

(Landmarks)

DESIGNATING THE NORTH END POLICE STATION AND GARAGE AS LANDMARK
NO. 218 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
North End Police Station and Garage, located at 2475 Greenwich
Street, Lot 15 in Assessor's Block 513, 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 10C1 of the City
Planning Code, Chapter II, Part II of the is hereby designated as
Landmark No. 218. This designation having been fully approved by
Resolution No. 14066 of the City Planning Commission, which
Resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
under File No. 90-96-1 and is incorporated herein and made a
part of hereof as though fully set forth.

(b) Required Data:

SUPERVISORS TENG, BIERMAN

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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95.387L

(1) The description of the location and boundaries of
the Landmark site is the North End Police Station
and Garage located at 2475 Greenwich Street, being
Lot 15 within Assessor's Block 513.

(2) The characteristics of the Landmark which justify
its designation are described and shown in the
photographs and other materials on file in the
Planning Department Docket No. 95.387L and the
Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board's (hereafter
Landmarks Board) Final Case Report contained in
Docket No. 95.387L.

(3) The particular features that should be preserved
are those shown in the photographs on file in
Planning Department Docket No. 95.387L and
described in the Landmarks Board's Final Case
Report, in Section A, entitled "Architecture,"
Subsection No. 4, "Design" and in Section D,
"Integrity," Subsection No. 13, "Alterations,"
said photographs and Case Report are incorporated
in this designating ordinance as though fully set
forth.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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95.387L

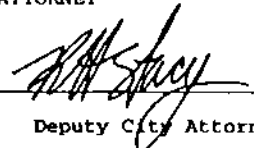
G006537

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

2 LOUISE H. RENNE

3 CITY ATTORNEY

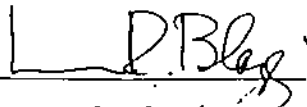
4 By

5 
6 Deputy City Attorney

RECOMMENDED:

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

By

7 
8 Lu Blazej

9 Director of Planning

Board of Supervisors, San Francisco

Passed for Second Reading

April 15, 1996

Ayes: Supervisors Alioto Ammiano
Bierman Kennedy Leal Shelley Teng
Yaki

Absent: Supervisors Hsieh Kaufman

§ Finally Passed

§ April 22, 1996

§ Ayes: Supervisors Alioto Ammiano
§ Kaufman Kennedy Leal Shelley Teng
§ Yaki

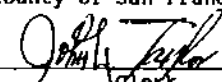
§ Absent: Supervisors Bierman Hsieh

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

File No.
90-96-1

APR 24 1996

Date Approved


Clerk

Mayor

File No. 95.387L
The North End Police Station and Garage
2475 Greenwich Street
Lot 15 in Assessor's Block 513

SAN FRANCISCO

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 14066

WHEREAS, A proposal to designate the North End Police Station and Garage at 2475 Greenwich Street, Lot 24 in Assessor's Block 3595, as Landmark No. 218 pursuant to the provisions of Article 10 of the City Planning Code; and

WHEREAS, The Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board (hereafter Landmarks Board) prepared a Draft Case Report on the subject property, considered public testimony on the Case Report and recommended an intent to initiate the designation of the North End Police Station and Garage located at 2475 Greenwich Street at its Regular Meeting of July 19, 1995 and continued the item to its Regular Meeting of September 6, 1995 and approved a Final Case Report at its Regular Meeting of September 20, 1995; and

WHEREAS, The City Planning Commission, after due notice given held a Public Hearing on November 9, 1995 to consider the Final Case Report and the proposed designation of said Landmarks Board; and

WHEREAS, This City Planning 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, That this City Planning Commission does hereby recommend APPROVAL of the designation of the North End Police Station and Garage located at 2475 Greenwich Street as Landmark No. 218 being Lot 15 within Assessor's Block 513;

Second, That the special character and special historical, architectural and aesthetic interest and value of the Landmark is set forth in the photographs and other materials on file in Planning Department Docket No. 95.387L which is incorporated herein and made a part thereof as though fully set forth;

Third, That the particular features that should be preserved are those shown in the photographs on file in Planning Department Docket No. 95.387L and described in the Landmarks Board's Case Report, in Section A, entitled "Architecture," Subsection No. 5, "Design" and in Section D "Integrity," Subsection No. 13 "Alterations," said photographs and Case Report are incorporated in this designating ordinance as though fully set forth.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Planning 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.

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

File No. 95.387L
The North End Police Station and Garage
2475 Greenwich Street
Lot 15 in Assessor's Block 513
Resolution No. 14066
Page 2

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was ADOPTED by the City Planning Commission on March 7, 1996.

Linda Avery
Commission Secretary

AYES: Commissioners Chinchilla, Hayden, Levine, Lowenberg, Marks, Martin and Mills
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ADOPTED: March 7, 1996

VFM:mj:NorthCPC.Res



LANDMARKS PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

1660 MISSION STREET, 5TH FLOOR, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

TEL. (415) 558-6345 • FAX. (415) 558-6426



FINAL CASE REPORT

DATE: September 20, 1995

HISTORIC BUILDING NAME: North End Police Station and Garage **OWNER:** CCSF

ADDRESS: 2475 Greenwich Street

BLOCK & LOT: 513/15

POPULAR BUILDING NAME: Police Activities League or SFPD Youth Services Bureau

ZONING: RH-2

ORIGINAL USE: Police station and garage/lockers building

ARCHITECTS: Alfred I. Coffey
F. H. Meyer & John Reid Jr.

CURRENT USE: Vacant

CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1912

STYLE: Academic Spanish Colonial Revival

LANDMARK NO: 218

LPAB VOTE: 6-0

NUMBER OF STORIES: Two stories at centralized entrance

EXTERIOR MATERIALS: Stucco,
clay tile roofing (brick in rear)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: The North End Police Station is a significant representative of the district police stations constructed to replace those lost in the 1906 fire. It represents, in miniature, the monumental architecture adopted for civic buildings at that period, and its designers included two of the three consulting architects responsible for the Civic Center Plan and the Civic Auditorium. This building represents their function as City Architects for all civic buildings, not merely the Civic Center. The original plans show the existing ornately matching garage/lockers building in the rear as well as the existing main facade, which is tri-partite with its monumental arch, wrought iron lamps and ceramic tile roofs. This was the district police station for the Panama Pacific International Exposition (PPIE) of 1915.

CRITERIA

A. ARCHITECTURE

1. STYLE:

Significance as an Example of a Particular
Architectural Style or Convention

This is a miniature example of San Francisco's monumental Academic civic architecture of the early 20th century, but its substyle is Spanish Colonial Revival rather than the Renaissance Revival employed at Civic Center. Its Academic Spanish Colonial Revival elements include the smooth walls, the ceramic tile roof, the arched entry, shaped side parapet, multi-level roofs, tapestry brick, and the wonderful spiky lanterns. The complementary rear building is also Academic style in a mixture of the Spanish Colonial Revival with Arts and Crafts substyles. (E)

2. CONSTRUCTION TYPE/ USE CATEGORY:

Significance as an Example of a Particular
Occupancy Type or Use, Method of Construction
or Material

Twelve Police Stations existed around the time this one was constructed, and several of them no longer exist. This is perhaps the most "Spanish" of the type built as permanent replacements for police stations lost in the 1906 fire. (VG)

3. DATE BUILT:

Significance as an Example of a Particular
Period in San Francisco History

Built in 1912, this station belongs among the civic facilities (fire houses, schools, police stations) permanently replaced soon after the 1906 fire. Its location and design also relate to the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition (PPIE), which was under construction at the time. (VG)

4. ARCHITECT:

Designed or Built by an Architect or Builder
Who Has made a Significant Contribution to the
Community, State or Nation

Alfred I. Coffey (1866-1931), as City Architect 1 Dec. 1910-8 April 1912, was responsible for the planning of both buildings; the construction contract award was announced in *Building and Industrial News* the day after his resignation in the office of Charles I. Havens, who had learned architecture from S. C. Bugbee, worked for John P. Gaynor, and had a partnership with Peter Schmidt. Coffey also worked for Schmidt, and then in partnership with Ferdinand Martens 1892-1908, and thereafter in solo practice. Martens & Coffey are known for residential work, especially near Alamo Square; Coffey later specialized in institutional work. (VG)

Frederick H. Meyer (1876-1961) signed the final elevation plans for both buildings. He "was born in San Francisco, the son of a cabinetmaker. He received no formal education but learned from his father and from his work as a draftsman in a planning mill. These experiences provided him with an appreciation for fine craftsmanship and detail, and an ability to solve the practical problems of developing commercial building types. Meyer is one of the few local architects who is known to have visited Chicago and been influenced by the planning and design of skyscrapers there. . . . As an architect who represented influences other than that of the predominant Beaux-Arts, Meyer was also typical in his wholehearted embracing of the City Beautiful Movement" (Corbett, *Splendid Survivors*, 52). He created many of the monuments of the post-1906 downtown. (E)

John Reid, Jr. (1873-1968) signed some of the final interior plans for the main building. Son of a merchant tailor, after graduating from the University of California in 1903, Reid entered the Ecole des Beaux Arts in 1906 and received its diploma in 1909. He returned to San Francisco, married the daughter of Mayor Rolph, and served as City Architect alone for many years after sharing that capacity briefly with Meyer and Howard. Reid is known for fine institutional buildings. (E)

On 28 March 1912 Meyer, Reid and U.C.'s John Galen Howard were appointed by the Board of Public Works as The Advisory Board of Consulting Architects for the new Civic Center. They also succeeded Coffey as City Architect and jointly signed the Bureau of Architecture's annual reports. Their participation in the design of these two buildings demonstrates their involvement in all the City's architectural undertakings of this era.

5. DESIGN:

Quality of Composition, Detailing and Ornament
Measured in Part in Originality, Urban Design,
Craftsmanship or Uniqueness

North End Police Station is one of the earliest of San Francisco's civic buildings in the Spanish Colonial Revival subset of the Academic style. Its monumental arch and giant lanterns proclaim the civic function and are balanced by its planar stucco walls and low massing (31 and 38 feet high by about 70 feet wide). The massing distinguishes it from fire stations of the period (e.g. Landmarks #42, 143, 188 on Bush and on Pacific), which tend to narrow facades filled with functional arches. The arch here is purely decorative. The rear building's deep, wood (or wood-like) pediment and voussoir-patterned brickwork show Arts and Crafts sensitivity. On both buildings the deep eaves and the materials of cream colored stucco, grey-tan tapestry brick, and ceramic tile roofing match some of the best residential architecture of the period. (VG)

6. INTERIOR:

Interior Arrangement, Finish, Craftsmanship,
and/or Use Detail is/are Particularly Attractive
or Unique

The spacious main room has intact an original beam-sectioned skylight, cornice and capitals; and much of the wall surfacing is probably intact under other finishes, but the lighting is dropped fluorescent fixtures. (VG)

B. HISTORIC CONTEXT

7. PERSONS:

Associated with the Life or Activities of a
Person, Group or Institution That Has Made a
Significant Contribution to the Community,
State or Nation

James Kelly was captain of North End Station from its reorganization in 1907 with new boundaries (Jones to the Presidio, and Jackson to the Bay) through construction of this building and until 1915. (F/P)

8. EVENTS:

Associated with Events That Have Made a
Significant Contribution to the Community,
State or Nation

The 1906 fire destroyed an earlier North End Police Station on Washington, and the temporary post-fire station was located at 3118 Fillmore. The permanent location near the west end of Greenwich must have been chosen for its convenience to the future grounds of the PPIE, as the Exposition was to be held in North End's district. Eventually the PPIE had its own expert Guard service to take care of security and crowd control, but more serious matters were taken to

North End Police station. Of all the structures connected with the PPJE, only the Palace of Fine Arts and the North End Police Station remain at their original locations. (VG)

9. PATTERNS:

Associated with or Illustrative of Broad Patterns of
City's Cultural, Social, Political or Economic History
or Development

If designated, North End Station will be the first San Francisco Police Station so honored. The building exemplifies the pattern of district police stations for better service to the emerging residential communities of the city. North End was one of the first three district stations, and the name remained in active service until about 1935. Originally all police were stationed at City Hall; then the Harbor Police were separated. About 1880, when the city's population reached 234,000, three district stations were organized: Mission, South District, and North End. By 1882 the last named was in the 1500 block of Jackson Street. These district stations located the police closer to the expanding residential areas they needed to serve. By 1901 there were ten stations.

The 1906 fire destroyed five police stations (headquarters at the Hall of Justice, South District, Harbor District, New City Hall, and North End), and it severely damaged another, Mission Station at 3057 17th Street. The other five stations (Park, O'Farrell Street, Potrero, South San Francisco [Bay View], and Ocean View [Taraval]) were damaged only slightly and quickly repaired. By July 1907 Mission Station was repaired and reoccupied, and four of the burned stations had been rebuilt with temporary structures. City Hall Station had been replaced by one on Bush Street west of Franklin that lasted through at least 1933. Most of this work was done by members of the Police Department.

A new building campaign began after a bond issue passed in May 1908. The Hall of Justice/Police Headquarters was rebuilt in 1910 and lasted into the 1960s. Park Station was replaced and the new unit of Ingleside Station was completed in 1910. By 1914 there was another new unit and station for the Richmond District, and replacements for the stations at Potrero, Bay View, and North End. Over a decade was to pass before additional police stations were constructed: Harbor Souther (360 Fourth Street) and Taraval.

Thus eight police station buildings were constructed between 1906 and 1915. Each shows great care in an individual design, but certain commonalities link them. All have hip roofs, a wider frontage than the fire houses, and large twin lanterns at the entrance. Most have ceramic tile roofing, tall entry arches, and a strip of front landscaping. Now the Hall of Justice and Bush Street stations have been demolished. Ingleside, Richmond, and Potrero are still police stations; Park and Bayview still exist but no longer function as police stations. Of the eight, the only remaining one that had been burned out in 1906 is North End. (E).

C. PHYSICAL CONTEXT

10. Continuity:

Contributes to the continuity of character of the street, neighborhood or area.

The western reaches of Greenwich Street are thoroughly residential, most of it small-scale and undistinguished. This building responds to the scale and materials of the neighborhood with its low height, its tripartite facade like three residences grouped together, and with its materials of stucco and grey-tan tapestry brick. The ornate rear building imitates a detached residential garage. (VG)

11. Setting:

Setting and/or landscape contributes to the continuity or character of the street neighborhood or area

The minimum setback, roughly landscaped, and the low retaining wall in front reinforce the residential character of the neighborhood. The rear garage/lockers building also enhances this setting. (G)

12. Visual Significance:

Significant as a visual landmark to the neighborhood, city, region or nation as a whole.

The structures are well known in their neighborhood because of the outstanding design (best in several blocks), the scale, the unified facade over its three-lot width, and the large, classically derived lamps. (VG)

D. INTEGRITY:

The degree to which the property has retained original materials from which its significance is derived or which characterize its period.

The buildings have a high degree of original materials, showing off their original designs. The garage/lockers building appears original except for the conversion to lockers only and the replacement of one of the four glazed garage door panels with a solid panel and pedestrian door, although its condition behind the facade needs work. A small leanto (invisible from the street) has been added at the rear of the main building. A side entry has been boarded up, and the interior has had changes in lighting and wall and floor surfacing, but these are probably reversible. (E)

E. THREATS TO SITE: NONE () DEVELOPMENT (X) ZONING (X) VANDALISM ()
PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT () OTHER () UMB STATUS (X)

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS:

CALIFORNIA STATE REGISTER:

HERE TODAY:

HERITAGE SURVEYS:

DCP 1976 SURVEY: "1"

OTHER:

ENDNOTES:

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

EDITED BY LANDMARKS BOARD STAFF

BASED UPON MATERIAL SUPPLIED BY:

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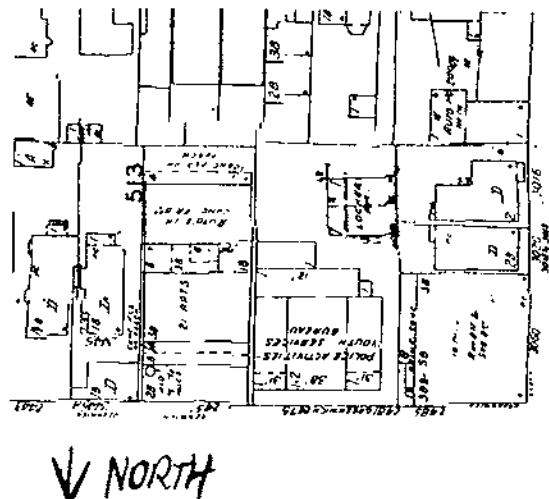
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DATE SUBMITTED

July/September 1995



BIBLIOGRAPHY

"Alfred Coffey, Architect, Dies," *S.F. Chronicle*

Building and Industrial News, April 9, 1912.

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GARAGE /
LOCKERS BLOC.
IN REAR OF SITE