FILE NO. 90-86-1 ORDINANCE NO. 322-86

DESIGNATING THE SAN FRANCISCO LAWN BOWLING CLUBHOUSE AND GREENS IN GOLDEN GATE PARK AS A LANDMARK PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 10 OF THE CITY PLANNING CODE.

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

Section 1. The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Clubhouse and Greens located at Golden Gate Park, in Assessor's Block 1701, have a special character and special historical, architectural and aesthetic interest and value, and that 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, the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Clubhouse and Greens are hereby designated as a Landmark, this designation having been duly approved by Resolution No. 10656 of the City Planning Commission, which Resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors under File No. 90-86-1.

(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 the designating ordinance as though fully set forth.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
GEORGE AGNOST
CITY ATTORNEY

By: _____
Deputy City Attorney

RECOMMENDED:
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

By: Dean Macris
Dean L. Macris
Director of Planning

JHM:pg/00901

BY: _____
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board of Supervisors, San Francisco

Passed for Second Reading	§	Finally Passed
	§	
July 21, 1986	§	July 28, 1986
	§	
	§	
Ayes: Supervisors Kennedy Maher Molinari Nelder Renne Silver Walker Ward	§	Ayes: Supervisors Britt Kennedy Maher Molinari Nelder Renne Silver Walker
	§	
Absent: Supervisors Britt Hongisto Kopp	§	Absent: Supervisors Hongisto Kopp Ward

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

_____
Clerk

File No. 90-86-1

AUG 8 1986
Date Approved

_____
Mayor

SAN FRANCISCO

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 10656

WHEREAS, A proposal to designate the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Clubhouse and Greens in Golden Gate Park 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 2, 1985, and said 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 April 3, 1986 to consider the proposed designation and the report of said 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, the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Clubhouse and Greens, 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 that portion of Golden Gate Park, Assessor's Block 1700, upon which the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Clubhouse and Greens are located;

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 311 as adopted on October 2, 1985 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. 85.497L;

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 cetify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED by the City Planning Commission on April 3, 1986.

Lee Woods, Jr.
Secretary

AYES: Commissioners Allen, Bierman, Hempnill, Karasick, Nakashima, and Wright.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Commissioner Rosenblatt.

ADOPTED: April 3, 1986

JHM:jmg/0025R

FINAL CASE REPORT APPROVED 10/2/85 LANDMARKS PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

BUILDING NAME: S.F. Lawn Bowling Clubhouse & Greens
OWNER: City & County of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department
BUILDING ADDRESS: Golden Gate Park
BLOCK & LOT: 1700
ZONING: P (Public)
ORIGINAL USE: Recreational facility
NO. OF STORIES: 1
LPAB VOTE: 6-1
CURRENT USE: Same
EXTERIOR MATERIALS: Wood siding

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
(Describe special CHARACTER, or special HISTORICAL, ARCHITECTURAL, or AESTHETIC interest or value:) The Lawn Bowling Clubhouse and Greens are significant as an early example of organized recreational activities in Golden Gate Park. Formed in 1901, the Lawn Bowling Club constructed its clubhouse in 1915, during John McLaren's tenure as the Superintendent of Golden Gate Park. The greens and one-story Edwardian style clubhouse relate well to their park setting.

(may be continued on back)

EVALUATION CRITERIA

A. ARCHITECTURE
1. Style: Edwardian
2. Construction Type: Wood frame
3. Construction Date: 1915 (according to Club minutes) 1971 addition
4. Design Quality: (LPAB ONLY) a good example of Edwardian design
5. Architect: -
6. Interior Quality: (LPAB ONLY) -

B. HISTORY
(as building is significantly associated with specific)
7. Persons: John McClaren, Superintendent of Golden Gate Park and James Rolph, Jr., Mayor of San Francisco and Governor of California (see 9 below).
8. Events: The Greens were restored by April 1907 following the 1906 earthquake.
9. Patterns of History:
(cultural, social, political, military, economic or industrial) Lawn Bowling is an outdoor game that has fascinated both young and old for centuries. Bowling was so well established in England by 1299 A.D. that a group of players organized the Southhampton Old Bowling Green Club, the oldest established bowling club in the world that is still active (continued)

C. ENVIRONMENT
(relation to surroundings, specifically in terms of:)
10. Continuity: The Lawn Bowling Club, dating from the beginning of the twentieth century, reflects the long term recreational nature of Golden Gate Park and the particular durability of this game through changing trends in sports activities.
11. Setting: The setting amidst Golden Gate Park's landscaping, located south of the Conservatory (Landmark No. 50) and north of the Sharon Building (Landmark No. 124), complements the recreational nature of the facility.
12. Importance as a Visual Landmark: Unobtrusively low key among the Park's greenery, the Clubhouse and Greens are a familiar fixture in the context of Golden Gate Park.

D. INTEGRITY
(cite alterations and physical condition) Essentially intact; compatible addition in 1971.

RATINGS
OCP: -
HERE TODAY: -
SPLENDID SURV.: Not applicable
NAT'L REGISTER: -
NAT'L LANDMARK: -
STATE LANDMARK: -

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
(list sources on back)

PREPARED BY: J. Malone from information supplied by Emerson Denton
ADDRESS: 450 McAllister Street
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PHONE: 558-2816
DATE: October 2, 1985

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9. Patterns of History (Cont'd)

The game became so popular in England that it was prohibited by law because archery, essential to the national defense, was being neglected.

Fortunately bowling was not suppressed in Scotland where it attained a popularity which has increased with the years. The Scottish are to be given credit for giving the game an international background as emigrant Scots carried the game to all parts of the world.

On October 7, 1901 the St. Andrews Society organized a bowling club in San Francisco. Mr. John McLaren, Superintendent of Golden Gate Park laid out a "green" in the west corner of the Recreation Grounds. A game was bowled on the spot on October 18, 1901, using bowls which had been brought from Scotland by several members of the organizing group.

On November 25, 1901, the San Francisco Scottish Bowling Club was formed. Mr. Y. C. Lawson was its first President, Mr. John McLaren, Vice President and Mr. James Rolph, Jr., Treasurer. Mr. Rolph was later to become Mayor of San Francisco and the Governor of the State of California.

The permanent green now known as Green #1, was laid out and opened in 1902. Many an enjoyable game was played on it until that memorable day to all San Franciscans - April 18, 1906. The Army, under command of General Funston, took over and used it as a horse corral for a troop of cavalry. The troops were quartered in nearby Sharon Meadow.

Thus, the beginning of lawn bowling in California - the oldest lawn bowling club in the United States - is in its original location.

The sport attracted among its followers a number of women who sometimes played along with gentlemen. On September 17, 1912 an organization was formed known as the Women's Golden Gate Lawn Bowling Club. One green was inadequate and the Park Commission laid out another green which was opened for play on July 19, 1913. Many maps of Golden Gate Park designated the area as the women's lawn bowling green.

Through the efforts of both clubs, each contributing $500, $1,000 was turned over to Mr. McLaren and the canny Scot made out with what he had and we still have the "House that Jack Built."

In 1928 a third green was constructed and a State Tournament was played on the greens in 1929.

The name of the club was changed to the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club on January 17, 1931 and in 1979 the Women's Golden Gate Lawn Bowling Club merged with the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club.

(Emerson Denton, Past President
San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club)

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