(Landmarks)

DESIGNATING ENGINE CO. NO. 8, TRUCK CO. NO. 4, AS A LANDMARK PURSUANT TO ARTICLE TO OF THE CITY PLANNING CODE.

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Be it Ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that Engine Co. No. 8. Truck Co. No. 4, located at 1648 Pacific Avenue, Lot 11 in Assessor's Block 574, has a special character and special historical, architectural and aesthetic interest and value, and that its designation as a landmark will further the purposes of, and conform to the standards set forth in Article 10 of the City Planning Code.

- (a) Designation. Pursuant to Section 1004 of the City Planning Code, Chapter 11, Part II, of the San Francisco Municipal Code, Engine Co. No. 8, Truck Co. No. 4, is hereby designated as a Landmark, this designation having been duly approved by Resolution No. 11212 of the City Planning Commission, which Resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors under File No. 10-87-11.
- (b) Required Data. The description of the location and boundaries of the Landmark site, of the characteristics of the Landmark which justify its designation, and of the particular features that should be preserved as included in the said Resolution, are incorporated in this designating ordinance as though fully set forth.

APPROVED AS TO FORM: LOUISE H. RENNE CITY ATTORNEY

RECOMMENDED: CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Director of Planning

Board of Supervisors, San Francisco

Passed for Second Reading

February 1, 1988

Ayes: Supervisors Gonzalez Heich Kennedy Maher Molinari Nelder Silver Walker Ward

Absent: Supervisors Britt Hongisto

Finally Passed

Pebruary 8, 1988

Ayes: Supervisors Gonzalez Hsieh Kennedy Nelder Silver Walker

Absent: Supervisors Britt Hongisto Maher Molinari Ward

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was finally passed by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisgo

FEB 1 8 1988

File No. 90-87-11

Date Approved

2/18/88

File No. 86.52RL 1648 Pacific Avenue

SAN FRANCISCO

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 11212

WHEREAS, A proposal to designate the Engine Co. #8, Truck Co. #4 as a Landmark pursuant to the provisions of Article 10 of the City Planning Code was initiated by the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board on October 7, 1987, and said Advisory Board, after due consideration, has recommended approval of this proposal; and

WHEREAS, The City Planning Commission, after due notice given, held a public hearing on November 19, 1987 to consider the proposed designation and the report of said Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, The Commission believes that the proposed Landmark has a special character and special historical, architectural and aesthetic interest and value; and that the proposed designation would be in furtherance of and in conformance with the purposes and standards of the said Article 10;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, First, the proposal to designate the aforementioned structure, Engine Co. #8, Truck Co. #4, as a Landmark pursuant to Article 10 of the City Planning Code is hereby APPROVED, the precise location and boundaries of the Landmark site being those of Lot 11 in Assessor's Block 574;

Second, That the special character and special historical, architectural and aesthetic interest and value of the said Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board Resolution 396 as adopted on October 7, 1987 which Resolution is incorporated herein and made a part thereof as though fully set forth;

Third, That the said Landmark should be preserved generally in all of its particular exterior features as existing on the date hereof and described and depicted in the photographs, case report and other material on file in the Department of City Planning Docket No. 86.52RL.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission hereby directs its Secretary to transit the proposal for designation, with a copy of this Resolution, to the Board of Supervisors for appropriate action.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED by the City Planning Commission on November 19, 1987.

Lori Yamauchi Secretary

AYES: Commissioners Allen, Bierman, Hemphill, Karasick, Nakashima,

Rosenblatt and Wright

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ADOPTED: November 19, 1987

JHM:atm/418

LANDMARKS PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD FINAL CASE REPORT APPROVED 10/7/87

OWNER: City & County of San Francisco BUILDING NAME: Engine Co. #8

San Francisco Fire Department Truck Co. #4

BLOCK & LOT: 574/11 **BUILDING ADDRESS:** 1648 Pacific Ave.

between Van Ness Avenue and Polk

Street

ZONING: Polk Street NCD

NO. OF STORIES: 2 LPAB VOTE: 6-0 Fire House ORIGINAL USE:

EXTERIOR MATERIALS: Brick with Terra Station No. 4 CURRENT USE:

Cotta and Tile Fire Department

Storage

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Engine Co. No. 8, Truck Co. No. 4, is architecturally significant as a reflection of early twentieth century civic commitment to high quality design in public buildings. The structure is historically significant as part of San Francisco's Fire Department, a City Institution of great importance in a community where memories of the Institution of the 1906 earthquake and (cont.)

EVALUATION CRITERIA

A. ARCHITECTURE

Style: Beaux Arts/Italianate
Construction Type: Masonry wall construction
Construction Date: 1917

4. Design Quality: Excellent

5. Architect: John Reid, Jr., City Architect

Interior Quality: Not Applicable 6.

HISTORY

John Reid, Jr. 1880-1968; Architect of 1648 Pacific Avenue, 7. Persons: was a member of the Board of Consulting Architects; a native of San Francisco, son of merchant John Reid. Reid's early education (cont.)

Events: None known. Patterns of History: Engine Co. No. 8, Truck Co. No. 4. characteristic of the type of firehouse built in San Francisco during the early twentieth century. It was designed to house the engines and apparatus on the first level and the firemen on the second (cont.)

ENVIRONMENT

10. Continuity: Station No. 4, located mid-block on the north side of Pacific Avenue between Van Ness Avenue and Polk Street, remains part of an intact row of small scale commercial structures. The building contributes significantly to the continuity of the street pattern and is representative of quality institutional architecture of the early twentieth century.

Setting: 1649 Pacific Avenue is a handsome two-story structure on a small site which is proportioned well and shares commonalities with

neighboring buildings.

Importance as a Visual Landmark: An integral element of the San Francisco cityscape.

INTEGRITY

13. Lanterns on three piers removed, garage doors in disrepair; generally unaltered.

RATINGS

DCP: 1 HERE TODAY: SPLENDID SURV.:

NAT'L REGISTER: Potentially Eligible

NAT'L LANDMARK: STATE LANDMARK:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

PREPARED BY: Vincent Marsh

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PHONE: 558-6342

DATE: November 28, 1986 Edited by Staff: 10/16/87

VFM:mj:554



Statement of Significance: (Cont.) fire run deep. The original house on this site was destroyed in the Fire and Earthquake of 1906. A firehouse was located in a temporary two-story wood frame building, until this firehouse was completed in 1917. The subject site served continuously as a firehouse until 1980. This handsome brick, tile and terra cotta fire station is typical of the high quality of public buildings of this period. Eclectic in style, this two-story brick structure contains double firehouse doors which are flanked by pilasters with terra cotta composite capitals. The building is divided by a decorated terra cotta belt cornice with Greek meander pattern molding and a row of dentils. Three "Italian" lamps have been removed from the capitals. The second level contains two symmetrical windows (altered) and a small centered light. A pitched red tile roof with a copper gutter on carved wood rafters accentuate the roof line.

B. HISTORY (Cont.)

7. Persons: (cont.) was obtained in the local public schools before attending the University of California. He later devoted five years to the study of architecture in Paris, where he was a student at Ecole National Des Beaux Arts and later a member of the Societe Des Architects Diplomes Par Le Gouvernemente Française. On graduation and completion of studies in various art centers, he returned to San Francisco to engage in his chosen profession.

With the inauguration of the administration of Mayor James Rolph, a Board of Consulting Architects was named particularly to evolve a comprehensive Civic Center scheme and supervise its execution. Reid was appointed a member of this Board and with his colleagues laid out the general plan and perfected the details of this project, consisting of a group of monumental buildings enclosing an artistic plaza.

Under their direction the plan was carried out, as evidenced by the progress in the construction of the City Hall and Auditorium buildings. In addition to this extensive work, John Reid, Jr. supervised the design and erection of many smaller public buildings, including a number of schools and fire department structures which included 1648 Pacific Avenue. Some of the other Commissions of John Reid, Jr. include the Hind Building (1913) at 230 California Street (the only known downtown building by this architect); 135 Van Ness Avenue (1927) (now known as the San Francisco Public Schools Administration Building -- originally the High School of Commerce); 99 Grove Street, Exposition Auditorium (1914), in collaboration with John Galen Howard and Frederick H. Meyer; Civic Auditorium, 1913, also in collaboration with John Galen Howard and Fred Meyer; Mission High School (1926) at 18th and Dolores Streets; the Harrison School, 1440 Harrison Street, between 10th and 11th Streets; and the Fairmont Hotel (1906) at California and Mason Streets with his Brother James.

9. Patterns of History: (cont.) level. By 1916, the Fire Department had some motor apparatus. Truck Companies were motorized by replacing the horses with 4-wheel tractors. Hose wagons on engine companies had new motor vehicles, generally with a chemical tank thereon. Some forerunners of the present combination pumper and hose wagon were in service. Chemical companies had new vehicles.

The Fire Department of the City and County of San Francisco is organized under what might be termed the America Plan to distinguish it from its European counterpart. In Europe all fire-fighting equipment and men are housed in a few central locations. In Paris, for example, there are only six stations to serve the entire city with its population of almost three million. On the other hand, the typical United States city distributes its fire-fighting facilities widely over the entire city in an effort to give all areas an equal amount of protection, based on the amount of time required to reach any part of the city in answering a call. San Francisco, even though

it is not a typically sprawling American city, but, rather, a compact area of relatively high population density, maintains the American type system and presently operates approximately 50 firehouses.

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