Continue 10	Address (Street and #)
1.	Signature Dobok Stool	City meeta & by
	Print Name LAWANA COOK	Address (Street and # 69 Cole dr #14
2.	Signature Salediere Cock	MARIN CITY CA 98965
8	Print Name La Shaunda M. Spanier	Address (Street and # 69 cole Dr + 15
3.	Signature M. Dall XIII	City Marin City, CA 94965
1. 1	Print Name Shownfrese Dichardson	Address (Street and #) 69 COTE BY # 18
4.	Signature & Showntrede Richardson	city Marin City CA 94965
	Print Name Chepic Veryints	Address (Street and #)
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	Print Name Katween Co The Control	Address (Street and #) 69 6 R DV # 10
6.	Signature Alux	city Marin Otes Co 94965
'I.E.I	Print Name Krysteina Bril.	Address (Street and #) Left Cole Dr # 19
7.	Signature Work	city marin city ca 94965
	Print Name JAMES MIC DOOR 10	Address (Street and # 343 DTALE AVE
8.	Signature James OMC Oonal)	City MUTICITU
(3.1	Print Name GERALD STAYLOR	Address (Street and #)
9.	Signature Serald S. Tarrler	City YOUR IN OTHER 94915
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-	Print Name Royce M Gemore	Address (Street and #) 345 Drake Auc
1.	Signature Rayce & Lemone	City M.C.
2.	Print Name Signature	Address (Street and #419 Brake Aul City W.C. #7
3.	Print Name Orang Cvayord	Address (Street and # 419 Dahu Ale # 21 City Manin a Ly CA 94965
4.	Print Name Archallwood and Signature	City City
5.	Print Name McClee le W 15 Signature om clu luc	Address (Street and #)  City Markin Citle Barke ## 12  Address (Street and #)
6.	Signature Share	
.7.	Print Name Shirley Willis Signature Shirley Willis	Address (Street and #) rake Ave #4  City Mdvin City Ca 94965
8.	Print Name Shart Willer Signature has willer	City Marin City, Ca 94965  Address (Street and # 409 Drake are apt #9  City Marin City CA 94965
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	Print Name SAME = ElWasco Melly	Address (Street and #) 409 DD AKE Day 13
1.	Signature Owner mehr	City Marincit
2,	Print Name Cherelle Hebert Signature Manual Flight	City 409 Drake Avenue Ay1# (9
3.	Print Name MECHAEL PERKINS Signature Muciocolfuction	Address (Street and # 39 COLE DR. #7  City MARIN City
4.	Print Name Angeligne Thomas Signature Penslique Thomas	Address (Street and #) 59 cole drive apt 17 City Marin City Ca. 94965
5.	Print Name Oct All Tollar Signature Marie tollar	Address (Street and #) City Streen City Ca 74965
6.	Print Narve La Dana Grissen Signature All Security	City Mann Ctui, a 94965
7.	Print Name Signature	City T MA-: N City CA, 99965
8.	Print Name  AMES ENDERSON  Signature	Address (Street and # 409 DRAKSE # 7 City MARIN
9.	Print Name KYLAR BRYAKI Signature Kufan Buyan	Address (Street and #) 409 DRAKE AVE- #18 City Marin City - CA. 94965

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1	Signature Cornelius Hoover	Address (Street and #) 44 cole drive City Marin City
2.	Signature Signature Signature	Address (Street and # 69 Cole DR.#5- City MARIN City, CAlif 94965
3.	Signature MARIA FOURShey	City MARIN City, CALIF 94965  Address (Street and #69 Cole DR. #1  City MARIN City, CALIFORNIA 94965
4.	Signature Carlle Callowy	Address (Street and #) 69 Cole Apt 9 City MCIRIN CITY 94965
5.	Signature Charles Henry	Address (Street apd, #) Color # 494965
6.	Print Name Vatalie Mortenson () Signature note:	Address (Street and #) City Mourin City Ca 94965
A	Print Name in the later of the Signature Author burger	Address (Street and #) 69. Cole Drive#17  City Mour in City CA 94965
X	Signature Kathleen Kothote Signature	City MARIN City, CA 940
-9,	Signature Daleit Oleen	Address (Street and #) 89 COLE Dr. # 14 City maren cuter, A. 929125

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		/
1.	Signature Raren Ashby Signature Rien Blady	Address (Street and #) 49 Cole dr # 2 Marin City
2,	Signature DANIEW TRANMEZE	Address (Street and # 49 Cole Dr # 1 MUMIN CAY WO Net (415) 259-8930 Ca 94905
3.	Print Name MONICIA White Signature Man 2 What	Address (Street and # 49 Wt DV # 4  No NOTE: 415-261-0526
4.	Signature Joyce DERO SALS	Address (Street and #) 49 col pr. #9
5.	Print Name Signature	Address (Street and #)  Henest W9 Gle DX #10
6.	Signature Lestres Coleman	Address (Street and #) # 12 U4966  Address (Street and #) 49 COIP # 3
7.	Print Name ('exella Hampton Signature ( ) LUV + 1	Maddress (Street and #) 49 COIP #13
8.	Print Name Signature	Address Street and #
9.	Signature Matrono Jorgo	Address (Street and #) 49 COK THEO  Sites Ne IF (510)472-4047

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2.	Print Name Signature	Address (Street and # 0
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PETITION FOR THE GOLDEN GATE VILLAGE RESIDENT COUNCIL'S (GGVRC) PLAN FOR PRESERVATION OF PRODUCTION OF PRODUCTION

We, the residents of GOLDEN GATE VILLAGE IN MARIN CITY petition the Marin Housing Authority Commission, the Marin County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to preserve Golden Gate Village as a "Historic Neighborhood" in Marin City. We do not want to destroy the beauty and open space of our land; or erase our legacy and history of "place."

The Golden Gate Village Resident Council's plan:

"To do the deferred maintenance but not a "one" time fix, but create a path of growth of a local economy with shared opportunity of wealth for our residents."

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	Print Name Demeshia Harris	Address (Street and #) Opg Coll # 6
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# PETICIÓN DE LA PUERTA DE ORO DE PUEBLO RESIDENTE DEL CONSEJO (GGVRC) PLAN PARA LA PRESERVACIÓN DE LA PROPIEDAD, DEFFERRED MANTENIMIENTO Y PROPIEDAD RESIDENTE

Nosotros, los residentes de PUERTA DE ORO DE PUEBLO EN MARIN petición CIUDAD la Comisión Autoridad Marin Vivienda, la Junta del Condado de Marin de Supervisores y el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de preservar Golden Gate pueblo como "Barrio Histórico", en la ciudad de Marin. No queremos destruir la belleza y el espacio abierto de nuestra tierra; o borrar nuestro legado y la historia de "lugar".

### El plan de la aldea del Consejo de Residentes Golden Gate:

"Para hacer el mantenimiento diferido, pero no un" uno "fix tiempo, pero crear un sendero de crecimiento de una economía local con la oportunidad compartida de riqueza para nuestros residentes."

No vamos a mudamos!

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We will not be moved!

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October 10, 2017

Via E-mail (julianne.polanco@parks.ca.gov)

Julianne Polanco State Historic Preservation Officer California Office of Historic Preservation 1725 23rd Street, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95813



4020 Civic Center Drive San Rafael, CA 94903-4173

> Executive Director Lewis A. Jordan

Re: Notification Concerning Marin City Public Housing Listing in the National Register of Historic Places

Dear Ms. Polanco:

We have received your letter dated September 26, 2017 notifying the Marin Housing Authority that the Marin City Public Housing site was placed on the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) and on the California Register of Historical Resources on September 18, 2017.

The purpose of this letter is to remind you that Marin Housing Authority submitted the enclosed, notarized letter to your attention on July 27, 2017 formally objecting to the proposed listing of the Marin City Public Housing site on the National Register. We understand that, although the site may be eligible for listing, the registered objection precludes the Keeper and the Office of Historic Resources from formally listing Marin City Public Housing on the National Register as a listed resource. Contrary to the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act, your September 26<sup>th</sup> letter, however, did not indicate that the site was eligible for listing. This distinction is important as Marin Housing Authority continues to analyze the condition of the property. Please confirm that the Marin City Public Housing site has only been determined eligible for listing at this time.

We remain interested in working collaboratively with your office, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely

Lewis Jordan

Enclosure

cc: Edson Beall, National Park Service

Paul Loether, Keeper of the National Register Paul Lusignan, California Representative Housing Authority of the County of Marin

415/491-2525

(FAX) 415/472-2186 (TDD) 1-800-735-2929

www.marinhousing.org

July 27, 2017



4020 Civic Center Drive San Rafael, CA 94903-4173

> Executive Director Lewis A. Jordan

Via E-mail (julianne.polanco@parks.ca.gov)

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
California Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95813

Re: Owner Response to National Register of Historic Places Nomination for Marin City Public

Housing

Dear Ms. Polanco:

Thank you for our call yesterday morning. In light of the information you shared with us about your process and your office's position regarding the proposed Nomination for Marin City Public Housing (the Nomination), the purpose of this letter is to advise you pursuant to your April 11, 2017 letter concerning the above-referenced Nomination, that the Marin Housing Authority respectfully opposes the Nomination at this time pending receipt of further information in support of the Nomination request.

As we proposed on our call, we are interested in working collaboratively with your office and the nominator in the near future to obtain the missing information that we believe is necessary to inform the Nomination package for the Commission and the public's review.

Lewis Jordan

Housing Authority of The County of Marin

415/491-2525

(FAX) 415/472-2186 (TDD) 1-800-735-2929

#### CALIFORNIA ALL-PURPOSE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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A notary public or other officer completing this certificate veri to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness	ifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document , accuracy, or validity of that document.
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MAHSA GHAFFARI GARAKANI* Commission # 2090827 Notary Public - California	I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.
Marin County My Comm. Expires Nov 21, 2018	WITNESS my hand and official seal.
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Place Notary Seal and/or Stamp Above	Signature of Notary Public
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	deter alteration of the document or form to an unintended document.
Description of Attached Document	
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Document Date: July 27, 2017	Number of Pages: ONE
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Signer(s) Other Than Named Above:	
Capacity(ies) Claimed by Signer(s)	
Signer's Name: Luis Joseph	Signer's Name: NIA
□ Corporate Officer – Title(s): □ Partner – □ Limited □ General	☐ Corporate Officer — Title(s):
Individual	□ Individual □ Attorney in Fact
☐ Trustee ☐ Guardian of Conservator	
Other:	Other:
Signer is Representing:	Signer is Representing:

### OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

1725 23<sup>80</sup> Street, Suite 100 SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100 (916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053 calshpo@parks.ca.gov



October 11, 2017

Mr. Lewis Jordan Executive Director Marin Housing Authority 4020 Civic Center Drive San Rafael, CA 94903-4173

RE: Marin City Public Housing National Register of Historic Places Listing

Dear Mr. Jordan:

Thank you for your letter of October 10, 2017 regarding the formal listing of Marin City Public Housing in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). The Office of Historic Preservation forwarded all documentation associated with the nomination, including Marin Housing Authority's notarized letter of objection, to the Keeper of the National Register.

Please be aware that only private property owner objection can result in a determination of eligibility to the National Register. Federal Law allows the Keeper of the National Register to formally list publically owned property, regardless of opposition. The Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60.6(n), states "If the owner of a private property or the majority of such owners for a district or single property with multiple owners have objected to the nomination prior to the submittal of a nomination, the State Historic Preservation Officer shall submit the nomination to the Keeper only for a determination of eligibility..." There is no provision in the regulations that prevents the Keeper from listing public property.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Julianne Polanco State Historic Preservation Officer