

1 [Resolution to Initiate the Designation of First St. John's Methodist Church, 1601 Larkin Street  
2 as a Landmark.]

3 **Resolution initiating designation of the First St. John's Methodist Church, 1601 Larkin**  
4 **Street, located at the Northwest corner of Larkin Street and Clay Street, encompassing**  
5 **all of Lot 006 in Block 620, as a Landmark pursuant to Section 1004.1 of the San**  
6 **Francisco Planning Code.**

7  
8 WHEREAS, The First St. John's Methodist Church located on 1601 Larkin Street was  
9 built in 1911 and is the only extant California example by nationally renowned architect  
10 George Washington Kramer and is a valuable example of early twentieth century church  
11 architecture that combines elements of the Mission Revival and English Gothic Tudor styles;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, When the First Methodist Church congregation was founded April 25,  
14 1847 by itinerant Methodist preacher Asa White, his first "church"; a shanty brought from  
15 Oregon to the shores of Yerba Buena Cove, later moving to a building at 1153 Powell Street  
16 in North Beach, the congregation was the first Protestant Church in California; and

17 WHEREAS, The First Methodist Church moved to a site at 1601 Larkin Street at Clay  
18 Street in 1911 and later joined with St. John's Italian Church, adopting its current name, First  
19 St. John's United Methodist Church; and,

20 WHEREAS, George Washington Kramer was well known for designing churches all  
21 over the United States, including National Register of Historic Places sites in Virginia and  
22 Wyoming, as well as landmark quality sites in Illinois, Michigan, and Pennsylvania, and was  
23 further renowned as the author of a best-selling book published in 1897, "The What, How and  
24 Why of Church Building"; and

1           WHEREAS, George Washington Kramer is credited as the father of an influential  
2 church design, known as the "Akron Plan", a variation on the "Pulpit in the Corner Church"  
3 plan, incorporating theater style seating with curved pews, radiating aisles, and the pulpit,  
4 choir, and organ in one corner of the auditorium opposite the entrance, of which the First St.  
5 John's Methodist Church at 1601 Larkin St. is an excellent example; now, therefore, be it

6           RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors does hereby initiate the  
7 designation of the real property at 1601 Larkin Street, located at the Northwest corner of  
8 Larkin and Clay Streets encompassing all of Lot 006, in Block 620, including the building  
9 located thereon, commonly known as the First St. John's Methodist Church, as a Landmark,  
10 and so refers this resolution to the Landmarks Preservation Advisory for review pursuant to  
11 Article 10 of the Planning Code and other applicable provisions of law.

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City and County of San Francisco

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails  
Resolution

File Number: 070625

Date Passed:

Resolution initiating designation of the First St. John's Methodist Church, 1601 Larkin Street, located at the Northwest corner of Larkin Street and Clay Street, encompassing all of Lot 006 in Block 620, as a Landmark pursuant to Section 1004.1 of the San Francisco Planning Code.

June 5, 2007 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Alioto-Pier, Ammiano, Daly, Dufty, Elsbernd, Jew, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Mirkarimi, Peskin, Sandoval

File No. 070625

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on June 5, 2007 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Kay Gulbengay  
Interim Clerk of the Board

JUN 15 2007

Date Approved

  
Mayor Gavin Newsom

Date: June 15, 2007

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter.

Interim Clerk of the Board

File No.  
070625