

Communication from Public

Name: Jennifer Heeber

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Comments for Public Posting: Dear PLUM Committee Members, My husband and I discovered 5926 Buffalo Ave. 15 years ago and were instantly captivated by its charm; original ranch-style front door, big picture front window flooding the apartment with natural light, original wood floors, and numerous thoughtful features which are rarities in modern homes. The front of the property is lined with beautiful mature pine trees which perfectly frame the triplexes. When you look at the property from the street, each triplex has a cute birdhouse on top, which we later learned was a unique design feature of William Mellenthin. Not only had we found our home, we also found a close community complete with front yard wildlife. On the weekends, we enjoy watching our local wildlife out the front windows. Sparrows, finches, and mourning doves regularly swoop in for their birdseed while the squirrels pick out the sunflower seeds and almonds that we distribute in the mornings. Potted vegetables are grown in the front yard, along with annuals and succulents. One house project, a refinished bench, lives on the front porch, where a person can relax and watch the hummingbirds zip across the driveway to drink from each neighbor's bird feeder. The year we moved in, neighbors invited us to the Buffalo Thanksgiving dinner. A few years later we all started a fun tradition of group pumpkin carving to celebrate Halloween. Our next-door friend and neighbor, Jenny, absolutely loves Halloween, and each year her porch is decked out in spooky decorations while others' porches are more expressive in December with Christmas lights. Speaking of the front porches... it's so special that each apartment has its own front porch, just like a standalone house. The architect's mission to create a community is so evident and instills a sense of tenant pride usually reserved for homeowners. Every neighbor we've had over the years has taken great care of the property in lockstep with William Mellenthin's intention. We hope you'll appreciate the amazing homes the architect built and value the importance of preserving this type of housing for Los Angeles residents. I urge you to support the CHC's recommendation to designate this property as a Historic-Cultural Monument. Sincerely, Jennifer Heeber