

Brianda Negrete

From: Francesca Galt <frangalt@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2023 10:21 PM
To: sbcob; sbcob
Subject: Santa Barbara County Historic Landmark designation for Rocky Nook Park January 24 2023 agenda
Attachments: Jan 24 2023 meeting for RNPk.docx

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Please forward to the Supervisors.

Thank you,

Fran

January 24, 2023

Francesca Galt
980 Andante Rd
Santa Barbara, CA93105

Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Joan Hartmann 3rd district Chair
Das Williams 1st District Vice Chair
Laura Capps 2nd District
Bob Nelson 4th District
Steve Lavagnino 5th District

Dear Supervisors,

I urge you to designate Rocky Nook Park a Santa Barbara County Historic Landmark.

The unique landscape is dotted with huge boulders from ancient debris flows. Chumash stories collected by JP Harrington tell of the great flood through the village of Xana'yan. Descendants of this ancient village live in Santa Barbara today.

The streamside ecology and Oak Woodland contribute to the health and aesthetics of our environment. The fresh water source was used for the founding of the Presidio in 1782 and the establishment of the Santa Barbara Mission in 1786. The Chumash built the reservoirs, grist mill, and miles of aqueducts that brought water by gravity from Mission Canyon to the city of Santa Barbara until modern times.

In 1881, George and Frances Dabney Oliver were one of the earliest settlers in Mission Canyon. They had retired from diplomatic service at the U. S. Consulate in the Azores where Mrs Oliver's family had served since being appointed by President Thomas Jefferson. A member of the Jose De la Guerra family was living in the cottage at the time.

The Oliver's loved Mission Canyon and their "Rocky Nook". They quietly contributed to the development of Santa Barbara. Everyone was welcome to picnics at their place. "Fanny," as she was called, was famous for her naturalistic garden. When George Oliver died she had the horse trough/fountain sculpted in his honor. It was placed at the far end of their property and was connected to the lower reservoir.

Mrs Oliver lived on until 1926. Her many friends and neighbors knowing she always wanted to leave "Rocky Nook" to the public, raised the funds to buy a portion of the estate for a Park. It became the first Santa Barbara County Park in South County. There is a deed restriction for park use only.

The historic cultural landscape was left as natural as possible.

In 1931, a caretakers cottage was built. Caretakers were descendants of Presidio soldiers. They were members of the community for 50 years.

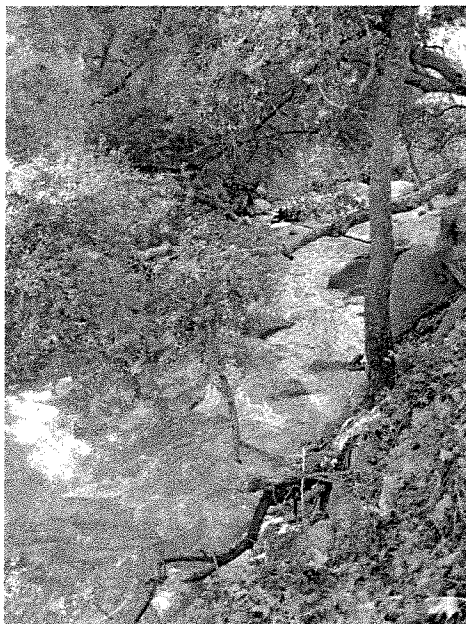
In 1984, Parks Director and Landscape Architect, Mike Pahos, moved the Park offices into the cottage. He had it renovated for offices and added to the aesthetics of the entry with boulders and the distinctive Rocky Nook Park sign.

Stone retaining walls along the creek, curbs, and specimen trees are from the Oliver's time. Adobe foundation stones from the 1780's are on the cottage. Ancient geologic structures and forms along with trails among native plants and trees have always been part of the scenery.

This natural educational experience greatly benefits the community and gives us a sense of place. Rocky Nook Park is an important County site worthy of the honor of Historic Landmark.

It's called, axtayuxash or islay, the place where the Chumash gathered to pick wild cherries.

Mission Creek Rocky Nook Park December 2022



Sincerely,

Fran

Brianda Negrete

From: DAWN OBRIEN <mercurydmo@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, January 16, 2023 11:13 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Rocky Nook Park

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear County Board of Supervisors:

Please make Rocky Nook Park a County Historical Landmark.
Thank you for your consideration,

Dawn O'Brien
1817 Mountain Ave
SB Ca 93101

Brianda Negrete

From: antiquepam@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 12:08 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Re: Rocky Nook Park

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Supervisors:

My entire family is in support of Rocky Nook Park being designated a County Historic Landmark.

This historic and environmental treasure should be preserved and safe guarded for future generations. It is an essential part of Santa Barbara's heritage.

We'll appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

...Pamela Boehr...
707 Anacapa Street

Brianda Negrete

From: Larry Ragan <lgrags54@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 7:31 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Rocky Nook Park

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

My family would like the preservation to historic status of this jewel of a site. We go there often to enjoy the trees and of course Mission Creek. This is approximately my fifth letter in support of the approval to save this park.

Larry Ragan

Brianda Negrete

From: Theodore Plute <tplute@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 9:51 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: Support Rocky Nook Park Positive Designation

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

As longtime residents of the Old Mission neighborhood on APS, we value our region for all its beauty and history. Please respect and honor it. Maintain it and keep it open and protected. We understand the vulnerability to homeless people and misuse but that is why we pay taxes to support those needs. Thank you.
Theodore Plute and Larry Falxa

Brianda Negrete

From: mofurner@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2023 9:57 AM
To: sbcob
Cc: mofurner@aol.com
Subject: Preserve Rocky Nook Park, PLEASE!!!

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear leaders,

I live near Rocky Nook Park and easily observe how essential this beloved space is to the remembrance of this region's history and to the protection of sites that are dedicated to preserving our natural environment. Please protect and preserve this historic treasure.

Mary O. Furner, retired professor UCSB Department of History

Brianda Negrete

From: DIANNE LIND <nine2two@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2023 1:14 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Rocky Nook Park

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am in support of making Rocky Nook Park an Historic Monument. With its long history and the continued enjoyment of the Santa Barbara public, it remains one of our city's iconic family - outing parks.

Please consider these facts in a positive way when making this happen.

Thank you!

Dianne Lind
Santa Barbara Resident