

Ronald L. Williams
4195 La Ladera Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
laladera@cox.net

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February 28, 2012

To the Santa Barbara County Board Of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of the resolution to designate the Irene and Frances Rich Beach Cabana as a County Historic Landmark. It is a place of significance to many residents in the area and an important personal touchstone to me and my wife, Charlotte.

I had the privilege of residing on the Rich property from 1967 until 1971. During that time I became friends with Frances Rich, William Rohrbach, as well as Charlie and Judy Piper. Nearly every day during that time I jogged along the cypress-lined bluffs on the Rich estate, by the "Singing Saint Francis," down the winding path through the pines to the beach, and then past the Cabana to begin my run along Hope Ranch Beach. On weekends I would sometimes see Charlie Piper fishing in the surf while Judy and her children watched from the Cabana deck. It was truly a magical setting, and fortunately in a time of accelerating change, it still is.

Charlotte and I were married on the Rich estate overlooking the Cabana by Reverend Lex Crane, minister of the Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara, on April 2, 1971. We then moved to a nearby location, where we have lived ever since. We continue to walk along the beach below the Rich Cabana and it remains a strong visual reminder of our younger days. We often remark how little it has changed with a continuity that is important to us. Nearly everything else has been altered on the Rich estate, but the Cabana remains an important cornerstone of our cultural heritage and is still visually accessible to us. In our minds, it certainly deserves a landmark status.



California Dreamin'

I made the photo above in front of the Cabana. Please preserve this unique cultural and artistic icon for future generations!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R L Williams".

Ronald L. Williams, Ph.D.
Research Economist, Emeritus, UCSB

'you are still fighting for that little Cabana house? good luck.. It's so beautiful. i hope you get to keep it, reminds me of a movie or a really good dream

All The Best,
JIHAN

If You Project Positive Energy Into the Universe, It Will Surround You
Always...

Jihan Abdalla Photography

3 time award winner "The Knot" Best of Picks'08,'09, and 2012!

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<http://jihanabdalla.com/blog>

(310) 545-0180

(805)636-9448

Lee and Julia,

I grew up in Hope Ranch, my father still has a home there. We knew the Kallen's family in the 70's and spent a lot of time at the house and at the cabana. Such wonderful memories of that cabana and its beautiful setting. The cabana was a "turn around" point for many runs from Hope Ranch Beach. It was also a boundary "don't go past the little house on the cliff" for the children. I can't imagine not running down the beach and not seeing that quaint cabana nestled up on the hill, it should be preserved as a landmark for future generations. Good luck!

Jeff Macaluso

Jeff Macaluso
Macaluso Pools
PO Box 1081
Goleta, Ca 93116
805.681.9559

From the Desk of Robert R. Mott

3049 Calle Pico Court
Santa Ynez California, 93460
E-mail: rrm0523@gmail.com

February 29, 2012

Santa Barbara County
Board of Supervisors

Madam Chair & Board Members:

My name is Robert Mott. I am a Santa Barbara County, 3rd District constituent. I am also an active member of the local law enforcement community. During my career, I have been responsible for patrol and narcotics enforcement, Mobile Field Force training, Mounted Enforcement Unit, SWAT operations and air resource units.

I currently hold the position of President with the Santa Barbara Trail Riders and routinely organize and assist with events at the Santa Ynez Valley Equestrian Association. My significant other and I are participants and organizers of Fiesta Rodeo events and feel community participation is an important part of our lives.

I am writing you in support of the Carr's efforts to landmark the "Rich Cabana." I have been following, along with many others, their progress in this matter. The Carr's have conducted extensive research and developed background information, which is being provided to you for reference, justifying this designation.

As a member or participant of many groups which have benefited from their community interaction, I feel it is appropriate for our leaders to identify and support conscientious tax payers. To help with that distinction, I submit that the Carr's have allowed the Mounted Enforcement Unit, the Special Enforcement Team (SWAT) and county air resources to utilize their property on nearly an "at will" basis. I have personally coordinated many of these details and/or events and their assistance has been invaluable to our efforts.

They provide community service by facilitating use of their property for government, business, training and fund raisers without charge, in some cases, saving taxpayer dollars. This information may not directly relate to the "landmark" status, but it most certainly is an indicator of the Carr's community based intent and should be considered when making your determination on the "Rich Cabana" matter.

During the times I have been privileged to use their property for Mounted Unit training or Equestrian Association competitive events, I have noticed the Carr's maintain their ranch property in pristine condition; also an indicator of how they could and would maintain an historic landmark on their Marina Drive property.

I feel the Carr's have a broad base of support for this project and for the work they have done to preserve a small piece of history overlooking our majestic coastline. Please vote in favor of "landmarking" and preserving the "Rich Cabana" on March 6, 2012, it is the right thing to do.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert R. Mott
3rd District constituent

Reference Addendum:

Member/Participant:

- Law enforcement:
 - Mounted Enforcement Unit
 - Marijuana Eradication Base Camp
 - Air resources training
- 2012 President: Santa Barbara Trail Riders
- Santa Ynez Equestrian Association
- Fiesta Rodeo Committee: 10 years

Other groups which have benefited from the Carr's community based involvement:

- UCSB Ornithology and Anthropology Classes
- The Audubon Society
- The Westerners
- Rancheros Visitadores: Charro Camp
- The Sage Hens
- The Natural History Museum
- Santa Ynez High School Horse Association
- Fire Department fire fighters camp
- Rangeland Trust

Dear Board of Supervisors,

It is with the strongest support that I write this letter on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Carr, Irene and Frances Rich, a long-time resident of Santa Barbara and as an active member in the Art Community. I am The Vice President and Marketing Director Private Sales for Christie's, the auction house that was responsible for the selling of the second Diego Rivera "Self Portrait" painted on the Richs' property in Santa Barbara, as the first one he painted commissioned by Firestone, was sold to Irene. It sold for over one million dollars.

As long time resident and dear friend to Julie Wynn Carr and Mr. Carr, I am impressed by their commitment to forge through, what has been a several year process and dedicate themselves to such an important piece of Santa Barbara history. I am proud as a resident to say Santa Barbara is rooted in cultural history and the arts and passionately demonstrates this through art festivals, cultural institutions, educational institutions and the like.

As an active member in the art world on a global scale, stories as rich in history as the Irene and Frances Rich relationship to Diego Rivera is what art buyer's love. They feel themselves they are now a part of the story and enjoy sharing these anecdotes. The provenance and it's link back to Santa Barbara, to the Richs', and most interesting, the Mexican 500 peso bill; a tribute to the artist and subsequently to the last remaining structure of the Richs', the Cabana is so tightly woven that to remove a structure that has such historical roots both culturally and artistically would be a terrible loss to Santa Barbara, the Richs, The Carrs and Mr. Rivera himself.

We live in a world where authenticity and heritage is becoming scarcer and those who retain those values will fight passionately on behalf of them. The Cabana is a gift and should be recognized for its cultural, historical, artistic aspects in addition to its simple but authentic character, overlooking the bluffs of Santa Barbara. Landmarks are significant parts to a countries/cities identity. Cities that benefit from such gifts need to celebrate its roots and historical significance on a more global scale.

So the question here is not whether to remove the Cabana, for reasons that have already have deemed it an important and significant structure, but the more complex question and the challenge I respectfully ask the Supervisors of the Board is:

What can you do to promote this unique connection that was birthed in Santa Barbara, their hometown?

What cultural events or exhibits can you tie into with the other educational/cultural institutions to bring this story out and engage art enthusiasts and not who can learn about Latin American Art and its direct link to Santa Barbara?

What civic responsibility do you have to support and encourage the arts through unique and priceless means?

Thank you for taking the above thoughts into consideration when looking at what the future holds for the Cabana and by all means, please help to protect your historic resources.

Respectfully yours,

Christine Montalvo
Christie's
Vice President & Marketing Director, Private Sales
20 Rockefeller Plaza



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

To preserve, restore, reconstruct and interpret historic sites in Santa Barbara County

February 28, 2012

Supervisors

Doreen Farr, Chair,

Salud Carbajal, Vice-Chair,

Janet Wolf,

Joni Gray,

Steve Lavagnino

Sent via email.

Dear Honorable Supervisors:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP), I write regarding the proposed landmarking of the Irene and Frances Rich Cabana. The SBTHP is a 501c3 nonprofit with a countywide charter to protect, preserve, restore and interpret historical sites and places. We operate El Presidio de SB State Historic Park for the State Parks Department as well as manage the Santa Ines Mills State Property in Solvang, not to mention a 55 year lease we have entered with the city of Solvang to protect a Native American archaeological site. We also own the Casa de la Guerra Adobe next to City Hall in Santa Barbara and hold an historic easement over the Historic El Paseo Commercial Complex. We have rebuilt and restored adobe structures, restored the Alhecama theatre and a 1930s Spanish Colonial revival building that now serves as our Research Center. We also own Jimmy's Oriental Gardens, and manage properties that contain relocated World War II buildings, which of themselves are not major architectural gems but reflect an important period of history of our community

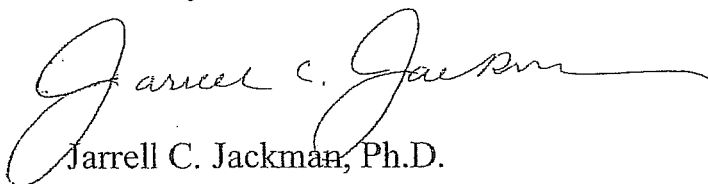
My point in reciting this preamble of our many activities is to let you know that the SBTHP has a professional staff and board of historians, preservationists, and archaeologists who have a deep understanding and appreciation of the variety of ways one can determine historical significance. The proposal to landmark the Rich Cabana was reviewed by Trust Staff, the

Trust Historic Resources Committee, and the Trust Board. Among the criteria for designation of a County Landmark is a site's or building's association with prominent and historical figures. The Cabana landmark proposal provides compelling evidence of historical personages associated with the construction and use of the Cabana, from Pearl and Harold Chase, to a former mayor Don MacGillivray, as well as the former owners and primary users of the cabana--Irene Rich, a well known actress from the silent film era and the early talkies, and her daughter Frances Rich, a skilled artist and sculptor. Even the world famous artist Diego Rivera visited and worked at the site, not to mention the many celebrities who used it as a getaway from Hollywood.

The outcome of the trust's review of the Rich Cabana proposal was as follows: The Staff supported the landmarking; the Historical Resources Committee whose members include a former city historian, a member of the City Landmarks Commission, an archaeologist and an architect, voted unanimously to recommend landmarking. Lastly at its February 27th meeting the SBTHP Board of Directors voted unanimously (19 to 0) in support of landmarking the Rich Cabana.

The SBTHP thus urges the Board of Supervisors to confirm its Historic Landmarks Advisory Commission's unanimous recommendation to landmark the Irene and Frances Rich Cabana. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jarrell C. Jackman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jarrell C. Jackman, Ph.D.
Executive Director

433 Pimiento Ln.
Santa Barbara, CA 93108
March 1, 2012

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Barbara

RE: Request for historic landmark status for the Rich cabana

Dear Board of Supervisors:

I would like to urge you to support the request of Lee and Julia Carr for designation of the cabana of Irene and Frances Rich for historic landmark status. Their efforts on behalf of the above-mentioned cabana come from a deep-seated respect to preserve and protect this historic structure.

Lee and Julia Carr are not your average homeowners. Their involvement and generosity within the Santa Barbara community has been extraordinary.

I have known Lee and Julia Carr for over ten years. In an era when most homeowners are shutting out visitors and afraid of endless liability concerns, these fine people have always allowed groups to come and enjoy their properties.

In this case, I am referring to Rancho Santa Barbara in the Santa Ynez Valley, to which they have allowed interested parties access with regularity.

I am a naturalist, a Research Associate at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, a teacher in the Continuing Education Division of Santa Barbara City College, and was a member of the Montecito General Plan Advisory Committee for 6 years back in the 1990s.

I was born and raised in Santa Barbara and consider myself well-versed in the issues this community must face to preserve its unique character.

People like the Carrs, who sincerely wish to preserve and protect the unique Rich cabana, and have shown themselves to be extraordinarily generous when it comes to inviting others to share their properties - these are truly the kinds of people we want to support in their endeavors.

Please help keep the Rich cabana as an historic treasure and support the Carrs in their efforts to enrich our Santa Barbara community with their generosity and foresight.

Sincerely,

Joan Easton Lentz

Hope Ranch Park Homes Association

695 Via Tranquila
Santa Barbara, California 93110-2296
Phone 805 967-2376 Fax 805 967-8102

February 24, 2012

Mr. & Mrs. Lee Carr
4353 Marina Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

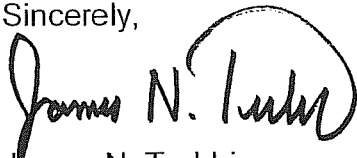
Dear Mr. & Mrs. Carr:

I would like to join the group of supporters of your efforts to retain the cabana that is located on the bluff of your property. As manager for the 787 lots within the Hope Ranch community, I suspect the vast majority of our residents would be in favor of allowing this structure to remain in place.

I have not had any negative feedback about the cabana from our members. I'm hopeful that the authorities who make this decision will allow you to keep this valuable asset.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James N. Trebbin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, circular flourish at the end of the last name.

James N. Trebbin
General Manager



Santa Barbara
Museum of Natural History

February 29, 2012

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am writing in support of efforts to designate the Irene and Frances Rich Cabana as a historic landmark.

I appreciate the efforts of local residents to preserve this inconspicuous but charming structure that surely meets the criteria for such a designation: it is a remnant of a bygone era; it is associated with several personalities of cultural and artistic significance locally and nationally; it is a trademark feature of the history of Hope Ranch, one of the important areas of the Santa Barbara region; and it is one of very remaining examples of its kind and of a lifestyle that is fondly remembered by many of our residents.

It is my hope that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara will take into consideration both these facts and the desire of many local residents and grant the requested historic landmark designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karl Hutterer'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karl L. Hutterer, PhD
Executive Director

G. B. SHEPHERD

February 26, 2012

Board of Supervisors
Santa Barbara County
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re BOS March 6, 2012 Agenda Item – Irene and Frances Rich Beach Cabana

Dear Supervisors Farr, Carbajal, Gray, Lavagnino, Wolf:

As a former member of your Historical Landmarks Advisory Commission and an active commissioner in October 2010 when HLAC unanimously recognized the merits of the *Irene and Frances Rich Beach Cabana* with landmark designation #48, I would like to add my voice in support of preserving this unique piece of Santa Barbara's rich history.

To qualify as a landmark requires the structure meet at least one of nine criteria set out in County Code Chapter 18A, Section A-3. The *Irene and Frances Rich Beach Cabana* was landmarked on the basis of meeting six of the required criteria, including:

1. It exemplifies or reflects special elements of the County's cultural history;
2. It is identified with persons of significant local, national and international history;
3. It embodies distinctive characteristics of a style or type;
4. It contributes to the significance of our history, being a geographically definable area possessing a concentration of history;
5. It has a location with unique physical characteristics and is an established and familiar visual feature of a neighborhood;
6. It is one of the few remaining examples of its type.

While no longer an HLAC commissioner, I have followed the cabana landmarking process with interest. It is dismaying to see the disservice foisted on the property owners by county staff who, in October 2010, made it clear they did not want the HLAC landmarking vote to be ratified by the Board of Supervisors. (This can be verified with a reading of the HLAC October 2010 meeting minutes.) I believe the subject property should have been given a fair and unbiased review based on the merits of the property and the county criteria for landmark status as itemized above.

I am glad to see the *Irene and Frances Rich Beach Cabana* come once again to the Board of Supervisors for ratification of landmark status. With your vote today in the affirmative, you have an opportunity to demonstrate that fair public processes are in place, are valued, and can work for the betterment of our community.

Thank you.



New Information on Rich Beach Cabana:

Irene and Frances Rich had strong friendship/relationship famous Mexican artist, **Diego Rivera**.

He stayed in their home while he painted two self portraits. The first one dedicated to Irene is now on the front of the **500 Pesos note** - the second one to replace that one went to Firestone and in 2009 was sold for over a million dollars at Christie's. "Irene Rich" is printed on the new 500 Pesos bill under the self portrait Diego Rivera painted on the Richs' property. The words printed in Spanish translate to:

"DIEGO RIVERA SELF-PORTRAIT DEDICATED TO IRENE RICH"

Several stories with pictures ran of the three of them together in Santa Barbara at that time in the News Press - 1941

Frances sculpted a bust of him at that time as well - one cast from the original mold is on display at the American College of Greece and the original is housed at our own Historical Museum.

Frances Rich's Art Exhibit - La Gazelle is still ongoing at the American College of Greece. They have over 300 of her sculptures and 1,000 paintings they have agreed to show as a part of the deal of her to leave the majority of her art collection to them. Our local **Santa Barbara Museum of History** had four of her works on display at their last exhibit and is considering a dedicated show in the future, including memorabilia of Irene's - a tribute to the Rich Legacy if you will. There are many other told and untold stories Jane Rich Mueller has shared of both her sister and her mother. An article from Cranbrook tells how Katharine Hepburn called Frances one day complaining that she would be long forgotten and Frances would be remembered because of her sculptures that would last thru the ages. (How much time do you have for more new stories? Jane and I will be happy to share them with you!)

Don MacGillivray, builder of the Cabana, has a point in Shoreline Park named after him; in 1995 a plaque with benches were placed there to commemorate his service to his community, state and nation. If the family had accepted the offer at the time, the entire park would have been named after him. His appointments have been mentioned so I will not repeat all, but best know in Santa Barbara as a three term Mayor and CA State Senator.

Pearl Chase not only helped Irene with obtaining the cypress trees that remain around the Cabana but were good friends with all the Richs, including Jane who is now 95 and kicking - she served on the Historical Museum Board for 12 years.

I have come up with an enormous amount of new information on Irene Rich. In addition to **two sitars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame**. She co-starred in the only movie John Wayne ever produced. She was also in the blockbuster western "Fort Apache" with John Wayne, Henry Fonda, Shirley Temple and others and coined the phrase "Dear John letter" ...still used today to indicate a breakup letter.

The Cabana itself is reminiscent of a Cliff May **ranch style architecture from mid-20th century** that is coming back in vogue today. There is a Cliff May exhibit at UCSB right now.

SANTA BARBARA PRESERVATION COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR RICH BEACH CABANA HISTORIC DESIGNATION

Historic Landmarks Advisory Committee (HLAC)

Unanimous votes two times: October 11, 2010 and December 12, 2011

John C. Woodward, *Chair, At Large*

J'amy Brown, 1st

Sue Adams, 1st

James Kyriaco, Jr., 2nd

Bob Cunningham, 2nd

Deborah Aceves, 3rd

Lansing Duncan, 3rd

Eileen Wyckoff, 4th

Tom Hom, 4th

Howard Wittausch, 5th

Randy Melcombe, 5th

Gerry Shepherd, 5th

Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation Board of Directors

Unanimous vote; members present who voted on Rich Cabana designation

Jarrell Jackman-- *Executive Director*

Deborah Aceves--*early California descendant, community activist*

Tim Aguilar--*Hope Ranch resident, 3rd generation Santa Barbara*

Randy Bergstrom--*chair Public History Program, UCSB*

W. Elliot Brownlee--*professor Emeritus History, UCSB*

Terease Chin--*trust officer, local bank*

Mary Louise Days--*retired SB City Historian, 3rd generation Santa Barbaran*

Katie Hay--*new board member, specializes in revitalization projects*

Robert Hoover--*Professor Emeritus, anthropology, Cal Poly SLO*

Craig Makela--*8th Generation Californian, former owner SB Olive Company*

David Martinez--*former business mgr Teatro Campesino, local museum services mgr*

Keith Mautino--*3rd Generation Santa Barbara, Asian Art dealer*

Arthur Najera--*retired orthodontist*

John Poucher--*local attorney*

Richard Rojas--*retired State Park Superintendent, Channel Coast District*

Rob Rossi--*redeveloper of Historic Properties SLO*

Suzanne Schomer--*bank vice-president*

Donald Sharpe--*architect, Member of City Landmarks Commission*

Bob Tuler--*cofounder, commercial real estate company*

Edward Vernon--*retired business man, author of book on Baja Missions*

Pearl Chase Society Board of Directors

Unanimous support

Susan Adams, *President*

Hattie Beresford, *Vice President*

Kellam De Forest, *Secretary*

Vito Gioiello, *Treasurer*

Patti Ottoboni, *Historian*

Marty Blum

Louise Boucher

Bob Burtness

Steve Crozier

Roger Horton

Barbara Lowenthal

Lisa Lunsford

Nyna Mahan

Maureen Masson

Fermina Murray

Kitty Peri

Notables

Michael E. Redmon, *Director of Research Santa Barbara Historical Museum*

Jane Rich Mueller, *Sister of Frances Rich, Daughter of Irene Rich served on Board of the Historical Museum for twelve years*

Karl L. Hutterer, *Executive Director, Museum of Natural History*

Joan Easton Lentz, *Research Associate at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, teacher in Continuing Education Division of Santa Barbara City College, member of the Montecito Plan Advisory committee for six years*

Neal Graffy, *Author and local Historian*