

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Planning Code - Landmark Designation - 1712-1716 Fillmore Street (aka Marcus Books and Jimbo's Bop City)]

Ordinance designating 1712-1716 Fillmore Street (aka Marcus Books and Jimbo's Bop City), Assessor's Block No. 0684, Lot No. 020, as a landmark under Planning Code, Article 10; and making environmental findings, and findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

Existing Law

Under Article 10, Section 1004 of the Planning Code, the Board of Supervisors may, by ordinance, designate an individual structure that has special character or special historical, architectural or aesthetic interest or value as a City landmark. Once a structure has been named a landmark, any construction, alteration, removal or demolition for which a City permit is required necessitates a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Historic Preservation Commission ("HPC"). (Planning Code Section 1006; Charter of the City and County of San Francisco, Section 4.135.) Thus, landmark designation affords a high degree of protection to historic and architectural structures of merit in the City. There are currently 265 individual landmarks in the City under Article 10, in addition to other structures and districts in the downtown area that are protected under Article 11. (See Appendix A to Article 10.)

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance amends the Planning Code to add a new historic landmark to the list of individual landmarks under Article 10: 1712-1716 Fillmore Street (aka Marcus Books and Jimbo's Bop City), Lot 020 in Assessor's Block 0684.

The ordinance finds that 1712-1716 Fillmore Street (aka Marcus Books and Jimbo's Bop City) is eligible for designation as a City landmark under National Register of Historic Places Criteria A (association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history) and B (association with the lives of persons significant to our past). Specifically, as to Criterion A, 1712-1716 Fillmore Street is significant for its long-term association with Marcus Books, the nation's oldest continuously operating Black-owned and Black-themed bookstore, and for its association with Jimbo's Bop City, one of the City's most famous, innovative and progressive jazz clubs. As to Criterion B, 1712-1716 Fillmore Street is significant because of its association with Julian and Raye Richardson, who for many years served the City's rapidly expanding Black community in a myriad of ways, from small-scale publishing and book-selling to academic instruction and mentorship.

As required by Section 1004, the ordinance lists the particular exterior features that shall be preserved, or replaced in-kind as determined necessary.

Background Information

The landmark designation was initiated by the HPC pursuant to its authority under the Charter to recommend approval, disapproval, or modification of landmark designations and historic district designations under the Planning Code to the Board of Supervisors. The HPC held a hearing to initiate the landmark designation of 1712-1716 Fillmore Street on September 18, 2013. On November 6, 2013, after holding a public hearing on the proposed designation and having considered the specialized analyses prepared by Planning Department staff and the Landmark Designation Case Report prepared by Stacy Farr, the HPC voted to recommend approval of the proposed landmark designation of 1712-1716 Fillmore Street to the Board of Supervisors.