

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Zoraida Abresch

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN: 009-170-028

Case No.: n/a

Location: 170 Middle Road, Santa Barbara

Project Title: Moody Sisters Cottage Historic Landmark Designation

Project Applicant: David & Tamie Posnick

Project Description: The adoption of a resolution of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors designating the Moody Sisters Cottage a County of Santa Barbara Historic Landmark.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: David & Tamie Posnick

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- ☐ Ministerial
- ☐ Statutory Exemption
- ☒ X Categorical Exemption
- ☐ Emergency Project
- ☐ Declared Emergency

2013 DEC -3 AM 10:03
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Cite specific CEQA and/or CEQA Guideline Section 15308

Reasons to support exemption findings:

Section 15308 allows for actions taken by regulatory agencies, as authorized by state or local ordinance, to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment. The Moody Sisters Cottage was identified by qualified architectural historians as being eligible for designation as a historic landmark due to its architectural and cultural significance. Designating the property as a Historic Landmark provides protection as a significant historic resource to ensure its preservation. This designation will result in minor changes to the land use limitations applicable to the property by requiring an additional level of review for any proposed changes to the structure in the future that will serve to protect it as a historical resource. Based on the foregoing, no significant environmental effects would result from this project and this exemption is appropriate.

There is no substantial evidence that the proposed project involves unusual circumstances, including future activities, resulting in or which might reasonably result in significant impacts which threaten the environment. The exceptions to the categorical exemptions pursuant to Section 15300.2 of the State CEQA Guidelines are:

- (a) **Location.** Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, and 11 are qualified by consideration of where the project is to be located -- a project that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particularly sensitive environment be significant. Therefore, these classes are considered to apply all instances, except where the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

No designated trails, sensitive biological resources or cultural resources occur within the immediate project vicinity. The landmark designation would not result in any new impacts. Therefore, this exception to the categorical exemption does not apply.

- (b) **Cumulative Impact.** All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

The proposed landmark designation does not involve development and therefore does not pose any cumulative impacts.

- (c) **Significant Effect.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances.

No sensitive habitat exists on the subject site, and there are no unusual circumstances that would cause the proposed landmark designation to have a significant effect on the environment.

- (d) **Scenic Highways.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may result in damage to scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources, within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. This does not apply to improvements which are required as mitigation by an adopted negative declaration or certified EIR.

The proposed project is not located near or within visibility of a designated scenic highway.

- (e) **Hazardous Waste Sites.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project located on a site which is included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

The proposed project is not located near any hazardous waste sites. Therefore, this exception does not apply.

- (f) **Historical Resources.** A categorical exemption shall not be used for a project which may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

The proposed landmark designation would protect a historic resource. Therefore, this exception to the categorical exemption does not apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Zoraida Abresch

Phone #: (805) 934-6585 Department/Division Representative: Zoraida Abresch

Date: December 3, 2013

Acceptance Date: December 3, 2013

distribution: Hearing Support Staff

Date Filed by County Clerk: _____.