Attachment F

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KENT L. SEAVEY 310 lighthouse avenue Pacific grove, california 93950 (831) 375-8739

June 10, 2024

Craig Spencer HCDirector County of Monterey Salinas, CA 93901

> Re: Yeung Family Trust-residence-(Haas House) 62 Yankee Point Drive Carmel Highlands Mills Act Historical Property Contract Application

Dear Mr. Spencer,

This letter will act in support of an exception to the County's valuation limits set forth in Section 18.28.040, under Eligibility Criteria, B 1& 3, regarding a Mills Act Historical Property Contract Application for the historically listed Carmel Highlands property.

The subject property is an excellent example of modern ""Organic Design" by master architect Mark Mills. Mills was an apprentice of Frank Lloyd Wright from 1944 to 1948, helping to build Wright's Taliesin West, in Arizona & while there, with fellow apprentice Paolo Soeleri, constructed the "Dome House", at Cave Creek on Camelback Mountain, The model of which is on display in New York's Museum of Modern Art. Mills came to California where he settled in Carmel in the early 1950s, advising and assisting on the finishing of Mrs. Della Walker's FL Wright designed house on Carmel Point. Mills went on to design and build a number of houses in the Monterey Bay Region, before his passing in 2007. The subject property is listed as a Monterey County Historic Resource (see Calif. DPR 523 & Resolution No. 23-454 provided).

Under Criteria B1, on the subject property, "The architect adapted and expanded on Wright's idea of Organic design exploring the master's free form possibilities of the Organic concept. It was said of him that he was "an architect of an individual subtlety, rarely repeating designs. Each structure is unique and tailored to the landscape and client". In a 2009 issue, Architectural Digest, a primary American design journal, Mark Mills was referred to as "one of the world's top architects". The great American photographer Ansel Adams was a neighbor and friend of the architect and said of the subject property, in a personal letter, that the "design was magnificent in several domains-concept in relation to the site, relationship to the round & pointed arch, a certain magic of space which I feel but cannot verbalize upon, and a sense of flow of direction to the elemental facts of rocks and surf towards which the structure is oriented." He closed his remarks saying "I wish I could live in it.". (letter Provided).

The first and best grounds for approval of an exception is that the house "represents an exceptional example of an architectural style", which it does, as Wrightian Organic". It also "represents the work of a master", Mark Mills, as noted avove.

Under Criteria B3a, the historic property & its landscape setting is visible from a public right-of-way, off the West side of Yankee Pt. Drive. It is the intent of the owner to allow for public access to the house at least one day a year. Primarily for the support & benefit of non-profit historic, environmental & educational institutions & organizations, which will generate more cultural tourism in the county. It is understood that the existing "AIA Guide to Contemporary Architecture of the Monterey Bay Region 1947-2008" may be revised soon, & the property will be included (copy provided). One of Mark Mills designed Carmel residences is in the current edition, which should further satisfy Criteria 3d, regarding encouraging heritage tourism. The the owner has had a landscape plan prepared that will remove non native species, while preserving and adding appropriate native vegetation on the property (see plan provided).

To date the owner has invested approximately \$2.6 million dollars in the purchase and initial rehabilitation of the subject property and its environment. Recognizing that the basic value of the property will oossibly exceed the County's \$3 million dollar valuation cap on the Mills Act Applications, he is requesting a valuation exemption pursuant to the criteria set forth in County Municipal Code (MCMC) 18.28.080 B, by his willing compliance with the codes sections B1, 3a & c, and possibly B2. if when applying for listing, "the difference between the current property tax obligation for the property and the estimated property tax obligation under the Mills Act is within the same range as the expected estimated lost property taxes from historic property contracts for properties meeting the value limit."

William Blair Scott Jr., architectural historian & Secretary of the Taliesin Fellowship said that "Frank Lloyd Wright trained hundreds of architectural students. Few of those exhibited the the natural talent and skill of Mark Mills." The architect was highly admired in Europe as well as America, but locally based. No Mills residence is alike but all are unique in their individual expression and successful spaces for living, as well as exemplars of Monterey County's innovative architectural design tradition, especially along the the Carmel Highlands & Big Sur coastlines. The Haas House clearly meets the intent of the Mills Acts purpose, to preserve the best of the regions architectural treasures, and warranted by the above, to meet the stated eligibility requirements for inclusion in Monterey County's Mills Act program,

> Respectfully submitted Kut L. Scovery

ANSEL ADAMS

ROUTE I BOX 181 · CARMEL, CALIFORNIA 93921 · TELEPHONE (408) 624-2558 Mark Mills, Architect, Larmel, Calif. D ear Mark,

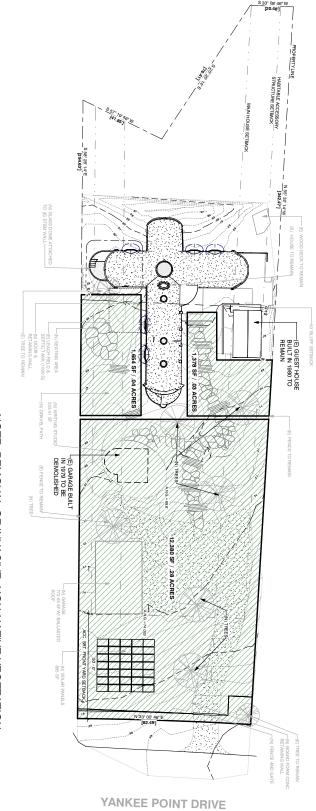
Thank you so much for letting me see the plans of the Haas residence! As I have no architectural training it takes quite a little time for me to visualize the reality lurking in the plans and the elevations. The first impression was, I admit, a bit confusing. However, putting the north, west and south elevations together in my "computer" and solidifying all three with the plans, I came out with quite a clear visualization of the final structure.

It is magnificent in several domains - concept in relation to site, relationship of the round and pointed arch (which I gather comes from the interaction of "rounds" at angles to produce "pointed"), a certain magic of space which I feel but cannot verbalize upon, and a sense of flow and direction to the elemental facts of the rocks and surf towards which the structure is orienfitted.

All structures, when first built, have a raw and desolate feeling; the surrounding land seems a bit shocked, as it were. The gradual blessings of sea=spray, trees, grass, flowers, moss, lichen/ and people make buildings come alive-good buildings, that is! I am surdthat many individuals, confronted with plans and elevations, cannot visualize the final reality of the structure and its "surround" in time. In this country the "time" element is a rather swift one. (We passed from a seed-bed to a jungle in/ less than 5 years!)

All the above intended to say - "Its a great job!" I wish <u>I</u> could live in it!! I think you are an authentic genius! People are fearful of genius because they have seldom experienced the direct, creative contact therewith!! Hat-boxes are safe--for hats!!.

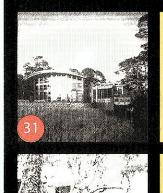
Keep up the good work!!!! Mark Mills Papers, Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo



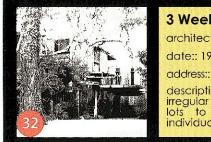
CONCEPTUAL LANDSCAPE PLAN

TOTAL: 15,412 SF / .35 ACRES

NOTE: REMOVAL OF INVASIVE, NON-NATIVE VEGETATION WILL BE REPLACED WITH APPROPRIATE NATIVE SPECIES



ebble Beach House hitect:: Cesar Pelli te:: 1998 ddress:: 32354 Macomber Dr scription:: sited in upper Del Mont prest, this highly-detailed large-sco rivate home set into the hillside h natic views of Point Lobos



Weekend Houses chitect:: Albert Henry Hill te:: 1960-62 dress:: 3rd, 4th + 5th Lopez, N of 4th A cription:: group of three playfull jular buildings sited on pie shapec to take best advantage o ividual views and privacy

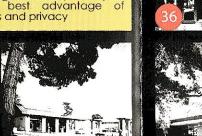
Shell Service Station architect:: Burde + Shaw date:: 1963 address:: San Carlos St at 5th escription:: service station employ apanese pergolas and decorativ oncrete seashell motifs

Eastwood Building architect:: George Brook-Kothlow

ate:: 1988 address:: Dolores St, 2 SW of 5th scription:: contemporary comr al structure in Bay Area tradition wi avy timber construction, shake s

nd open courtyards







bos Lodge

:: 1973

nitect:: Will Shaw

Scenic Drive House

chitect:: John Thodos

Wells Fargo Bank

ate:: 1965

chitect:: Olaf Dahlstrand

late:: 1994

dress:: Monte Verde and Ocean

cription:: series of stuccoe

hed-roofed cottages connected l valkways, patios and garder

address:: 6th W side Scenic Dr, btwn Ocean, 7t

scription:: iconic modern desig

address:: 3 S of Ocean, E side San Carlo

cription:: Wright-inspired desig

e, exposed aggregate concrete walls

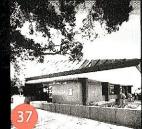
aturing large, floating cantilevere of over a glass facade with decord

use of natural finish wood and glass

looking Carmel Bay celebrates t

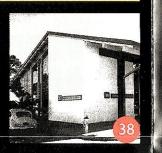
embling an Iberian village





N Calif./Palo Alto Savings Bldg chitect:: Burde + Shaw te:: 1972 dress:: SE corner Dolores at 7th

cription:: heavy timber and glass ding of Bay Area and oriental rence with exposed aggregate crete walls and paving





Mackenzie House architect:: Richard Barrett ate:: 1979

address:: 8th Ave, 2 E of Torres, N side lescription:: house set within mature ak trees to maintain atmosphere of irban forest

Merchant House rchitect:: Wurster, Bernardi + Emma late:: 1961 iddress:: Scenic Dr, 1 NW of 11th escription:: two story angled, glaz cade with laminated beams

exposed aggregate flooring, overlo Carmel Beach

Carmel House rchitect:: Mark Mills (original building) date:: 1951-52 address:: Rio Rd, 2 NW of Junipero, N sid

escription:: geometrically modulate esert masonry walls support an A ame roof with a continuous ridg kylight

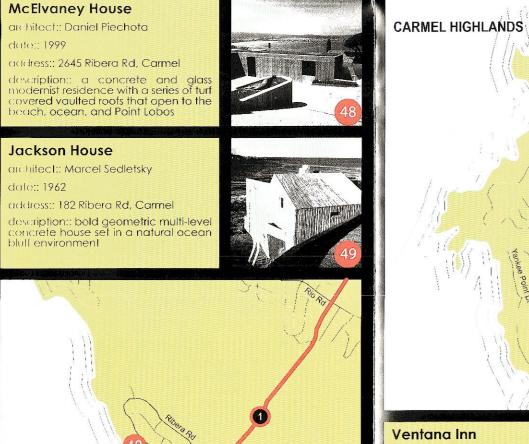
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Walker House chitect:: Frank Lloyd Wright date:: 1951-52

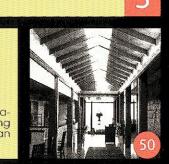
ddress:: W side Scenic Dr, W of Martin escription:: hexagonal plan sited ove Carmel Point with local stone, copper roof nd inverted stepped glass windows; FLV nly realized building on the Peninsula

lis and





Highlands Inn Addition chitect:: Will Shaw ate:: 1984 ddress:: 120 Highlands Dr lescription:: contemporary ada on in the Craftsman style, featu d interiors, sky lit lobby, and oc

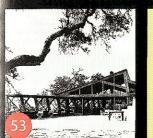


Gallery House architect:: John Thodos ate:: 1996 ddress:: 144 San Remo Rd description:: fusion of art gallery a esidence utilizing natural finish woo and glass with extensive views of t

cific Ocean

Ventana Inn designer:: Kipp Stewart date:: 1975 address:: 48123 Hwy 1 escription:: features cluster of shea of forms with natural wood siding e Bay Area tradition. Best viewe Shop. (28+ miles south of Carmel)





Hawthorne Gallery

address:: 48485 Hwy 1

late:: 1995

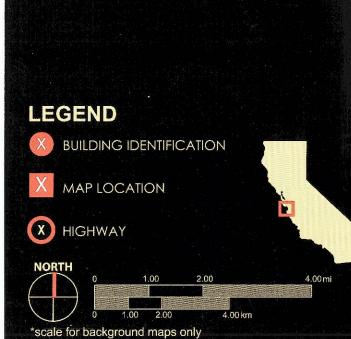
architect:: Mickey Meunnig

+ miles south of Carmel)

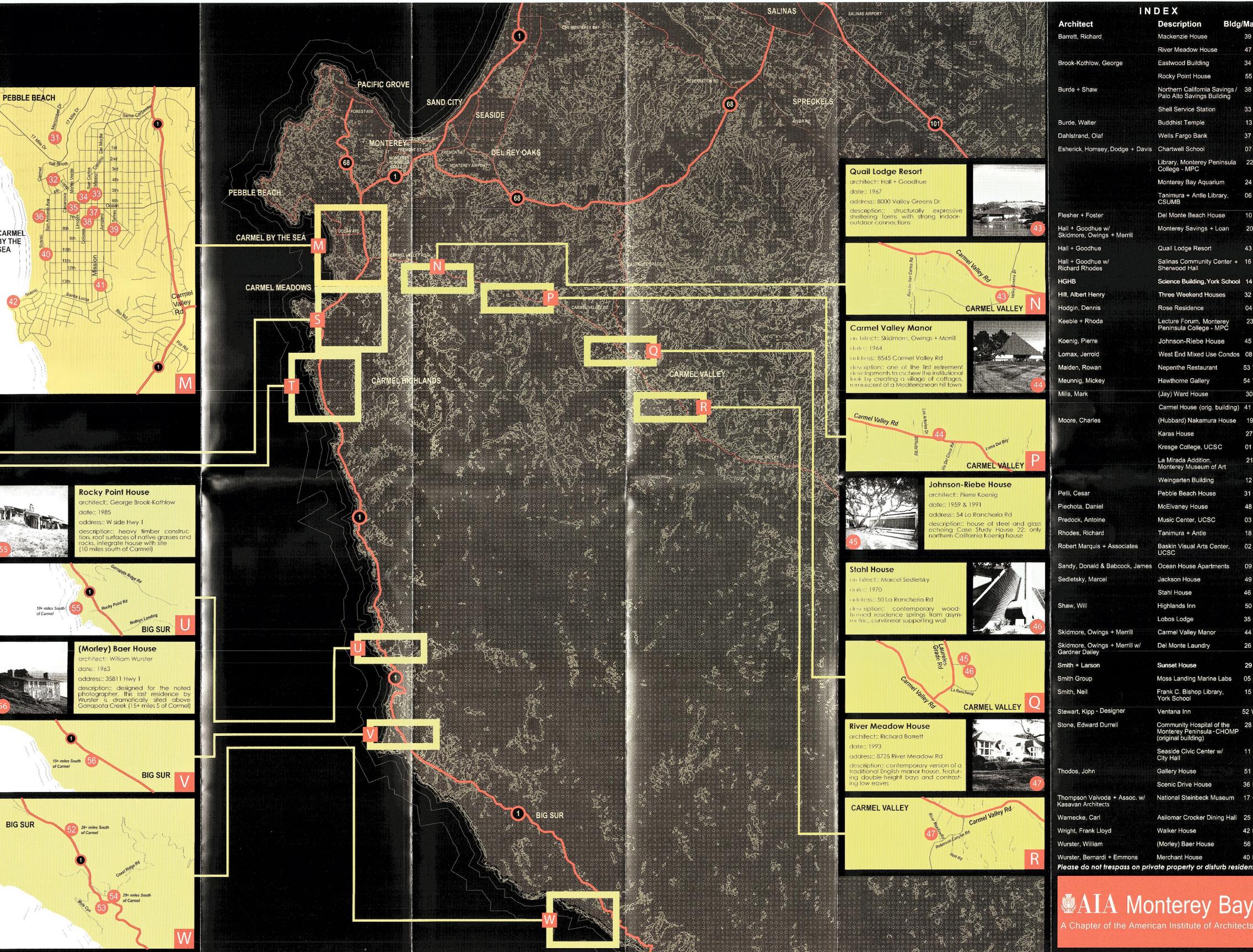
escription:: exposed wood, glas eel and vaulted roof illustrate Bruc off influences

Nepenthe Restaurant chitect:: Rowan Maiden ate:: 1948 dress:: 48510 Hwy 1 cription:: timber frame asymme open plan with natural materic amatically sited high above Big bast (29+ miles south of Carr





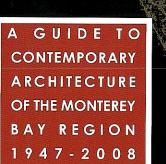




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. century. some of the most renowned of the past attracted many architects - among them The beauty of the Monterey Bay Region has

South and East to Salinas. from Santa Cruz in the North to Big Sur in the that were built since 1947. It covers structures bolary buildings – both public and private – terey region's notable modern and contem-This Map Guide takes you to 56 of the Mon-

working with local architectural historians. Committee of AIA Monterey Bay architects. right of way. The selection was made by a ability to be seen and enjoyed from a public rity of original style and construction, and its architectural expression, importance, integ-Each building was selected for its modern

the American Institute of Architects. and by a grant from the California Council of sary of the American Institute of Architects with the celebration of the 150-year anniver-This guide was constructed in conjunction

ng at any time. permission to enter the grounds or the builddisturb residents. The listing of any private residence in this Guide does **not** give the user Please do not trespass on private property or



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date:: 2003

Monterey Bay Aquarium

date:: 1990

rchitect:: Esherick, Homsey, Dodge + Dav

ddress:: 886 Cannery Row, Monterey

escription:: design evokes elements of the

riginal cannery on the site with multi-level. concrete and glass forms that are consis-ent with the Cannery Row environment

ast completed commission by Moore College Library (MPC) architect:: EHDD Architecture

description:: post-modern addition to historic early 19th c. Carmel stone adobe and 1930's neo-colonial mai

architect:: Charles Moore ate:: 1994 address:: 720 Via Mirada

atural light into the interior. Large enti laza originally featured an urban forest MMA, La Mirada Addition



Kresge College (UCSC)

lescription:: set in a redwood fore is pedestrian-oriented student villo f stucco and wood was designed

Baskin Visual Arts Center (UCSC)

architect:: Robert Marquis & Associat

description:: a cluster of studios, galle

and create a series of outdoor space

escription:: a music village organize

reflect the campus topograph

rranged around a central plaza

Moss Landing Marine Labs

chitect:: SmithGroup

date:: 1966, renovation 2000

address:: 8272 Moss Landing Rd

description:: educational / research facility with low-profile structure of redwood siding

and corrugated concrete roofing panels, ocated along coastal dunes; LEED-EB Gold

Hubbard) Nakamura House

irchitect:: Charles Moore

address:: 325 Via del Rey

lapanese garden details

date:: 1957

istas of a meadow and Monterey Bo

Rose Residence

: 1982

hitect:: Dennis Hodgin

dress:: 100 Via Medici

lescription:: a multi-level wood and

laster house featuring a large interior

AN PAR

atrium, a roof garden and view framed by cantilevered planes

es and offices arranged to con with the land, provide natural ligh

Music Center (UCSC)

architect:: Antoine Predock

architect:: Charles Moore

cho an Italian hill town

date:: 1972-74

date:: 1985

date:: 1997

address:: Meyer Dr

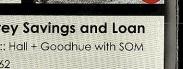
address:: Meyer Dr

address:: Kresge Ct

Monterey Savings and Loan ate:: 1962 ddress:: 490 Alvarado St

rchitect:: Hall + Goodhue with SOM escription:: concrete structure creating

large column-free space bringing



description:: modern Japanese influenced one-story pavilion utilizing edwood siding and shingles, featurin



Asilomar Crocker Dining Hall chitect:: Carl Warnecke ate:: 1961 ddress:: 800 Asilomar Ave, Pacific Grov escription:: Japanese-influenced, moder craftsman style shingle and glass structure hat sits in harmony with the adjacent Julic rgan-designed dining hall

03

UCSC Entrance High S

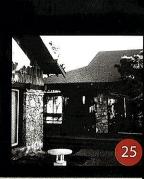
SANTA CRUZ

JUC SANTA CRUZ

APTOS

201 el Monte Laundry

MOSS LANDING

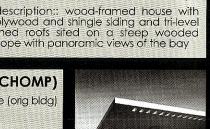


rchitect:: SOM w/ Gardner Dailey ate:: 1949 escription:: one-story Internation vle steel and alass industrial buildi a wooded site. Features redwo

ddress:: 801 Sunset Dr, Pacific Grove

ding and large glass windows Karas House

architect:: Charles Moore ress:: 780 Dry Creek Rd, Monterey ription:: wood-framed house with





Sunset House tect:: Smith + Larson

te" 1970 dress:: 44 Sunset Rd, Pebble Beach cription:: pole construction hou: ed on a steep slope utilizing plywoo id wood shingles with multiple she

(Jay) Ward House itect:: Mark Mills

1963

ldress:: 4030 Sunridge Rd, Pebble Beach

escription:: rusticated concrete house iised on a steep slope with barrel-aulted ceilings over a cruciform plan

ddress:: 23625 Holman Hwy, Montere escription:: Informal grouping of pavilions ind courtyards mixing classicism with Yrightian influence as seen in the concen-Jare motif and broad overhangs

ate:: 1967















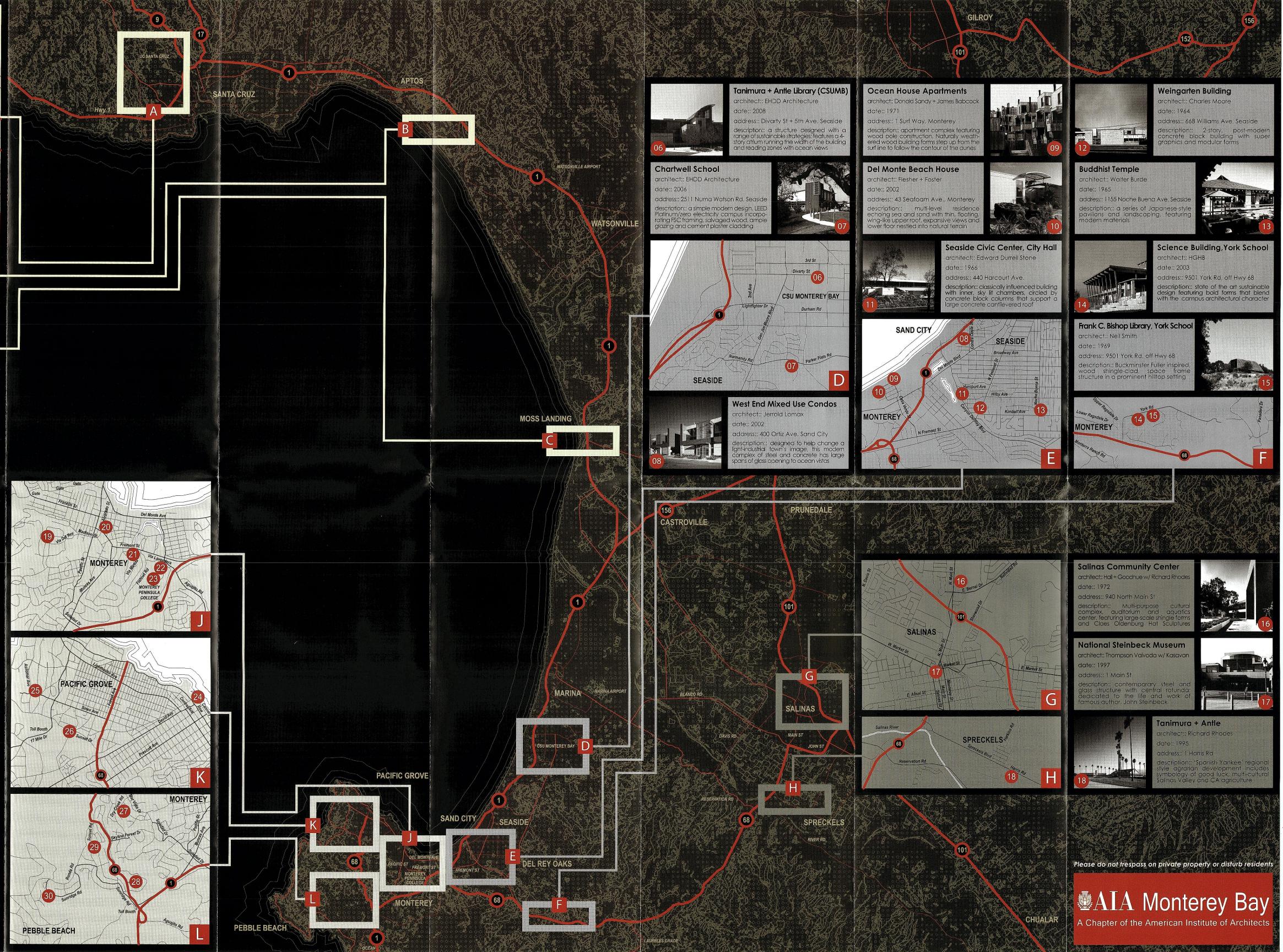












KENT L. SEAVEY 310 lighthouse avenue pacific grove, california 93950 (831) 375–8739

August 27, 2024

Mr. Philip Angelo/Senior Planner Monterey Co. Housing & Com. Development Dept. 441 Schilling Place South (second flr.) Salinas, CA 93901

Dear Mr. Angelo:

This letter is in response to your recent email regarding qualification criteria for the Mills Act Tax Incentives, for the residential property at 62 Yankee Pt. Dr. in the Carmel Highlands (PLN240184) designed by noted American architect, Mark Mills. In question for criteria 18.28.080.B1, regarding the level of quality of the subject property, the Hass House, in Mill's work overall, it has been described in a 2004 article in Dwell Magazine as an "ingenious" response to its site in the most Organic way imaginable, literally dropping over the edge of a cliff, to capture intimate views of the crashing waves and rocks below." As to your question about a level of significance, where "first, best or last" are usually cited, all of Mills houses are original one-offs, predicated on the site and the owner's desires. Mills architecture defies easy categorization. He was an American original who pioneered his own school of anthropomorphic regionalism, each design standing on its own merits of creativity.

Prior to the current ownership, the subject property was visited regularly by students at Monterey Peninsula College as part of an annual class on local architectural history. As noted in the original request for the Mills Act, The new owner is offering to offer it for similar visitation by educational non-profit organizations, on at least once a year basis. As noted in the original Mills Act letter, it will be available for listing in the next AIA Monterey County Guide to Modern Architecture, in support of cultural tourism in the region.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kent L. Seavey

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION MUSEUM INTERPRETATION