

FILE NO. 90-73-3

file copy

ORDINANCE NO. 208-73

1 DESIGNATING THE LILIENTHAL-ORVILLE PRATT HOUSE AS A LANDMARK PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10
2 OF THE CITY PLANNING CODE.

3 Be it ordained by the people of the City and County of San Francisco:

4 Section 1. The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that the Lilienthal-Orville
5 Pratt House at 1820 California Street, being Lot 4 in Assessor's Block 641, has a
6 special character and special historical, architectural and aesthetic interest and
7 value, and that its designation as a Landmark will be in furtherance of and in
8 conformance with the purposes of Article 10 of the City Planning Code and the
9 standards set forth therein.

10 (a) Designation. Pursuant to Section 1004 of the City Planning Code,
11 Chapter II, Part II of the San Francisco Municipal Code, the Lilienthal-Orville
12 Pratt House is hereby designated as a Landmark, this designation having been duly
13 approved by Resolution No. 6956 of the City Planning Commission, which Resolution
14 is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors under File No. 90-73-3,

15 (b) Required Data. The location and boundaries of the landmark site, the
16 characteristics of the landmark which justify its designation, and the particular
17 features that should be preserved, described and included in the said Resolution,
18 are hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof as though fully set forth.

Passed for Second Reading
Board of Supervisors, San Francisco

Ayes: Supervisors ~~Barbagelata, Chinn, Feinstein,~~
Francois, Gonzales, Kopp, Mendelsohn, Molinari,
Pelosi, Tamaras, von Beroldingen.

~~Noes: Supervisors~~

Absent: Supervisors BARBAGELATA

[Signature]
Clerk

90-73-3
File No.

JUN 6 1973
Approved

Read Second Time and Finally Passed
Board of Supervisors, San Francisco

MAY 29 1973

Ayes: Supervisors Barbagelata, ~~Chinn, Feinstein,~~
Francois, Gonzales, Kopp, Mendelsohn, Molinari,
Pelosi, Tamaras, von Beroldingen.

~~Noes: Supervisors~~

~~Absent: Supervisors~~

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

[Signature]
Clerk

[Signature]
Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 6956

WHEREAS, A proposal to designate the Lilienthal-Orville Pratt House at 1820 California Street 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 18, 1972, 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 January 18, 1973, 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;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, First, that the proposal to designate the Lilienthal-Orville Pratt House at 1820 California Street as a Landmark pursuant to Article 10 of the City Planning Code is hereby APPROVED, the location and boundaries of the landmark site being as follows:

Beginning at a point along the northerly line of California St Street, distant thereon 77 feet six inches from the westerly line of Franklin Street, thence at a right angle northerly for a distance of 137 feet six inches, thence at a right angle westerly for a distance of 60 feet, thence at a right angle southerly for a distance of 137 feet six inches, thence at a right angle easterly along the northerly line of California Street for a distance of 60 feet to the point of beginning; being Lot 4 in Assessor's Block 641, which property is known as and located at 1820 California Street.

Second, That the special character and special historical, architectural and aesthetic interest and value of the said Landmark justifying its designation are set forth in the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board Resolution No. 73 as adopted on October 18, 1972, which Resolution is incorporated herein and made a part hereof 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 as described and depicted in the photographs, case report and other material on file in the Department of City Planning in Docket LM72.8;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission hereby directs its Secretary to transmit 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 at its regular meeting of January 18, 1973.

Lynn E. Pio
Secretary

AYES: Commissioners Farrell, Miller, Porter, Ritchie, Rueda

NOES: None

ABSENT: Commissioners Fleishhacker, Newman

PASSED: January 18, 1973

- OWNER:** Florined Company, the Bransten Family Corporation.
- LOCATION:** 1320 California Street; north side of California Street, between Gough and Franklin Streets. The lot has a 60-foot frontage on California Street, being lot 4 in Assessor's Block No. 641.
- HISTORY:** This house was built by Louis Sloss Senior in 1876 as a wedding gift for his daughter Estelle and her husband Ernest L. Lilienthal. The Slosses lived in the vicinity and were associates of the Womersleys who built and lived in the house immediately to the west.
- Sloss, who dealt in mining stocks, also foresaw the potential in the Alaska seal trade. After the United States bought the land from Russia in 1867, Sloss formed the Alaska Commercial Company, with a concession from the United States Government to obtain seal skins on two of the Aleutian Islands. This concession netted him a large fortune. Sloss' sons Louis and Leon entered their father's company in addition to other trading and mining ventures.
- In 1907, the Lilienthals sold the house to Orville C. Pratt Junior, the son of Judge Pratt, who lived on Rincon Hill and owned land for cattle raising in Butte and Colusa Counties. Pratt Junior married Emily J. Wilson, the granddaughter of Samuel M. Wilson, the third President of the San Francisco Bar and a distinguished attorney. In addition to being a prominent family in San Francisco, the Pratt Juniors were well known in the Sacramento Valley, where they owned a large ranch near Chico. After Mr. Pratt's death in 1944, Emily Pratt remained in the house until her death in 1953. Orville C. Pratt IV, a San Francisco attorney, is the son of Pratt Junior. In 1955, the Bransten family bought the house, thus preserving the park-like-quality of the four Victorian mansions and their adjoining gardens. The interior of the house has been altered and divided to form flats.
- ARCHITECTURE:** The two story wooden frame house is one of the best demonstrations of Victorian architecture. The impressive front facade reflects basic Italianate lines and complimentary elements of the stick style. The corners of the house are trimmed with quoins, rendering a finished look to the exterior. The ship lap timbers covering the side walls create a striking contrast to the elaborate front facade. The entrance porch, to the west of the facade, balances the two story angular bay windows on the east. Partially fluted Corinthian columns and square pilasters support the projecting porch roof which originally was surmounted by an elaborate balcony.
- A two story Italianate slanted bay window lies to the east of the entrance. Both the first and second floor bays consist of slightly arched window panes, colonnettes, moulded wooden panels, and ornate cornices. The arches over the first floor bay windows are surmounted by ornamental keystones and wooden trim. The second floor bay windows are pedimented, with an ornamental moulding intersecting the base of each pediment. Above the second floor windows, a row of consoles support the heavy, overhanging roof cornice.