

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/30/2020 04:23 PM

Council File No: 20-1341

Comments for Public Posting: Good evening Council Members, I strongly urge you to support the Historic-Cultural Monument nomination for the Morris Kight Residence. It is so important that Los Angeles do it's utmost to preserve it's history. Please vote in support. Many thanks, Marla Koosed

Communication from Public

Name: Rory Cunningham

Date Submitted: 11/30/2020 03:27 PM

Council File No: 20-1341

Comments for Public Posting: Honored Commissioners of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee; Please consider the Morris Kight Residence for an Historic- Cultural Monument. As an older gay man who has lived through coming out of the closet, persecution, discrimination, the AIDS Crisis and Proposition 8, I am proud to say that I am successful, healthy and happily married to my husband. It was leaders like Morris Kight that made my life, and so many others better, safer, healthier, more equal and, happier. It is important that we honor the hard work that Morris Kight and his friends with this monument so that future generations can be educated so that they to can live better, more equal lives.
Respectfully, Rory Cunningham

Communication from Public

Name: Alex Morales

Date Submitted: 11/30/2020 11:04 PM

Council File No: 20-1341

Comments for Public Posting: I request that the City and the County preserve the culturally significant historic Morris Kight residence. I had the opportunity to visit Mr. Kight at his home in 1985. Even as a 24-year old gay male at the time, I understood the value and importance of Mr. Kight's work for the LGBTQ community. An LGBTQ historic site such as this must be preserved so that the Los Angeles LGBTQ community maintains a connection to its history, culture, and development.

Communication from Public

Name: Jill DiGiovanni
Date Submitted: 11/30/2020 10:01 PM
Council File No: 20-1341
Comments for Public Posting: I support the Historic Designation of the Morris Knight home and it's Cultural Significance to the City of Los Angeles. Thank You
Jill DiGiovanni

Communication from Public

Name: Matthew Feige

Date Submitted: 11/30/2020 10:06 PM

Council File No: 20-1341

Comments for Public Posting: Morris Kight (1919-2003) is considered one of the founding fathers of the American LGBTQ civil rights movement. Kight spearheaded a number of gay rights organizations including the creation of the Gay Community Services Center, which today is known as the Los Angeles LGBT Center. Though little is known about his Los Angeles residence, this modest Craftsman home in the Westlake neighborhood—a hub of LGBTQ social activity in the twentieth century—helped form the backdrop to his work as activist and gay rights pioneer. It is crucial to preserve Los Angeles' LGBTQIA history as so much of it has already been erased.

Communication from Public

Name: Mark Simon

Date Submitted: 11/30/2020 04:41 PM

Council File No: 20-1341

Comments for Public Posting: Morris Kight is one of the founding fathers of the American LGBTQ civil rights movement. Kight spearheaded the creation of the Los Angeles LGBT Center. Today the Center's nearly 800 employees provide services for more LGBT people than any other organization in the world, offering programs, services, and global advocacy that span four broad categories: Health, Social Services and Housing, Culture and Education, Leadership and Advocacy. Kight's home in the Westlake neighborhood was a hub of LGBTQ social activity in the twentieth century and helped form the backdrop to his work as activist and gay rights pioneer. There is a comprehensive recent biography of Morris Kight that makes clear, through a history of Kight's life work, why the residence of such a significant historical figure must be preserved for future generations. Kight stature grows each year as his pioneering work continues to develop, sending out bigger and newer branches. Four years ago America had its major first LGBT presidential candidate. This could not have come to pass without the crucial support of Kight's groundbreaking pioneering efforts.

"Mary Ann Cherry has given us a portrait of Morris Kight that jumps—or should I say sashays—off the page with her subject's characteristic brio."

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—MICHAEL KEARNS,
Artist / Activist



How did the gay movement, which began as a sedate group of intellectuals, become what is arguably the most dynamic civil rights crusade in America? Morris Kight used his self-aggrandizing personality as an antiwar activist then later used his skills to organize for the post-Stonewall gay rights movement in America. His distinct blend of the power of the "influencer" and the power of the "source" is what made him so effective.

style of "made-for-TV" activism showed the power of the media decades before social media.

Kight's work in Los Angeles began in the 1950s as an underground social worker for bail, health care, and legal advice for gay men. He forged vital relationships with politicians, socialites, and even gangsters, which provided the essential connections for the backroom deals and handshake agreements that fueled a movement that has evolved into a worldwide revolution. Though not an imperfect warrior who, despite his flaws, successfully managed to change the lives of his communities. His story brings

He was an imperfect warrior who, despite his flaws, succeeded to bring together opposing viewpoints and communities. His story brings to life decades of advocacy work as remembered by those who loved and loathed him.

"Morris didn't ask permission, and he didn't ask for forgiveness either. He was the walking cliché about how one person can make a difference."

—SHEILA KUEHL, Los Angeles County Supervisor

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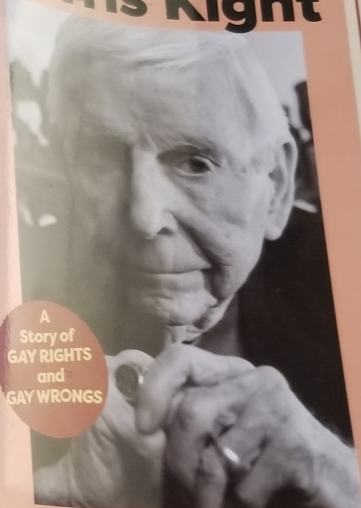
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Morris Kight

HUMANIST,
LIBERATIONIST,
FANTABULIST



A
Story of
GAY RIGHTS
and
GAY WRONGS

Humanist, Liberationist, Fantabulist

MARY ANN CHERRY

Communication from Public

Name: Blake McCormick

Date Submitted: 11/30/2020 05:27 PM

Council File No: 20-1341

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of declaring the Morris Kight Residence an Historic Cultural Monument. Morris Kight was instrumental in bringing many gay rights and gay-supportive organizations into existence. Los Angeles should be proud to preserve this culturally significant site.

Communication from Public

Name: Mark H Katz, MD

Date Submitted: 11/30/2020 06:28 PM

Council File No: 20-1341

Comments for Public Posting: Morris Kight was a key figure in national LGBTQ history. We are lucky to have had him here as a local. Years from now, scholars from around the world will be researching his myriad contributions, and they will want to see where he lived! Having his home as a landmark will actually bring tourism (read: revenue) into the neighborhood, and the City. More saliently, preserving his home is simply "the right thing to do." He spoke in 1993 (when he was 74) at the funeral of a dear friend of mine, who had died from AIDS, age around 37.. He opened his remarks with, "If the world were a fairer place, Chris would be speaking at MY funeral." Please, please, keep his memory accessible and alive! Respectfully and gratefully--Mark