

Google Groups

"Sakai-Kozawa Residence/Tokio Florist Pole Sign"

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Posted in group: **Clerk-PLUM-Committee**

Members of the PLUM Committee,

I urge your support of the "Sakai-Kozawa Residence/Tokio Florist" at 2718 North Hyperion Avenue for designation as a City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument.

I am a 27 year resident of Silverlake and I recognize the importance of this unique property to the history of a Japanese American Business Woman operating a floral shop and maintaining a home during a time of great discrimination. The Los Angeles Conservancy states, "Sumi and Frank Kozawa were responsible for the landscaped grounds, which include a Japanese garden featuring rare plantings, koi ponds, wooden bridges, rocks, and circular pathways. The Sakai-Kozawa family members planted fruit trees, poppies, and vegetables in the upper terrace for personal and business use".

The multi generational owners have an intertwined history with the neighborhood of Silverlake, Hollywood, and Los Feliz. The Silverlake area of LA, with no laws restricting minorities from owning homes, has been unique in accepting Asian Americans. The U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service 2017 Asian American Pacific Islander National Historic Landmarks Theme Study notes that "place is rarely provided the significance it deserves in the contemplation or commemoration of historic events/people/ideas in the narratives of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders within the histories of the United States."

We must not lose this opportunity to designate this unique property a City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument.

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