




Historic Site Preservation Board Memo

September 14, 2010

To: Historic Site Preservation Board

From: Director of Planning Services 

RE: HSPB 2 – Welwood Murray Memorial Cemetery; 471 Chino Drive

At the meeting of August 10, 2010, the Vice Chair Marshall asked that the Welwood Murray Memorial Cemetery historic designation be placed on the September agenda for discussion.

Staff has attached materials on file which predate the Council's action on February 6, 1985 to designate portions of the cemetery as a Class 7 Historic Site by Council Resolution No. 15423. (Subsequently, the City's ordinance was amended so that Class 7 status became Class 1 status under the current regulations.)

The property owner has been notified of this meeting. The Board's action is presently limited to initiation of a public hearing to consider any recommendation for an amendment to the existing Council resolution.

Attached

1. Council Resolution No. 15423
2. City Council Meeting Minutes and Staff Report, February 6, 1985 (w/ attachments)
3. City Council Meeting Minutes, December 10, 1984
4. City Council Meeting Minutes and Staff Report, August 15, 1984
5. HSPB Meeting Minutes and Staff Report, Draft Resolution, July 9, 1984 (w/ attachments)
6. HSPB Meeting Minutes, March 12, 1984
7. Letter to Palm Springs Cemetery District, February 10, 1984
8. HSPB Meeting Minutes, February 6, 1984
9. Summary of Life of Welwood Murray, date unknown
10. Map of Welwood Murray Memorial Cemetery

RESOLUTION NO. 15423

OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS,
CALIFORNIA, DESIGNATING THE WELWOOD MURRAY
CEMETERY AS A CLASS 5 HISTORIC SITE, AND
DESIGNATING CERTAIN FEATURES WITHIN THE CEMETERY
AS CLASS 7.

WHEREAS the Welwood Murray Cemetery and its associated personages have contributed substantially to the history of the City of Palm Springs; and

WHEREAS Chapter 8.05 of the Palm Springs Municipal Code allows for the designation of historic sites; and

WHEREAS on June 11, 1984, the Historic Site Preservation Board initiated proceedings to designate the Welwood Murray Cemetery as an historic site; and

WHEREAS on July 9, 1984, the Historic Site Preservation Board held a public hearing on said designation and unanimously recommended to the City Council designation of said property as a Class 7 Historic Site; and

WHEREAS on December 10, 1984, the Historic Site Preservation Board reviewed this matter and unanimously recommended to the City Council designation of said property as a Class 5 Historic Site, with certain features contained therein, and described below, as Class 7; and

WHEREAS the City Council concurs in the recommendation of the Historic Site Preservation Board regarding the historic value of the Welwood Murray Cemetery; and

WHEREAS the designation of the Welwood Murray Cemetery shall further the purposes and intent of Chapter 8.05; and

WHEREAS the designation of the Welwood Murray Cemetery shall promote the sensitive preservation of said site.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Palm Springs, California as follows:

Section 1. The Welwood Murray Cemetery, located westerly of Vine Avenue between Chino Drive and Alejo Road, shall be designated a Class 5 Historic Site pursuant to Chapter 8.05 of the Palm Springs Municipal Code. The subject Cemetery is located on approximately 1.15 acres, known as the Palm Springs Cemetery, recorded at page 35 of map book 2, and page 37 of map book 18, Riverside County, California; APN 505-312-009.

Section 2. That certain features within the cemetery are designated as a Class 7 Historic Site and that no alteration of these features shall be permitted without the prior approval of the City Council. These features are as follows:

- a. the rock wall on the perimeter of the site; and
- b. the remaining upright headstones (including the Cliff Frager marker).

These features are delineated on attached Exhibit "A".

ADOPTED this 6th day of February, 1985.

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

By _____

City Clerk

City Manager

2. HISTORIC SITE CASE 2 - WELWOOD MURRAY CEMETERY

Recommendation: That the Council designate the Welwood Murray Cemetery as a Class 5 site with certain features designated as Class 7. This item was heard in August, 1984, and referred back to the Historic Site Preservation Board for reconsideration - original recommendation was for Class 7 only.

(76)

Director of Community Development reviewed his report, dated February 6, 1985, and stated that he was not aware of the Cemetery District's Board reaction to the revised recommendation.

Mayor declared the hearing open; there being no appearances, the hearing was closed.

Resolution 15423 designating Class 5 site, with Class 7 for certain features, was presented; after which, it was moved by Foster, seconded by Smith, and unanimously carried, Maryanov absent, that Resolution 15423 be adopted.

(76)

Excerpt Council Minutes

FEB 6 1985

MEETING

DATE: February 6, 1985

TO: City Council

FROM: Planning Director via Community Development Director

CASE NO. HSPB-2 - WELWOOD MURRAY CEMETARY - ADDENDUM REPORT

RECOMMENDATION:

The Historic Site Preservation Board (HSPB) recommends that the City Council receive public comment regarding the designation of Welwood Murray Cemetery as an historic site, and the HSPB further recommends that the Council designate the cemetery as a Class 5 Historic Site with certain features of the cemetery designated as Class 7.

BACKGROUND:

At its meeting of June 11, 1984, the HSPB initiated proceedings to designate the Welwood Murray Cemetery as a City historic site. The HSPB, on July 9, 1984, held its public hearing regarding the designation. Based upon the written documentation presented at this hearing, the HSPB recommended by unanimous vote (Milanovich & Weiss absent) designation of the cemetery as a Class 7 Historic Site.

The Board's concerns over the site's designation has centered around efforts on the part of the Palm Springs Cemetery District, which owns and maintains the property, to replace some of the older headstones with markers set flat on the ground. According to the District, changing the headstones assists in easing the maintenance of the cemetery grounds. However, removal of the existing markers would substantially change the appearance, and therefore the historic character of the cemetery. Such alterations may also lessen the potential for future State and Federal designation.

A representative of the Cemetery District protested the designation before the City Council on August 15, 1984, stating that the Class 7 designation would infringe upon the responsibilities given to the District under the State Health and Safety Code. This matter was tabled by the City Council.

The HSPB reviewed this matter at its December 10, 1984, meeting with the representative from the Cemetery District in attendance. The HSPB recommended that the Cemetery be designated as a Class 5 Historic Site with certain critical features being designated as Class 7; these features include the remaining upright headstones (including the Cliff Frazer marker) and the rock wall on the perimeter of the site. The HSPB felt that this action would protect the remaining historical features of the cemetery while infringing only minimally, if at all, upon the district's responsibilities; only those features with the Class 7 designation would require approval by the City Council for any proposed modification. The Cemetery District representative did not respond to this recommendation; he did state, though, that the District has no intention to change the remaining upright headstones at this time.

*Approved by
City Council
2/6/85*

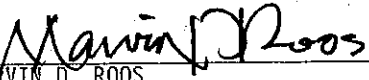
The cemetery was the first in this area for white settlers. Before 1894, non-Indians were sent elsewhere for burial, the only existing cemetery being for the Cahuilla Indians.


In that year, the son of pioneer hotel operator, Welwood Murray, died, and rather than send his body to Banning, the closest cemetery, buried him on a small parcel of land that he owned at the end of Alejo Road. Over the next decade, the Murrays allowed a few other burials in the cemetery, Welwood Murray, himself, being buried there in 1914.

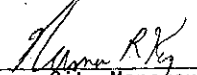
2A1

2A2

After his death, the cemetery was made a public district with one of the first members of the governing board being Miss Cornelia White, buried there in 1961.

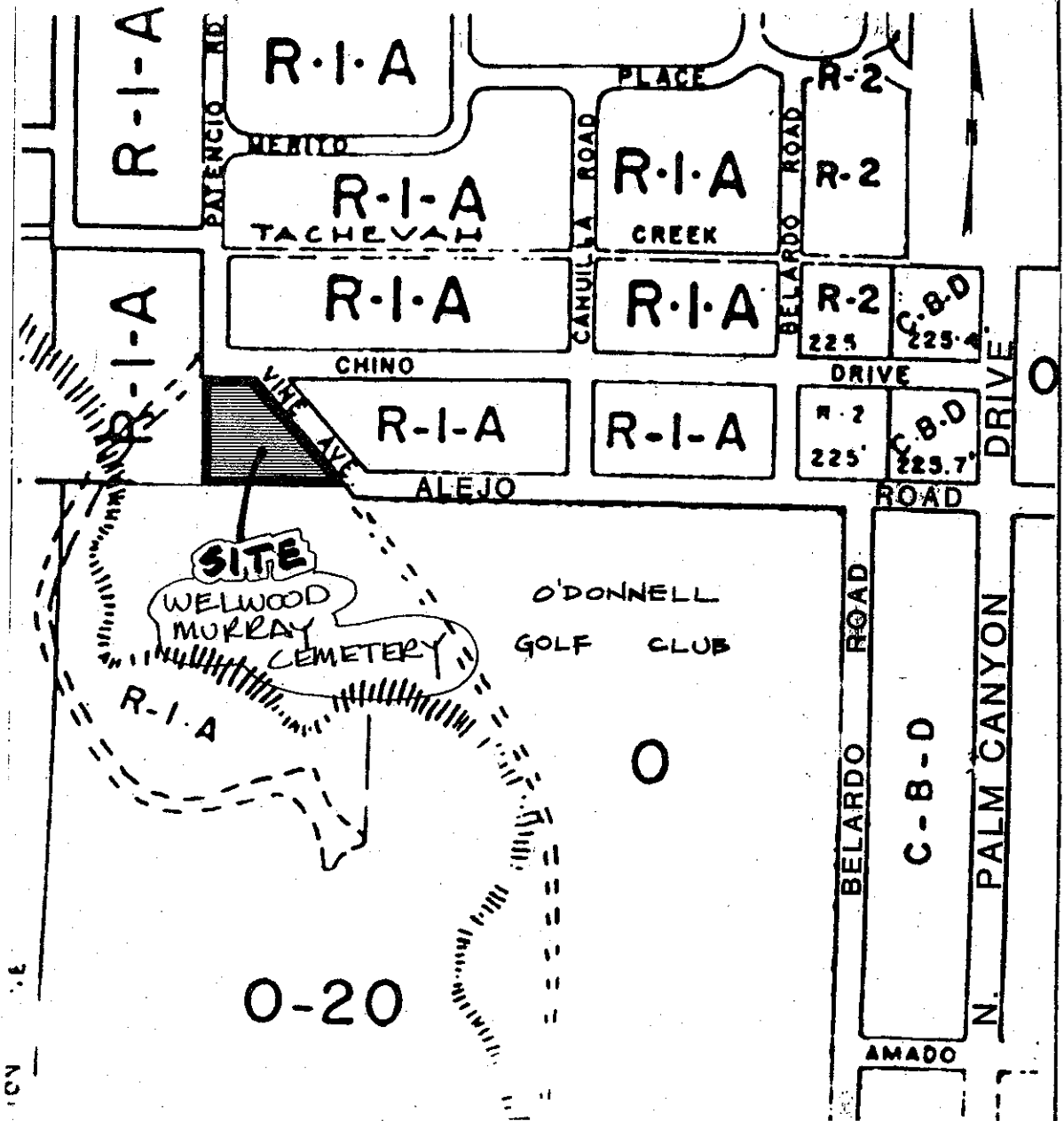

MARVIN D. ROOS
Director of Planning

APPROVED: 
JOHN A. MANGIONE
Director of Community Development

APPROVED: 
City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution
2. Map
3. HSPB Minutes of 7/9/84 and 12/10/84



CITY OF PALM SPRINGS 2A3	
CASE NO. HSPB-2	APPROVED BY PLAN. COMM. DATE
APPLICANT City of Palm Springs	APPROVED BY COUNCIL DATE
REMARKS Section 15	ORD. NO. RESOL. NO.

III. PROCEDURE FOR DESIGNATION OF
HISTORIC SITES OR HISTORIC DISTRICTS

8.05.125 Created by council. The city council may designate one or more historic sites or districts by following the procedures specified in this chapter. Designations will be made by categorizing nominated sites and districts into one of the following classifications and such other categories as may be designated by resolution:

Class 1 Site not qualified for designation. Not eligible for review for two years from date of initial review.

Class 2 Site not qualified for designation. Not eligible for review for six months from date of initial review.

Class 3 Site is located within an officially designated historic district and is not a contributing factor to the historic character of the district. No archival file will be maintained. Eligible for review at any regularly scheduled meeting of the board.

Class 4 Site is located within an officially designated historic district and is a contributing factor to the historic character of the district. Archival file will be maintained. Usage may be limited by the city council. Eligible for review at any regularly scheduled meeting of the board.

Class 5 Site qualified for city designation only. Archival file may be maintained. No stay of demolition or landmark eligibility. Usage may be restricted by the city council. Eligible for review at any regularly scheduled meeting of the board.

Class 6 Site qualified for designation at the federal, state, county and city level. Archival file will be maintained. Site is eligible for a six-month stay of demolition. Site is eligible for plaquing. Usage may be limited by the city council. Eligible for review at any regularly scheduled meeting of the board.

Class 7 Site qualified for designation at the federal, state, county and city level. Archival file will be maintained. Site may not be modified nor object removed without the approval of the city council. Site will be plaqued. Usage may be limited by the city council. Eligible for review at any regularly scheduled meeting of the board. (Ord. 1140 §1(part), 1981).

2A4

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 9, 1984
Location: Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room
Time: 4:00 p.m.

Call to Order: 4:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

	Present This Meeting	Present to Date FY 84-85	Excused Absences This FY
F. Gillar Boyd Jr.	X	1	0
Kitty Hayes	X	1	0
Moya Henderson	X	1	0
Janice Lyle	X	1	0
Ted McKinney	X	1	0
Richard Milanovich	-	0	1
Jacquelyn Weiss	-	0	1

Staff

Marvin Roos, Planning Director
John Terell, Redevelopment Planner
Richard Patenaude, Planner II - was introduced to the Board by the Chairman

Guests

Don Binkert, Manager, Palm Springs Cemetery District
Tony Borders, Press-Enterprise

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: M/S/C unanimously (McKinney/Lyle) to approve minutes of meeting of June 11, 1984, amended to correct name of Torney General Hospital.

* * * * *

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

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AGENDA ITEMS

* Public Hearing - Welwood Murray Cemetery/Hist. Site Designation (Case #HSPB-2). Staff presented written staff reports to the Board members. The public hearing was opened and closed with no public comment. Board discussion ensued regarding maintenance in the vicinity of upright headstones with agreement that they present no more of a problem than the existing trees or the wall, and that they should be preserved in order to maintain the historical character of the cemetery.

MOTION: M/S/C unanimously (Henderson/McKinney) to recommend to the City Council that they designate the Welwood Murray Cemetery as a Class 7 Historic Site.

~~Historical Plaque. Staff informed the Board that Noel Brush would have to be contacted this week or staff would have to continue the approval process without further Board review. Kitty Hayes stated that she would contact Mr. Brush by Friday.~~

Welwood Murray Cemetery. Staff reviewed the status of the designation of the Cemetery; action had been tabled by the City Council.

Don Binkerd stated that he felt that the Class 7 designation was a case of "overkill" as the Cemetery Board has not acted to change the existing upright headstones. He also stated that the State Health & Safety Code is very specific in charging the trustees of the Cemetery with the responsibility of caring for the headstones.

Janice Lyle reiterated that the HSPB is only concerned with the remaining upright headstones and the wall surrounding the cemetery and has no intention in otherwise inhibiting the actions of the Cemetery trustees. Staff informed the Board that specific provisions could be written into the Council Resolution which would limit the City's area of concern.

Motion: M/S/C unanimously (Lyle/Hayes) to recommend to the City Council that they designate the site of the Welwood Murray Cemetery as a Class 5 Historic Site and that they designate the remaining upright headstones and the surrounding wall as a Class 7 Historic Site.

~~El Mirador Hotel. Staff reported that Mike Fontana, of Desert Hospital, was unable to attend this meeting; however, staff will be meeting with him on Friday to discuss a variety of topics, including the El Mirador Tower.~~

~~Janice Lyle expressed the continuing concern that the HSPB is being put off while the Tower is continuing to deteriorate. The Board expressed their desire to speak directly to the Hospital Board. Staff advised the HSPB that they could speak during the Public Comments section of their agenda and that they would be advised of the next study session of the Hospital Board.~~

* * * * *

ADDED STARTERS: None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

JACQULYN WEISS
Secretary

2 A5

7. HISTORIC SITE #2 - WELWOOD MURRAY CEMETERY

Recommendation: That the Council designate the Welwood Murray Cemetery as a Class 7 historic site.

Councilman Smith was excused during this item and for the remainder of the meeting.

Director of Community Development reviewed his report dated August 15, 1984.

Mayor declared the hearing opened.

Donald Binkerd, 69-920 Ramon Road, stated that the Historic Site Preservation Board may have overlooked a number of issues; that the Cliff Frazer marker cost the Palm Spring Cemetery District an estimated \$500 per year to maintain around it; that perhaps the cemetery should be designated as a Class 6, with provision that the boulder would not be laid flat or removed nor would any existing markers be removed without approval; that the Health and Safety Code provides that the cemetery district trustees have the ability to restrict use of cemetery property, remove markers, and other matters which a Class 7 designation would infringe upon.

(76)
23.167

There being no further appearance, the Mayor declared the hearing closed.

In answer to question by Council, City Attorney stated that the Historic Site Preservation Board may have addressed those issues and that there is an entire body of law relative to maintenance of cemeteries, and there may be a question of jurisdiction.

In answer to question by Council, Planning Director stated that the Board's main concern was the further removal of upright gravestones, and giving the Council the most authority to preserve that. He stated that he believed there were only four stones remaining.

Councilman Maryanov stated that the representation has been made that a Class 6 designation with special covenant would be agreeable.

Councilman Biner stated that if the City and the District are at odds as to laws which govern the district, and the District has agreed to provide a covenant to assure that which the Historic Site Board desires to preserve, than a Class 6 with that covenant would be sufficient.

Motion by Foster, seconded by Bogert, to provide a Class 7 designation was superseded by motion by Maryanov, seconded by Biner, and unanimously carried, Smith absent, that this matter be tabled.

(76)
23.168

APPLICANT NOTIFIED

Excerpt Council Minutes

AUG 17 1984

AUG 15 1984

RES/M O MAILED

MEETING

DATE: August 15, 1984

TO: City Council

FROM: Planning Director via Director of Community Development

CASE NO. HSPB-2 WELWOOD MURRAY CEMETERY

RECOMMENDATION:

The Historic Site Preservation Board (HSPB) recommends that the City Council receive public comment regarding the designation of Welwood Murray Cemetery as an historic site, and the HSPB further recommends that the Council designate the cemetery as a Class 7 Historic Site.

BACKGROUND:

At its meeting of June 11, 1984, the HSPB initiated proceedings to designate the Welwood Murray Cemetery as a City historic site. The HSPB, on July 9, 1984, held its public hearing regarding the designation. Based upon the written documentation presented at this hearing, the HSPB recommended by unanimous vote (Milanovich & Weiss absent) designation of the cemetery as a Class 7 Historic Site. Class 7 is the most restrictive category for historic designation allowed for in Ordinance 1140 (see attached excerpt).


The Board's concerns over the site's designation at this time has centered around efforts on the part of the Palm Springs Cemetery District, which owns and maintains the property, to replace some of the older headstones with markers set flat on the ground. According to the District, changing the head stones assists in easing the maintenance of the cemetery grounds. Removal of the existing markers would substantially change the appearance, and therefore the historic character of the cemetery. Such alterations may also lessen the potential for future State and Federal designation.

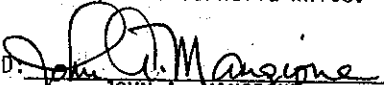
Since the threatened changes are not structural in nature and therefore do not require City building or demolition permits, a stay of demolition or similar action would most likely not be effective. For this reason, staff recommends that the site receive designation as a Class 7 historic site. This designation provides for protection against any modification to the site without City Council approval, whether or not permits would normally be required.

The cemetery is the first in this area for white settlers. Before 1894, non-Indians were sent elsewhere for burial, the only existing cemetery being for the Cahuilla Indians.

In that year, the son of pioneer hotel operator, Welwood Murray, died and, rather than send his body to Banning, the closest cemetery, buried him on a small parcel of land that he owned at the end of Alejo Road. Over the next decade, the Murrays allowed a few other burials in the cemetery, Welwood Murry, himself, being buried there in 1914.

After his death, the cemetery was made a public district with one of the first members of the governing board being Miss Cornelia White.


MARVIN D. ROOS
Director of Planning

APPROVED: 
JOHN A. MANGIONE
Director of Community Development

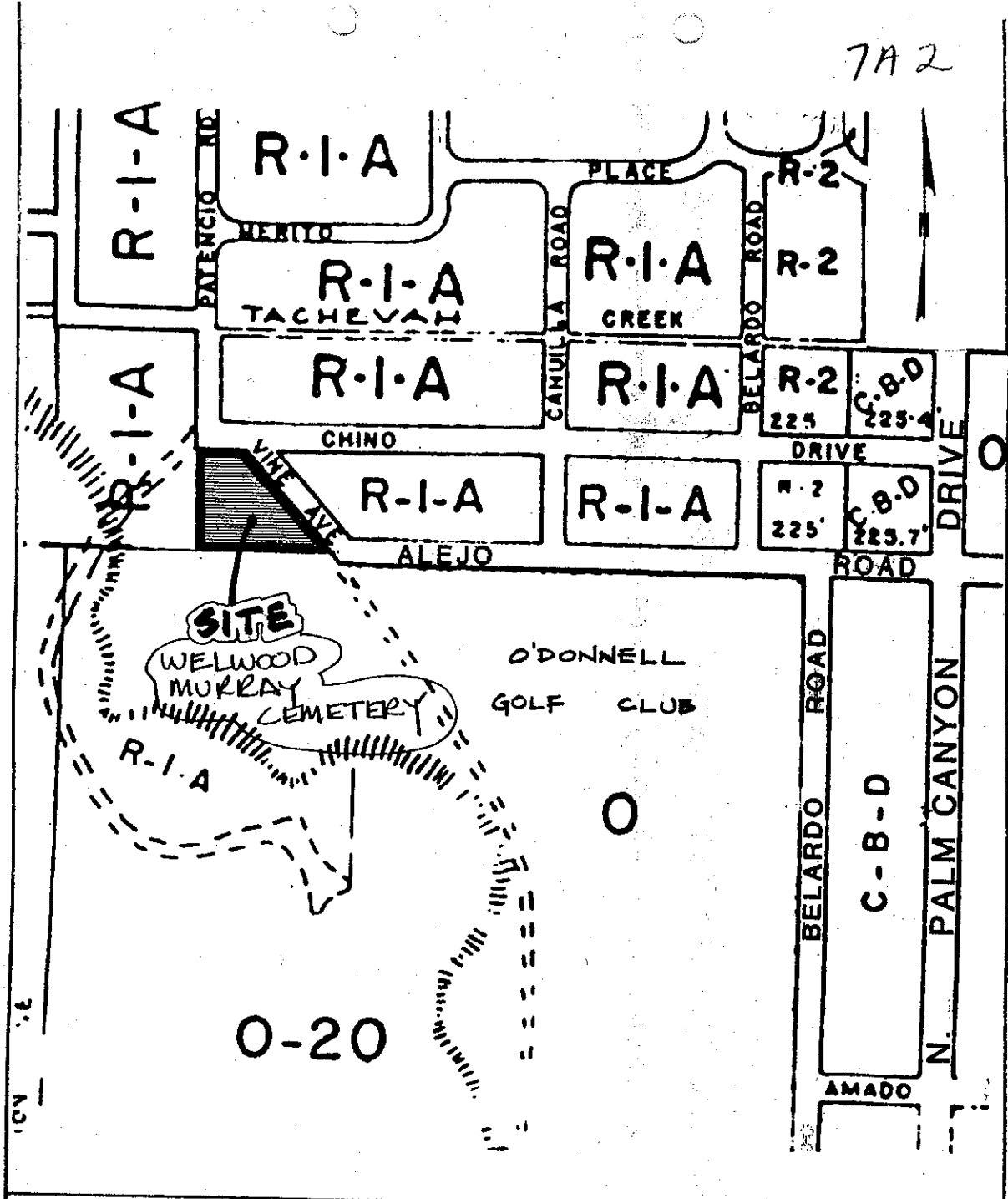
APPROVED: _____
City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Map
2. Excerpt from Ord. 1140 - Designations
3. HSPB Minutes of 7/9/84
4. Resolution

7 A1

7A2



CITY OF PALM SPRINGS			
CASE NO.	HSPB-2	APPROVED BY PLAN. COMM. DATE	
APPLICANT	City of Palm Springs	APPROVED BY COUNCIL DATE	
REMARKS	Section 15	ORD. NO.	RESOL. NO.

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

7A4

HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 9, 1984
Location: Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room
Time: 4:00 p.m.

Call to Order: 4:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

	Present This Meeting	Present to Date FY 84-85	Excused Absences This FY
F. Gillar Boyd Jr.	X	1	0
Kitty Hayes	X	1	0
Moya Henderson	X	1	0
Janice Lyle	X	1	0
Ted McKinney	X	1	0
Richard Milanovich	-	0	1
Jacquelyn Weiss	-	0	1

Staff

Marvin Roos, Planning Director
John Terrell, Redevelopment Planner
Richard Patenaude, Planner II - was introduced to the Board by the Chairman

Guests

Don Binkert, Manager, Palm Springs Cemetery District
Tony Borders, Press-Enterprise

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: M/S/C unanimously (McKinney/Lyle) to approve minutes of meeting of June 11, 1984, amended to correct name of Torney General Hospital.

* * * * *

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

* * * * *

AGENDA ITEMS

* Public Hearing - Welwood Murray Cemetery/Hist. Site Designation (Case #HSPB-2). Staff presented written staff reports to the Board members. The public hearing was opened and closed with no public comment. Board discussion ensued regarding maintenance in the vicinity of upright headstones with agreement that they present no more of a problem than the existing trees or the wall, and that they should be preserved in order to maintain the historical character of the cemetery.

MOTION: M/S/C unanimously (Henderson/McKinney) to recommend to the City Council that they designate the Welwood Murray Cemetery as a Class 7 Historic Site.

HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD STAFF REPORT
Case HSPB-2 (Historic Designation of Welwood Murray Cemetery)
July 10, 1984

BACKGROUND

At its June 11, 1984, meeting the Board initiated proceedings for the designation of the Welwood Murray Cemetery as a city historic site. The Board also set its public hearing for which notices were sent to all property owners within 300 feet of the cemetery.


The cemetery, which dates from the last century, is the first cemetery in this area for the white settlers. Many of the early pioneers of Palm Springs are buried there. A more detailed description of the site's significance has been attached.

The Board's concerns over the site's designation at this time has centered around efforts on the part of the Palm Springs Cemetery District, which owns and maintains the property, to replace some of the older headstones with markers set flat on the ground. According to the District, this change would assist in easing the maintenance of the cemetery grounds. Removal of the existing markers would substantially change the appearance, and therefore historic character of the cemetery. Such alterations may also lessen the potential for future State and Federal designation.

Since the threatened changes are not structural in nature, and therefore do not require City building or demolition permits, a stay of demolition or similar action would most likely not be effective. For this reason, staff recommends that the site receive designation as a Class 7 historic site. This designation provides for protection against any modification to the site without City Council approval, whether or not permits would normally be required.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Historic Site Preservation Board receive public comment regarding the designation of the Welwood Murray Cemetery as a City historic site, and that the Board recommend appropriate action to the City Council, including appropriate findings.


MARVIN D. ROOS
Planning Director


JOHN C. TERELL
Project Manager

JCT/ml

Att: Statement of Significance Welwood Murray Cemetery
(Kitty Kieley Hayes, July 9, 1984).

Before 1894 non Indians who died in Palm Springs were sent elsewhere for burial because the only cemetery was for the Cahuilla Indians.

That year Welwood Erskine Murray, the son of pioneer hotel operators Welwood and Elizabeth Murray, died. Rather than send his body to Banning, nearest cemetery, or to some place else, his parents buried him on a small parcel of land that they owned at the end of Alejo Road.

Over the next decade the Murrays allowed a few other burials in their cemetery including Richard Schmidt in 1888, A. Jones in 1900, Mary Townsend in 1903, Walton Crocker in 1911, D. Botsford in 1912 and H. Steinke in 1914.

In 1911 Welwood Murray laid his wife to rest here and in 1914 Mr. Murray was buried here.

After his death the cemetery was made a public district and one of the first members of the governing board was Miss Cornelia White.

Many Palm Springs pioneers are buried in the Welwood Murray including Dr. Harry Coffman, Nellie Coffman, George Roberson, Earl Coffman, Cornelia White, Florila White, Isabel and Smeaton Chase, Carl and Edith Lykken, Pearl and Austin McManus, Edward Fitzgerald (Fitzgerald the hermit), Cliff Frager, Melba and Frank Bennett, many members of the Dawson family (Goffs, Bunkers and Parkers), the Bunker

family, the Strebe family and the Sandifer family. A number
of Desert Inn employees can be found here.

HSPB MINUTES

3-12-84

Page 2

- * EL MIRADOR UPDATE: The Chairman reported that the HSPB/Save El Mirador Committee had presented to the Desert Hospital Board, at their Study Session of March 6, 1984, the recommendation that the Hospital Board enter into a period of exclusive negotiations with California Historic Properties for the restoration and rehabilitation of the El Mirador Hotel and Tower. Councilman Foster and HSPB staff were present at this presentation as was Michael Fontana, Planning Director of Desert Hospital. The Chairman recognized Fontana for his support and able assistance. Staff stated that it is likely that the Hospital Board will refer the recommendation to their Planning Committee prior to making any formal decision.
- * HEADSTONES - WELWOOD MURRAY CEMETERY: Staff referenced the letter sent to Captain Marvin Rudin, President of the Palm Springs Cemetery District Board, regarding the potential replacement of existing upright headstones with flat headstones, simply to facilitate easier maintenance within the cemetery. Said letter indicated the HSPB's recommendation that this practice be halted as those headstones in questions hold historic significance as does the cemetery itself. Staff reported that subsequent to the Cemetery Board's meeting, February 14, 1984, contact had been made with Rudin who stated that any changes to existing headstones needs the approval of the relatives of the deceased, but he was not definitive as to whether the Cemetery Board would continue to seek such changes. It was indicated that Hayes or Betty Kiley may have attended the Cemetery Board meeting and may be able to provide additional information. Staff was directed to seek documentation of the Cemetery Board's discussion and intent in this regard.
- * HISTORIC MARKER DESIGN: Staff reported that the marker design (CASE 3.666) was scheduled for Planning Commission review at their March 14, 1984 meeting and that a Planning staff report recommending approval had been distributed; but that due to HSPB staff illness review of the marker concept may be postponed until the March 28, 1984 Planning Commission meeting.
- * DESERT INN FASHION PLAZA - PROPOSED MITIGATION PROGRAM: Staff reported that the DeBartolo Mitigation Committee (Lyle and Henderson) would be meeting with HSPB and Planning staff to draft a revised and more specific historic resource mitigation program proposal (CASE 5.0275-PD-147); and, that a field trip to salvage artifacts in the Palm Springs Hotel located on this site may be arranged. Terell reported that the City's Redevelopment Agency will have a "demo sale" for the portion of the project under its control, similar to that being conducted by the owners of the Palm Springs Hotel; and, that the Village Theatre/MDX Drugs/-Zaddie Bunker's Garage will not be demolished until May providing the Board additional time to salvage artifacts within these structures. It was indicated that relocation of the onsite boulder structure could not realistically be accomplished either on- or off-site, but that in the future a program might be initiated in which the relocation of similar threatened resources throughout the City may be encouraged (by a third party) and facilitated by the HSPB. Renewed emphasis was placed on the staff's monitoring of request for demolition permits. Staff will again contact the Building Division to reinforce the need to maintain open communication in this regard. Milanovich and Lyle volunteered to assist in salvage efforts of artifacts. It was indicated that Hayes is investigating same for the Palm Springs Hotel.



City of Palm Springs

Department of Community Development
619-323-8245

February 10, 1984

Captain Marvin Rudin
President, Palm Springs Cemetery District
c/o City of Palm Springs Police Department
3111 E. Tahquitz-McCallum Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Dear Marv:

As staff to the Historic Site Preservation Board of the City of Palm Springs, I have been requested to convey the Board's sentiments and official recommendation regarding the potential replacement of headstones within the historic Welwood Murray Cemetery.

It was recently brought to the Historic Board's attention that a total of five elevated/upright headstones had been targeted for replacement with flat stones to facilitate easier maintenance. It was also indicated that this issue may be discussed at the next meeting of the Cemetery Board scheduled for the 14th of this month.

As you may be aware, the Welwood Murray Cemetery has previously been included in the City's local inventory of historic resources. Additionally, the headstones in question included those of Palm Springs "pioneer" sisters Forilla and Cornelia White among other early desert residents. The Historic Site Preservation Board at its meeting February 6, 1984, by unanimous motion recommended that the Board of Directors for the Palm Springs Cemetery District retain all existing headstones in perpetuity, as they are integral elements of a site considered to have local historic significance.

Your attention and timely conveyance of any decision reached by the Cemetery Board in this regard is greatly appreciated by the members of the Historic Site Preservation Board.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL B. DOTSON
Planner II
Historic Site Preservation Board staff person

the hotel was under consideration but no details were offered for either; and that no onsite relocation of the clay water fountain, hand-made stepping stones or other artifacts from the Desert Inn era were contemplated.

Planning Director briefly explained the proposed site plan and elevations stating that the architecture had a "modern southwestern" influence. House stated that there would not be much wall space within the concourse area for mural or graphic elements but that the atrium of the hotel may provide some opportunity. Historically relevant names may be chosen for the hotel's public meeting rooms as an alternative form of mitigation. A formal letter from the developer is anticipated delineating their proposed preservation mitigation program. House, Grems and the Planning Director excused themselves.

McKinney left the meeting at this point.

Brief discussion ensued regarding what specific mitigation measures were most vital. The Chairman appointed a Committee (Lyle and Henderson) to review the particulars and refine specific mitigation recommendations.

Kiley stated that Mrs. Barbara Mutasio could provide information related to the on site boulder structure.

- * **Resource Inventory:** Staff reported that as directed, alternative candidates for the position of historic resource coordinator were sought and evaluated. Staff recommended that Patricia Mastick Young be retained, citing her substantial qualifications as outlined in her resume/vita which was distributed to the Board. Staff received excellent personal and professional references regarding Ms. Young which were reinforced by Kiley. Staff also established Ms. Young's interest in the project.

Motion: M/S/C unanimously (Henderson/Boyd Hayes abstained) to seek retention of Patricia Mastick Young as the local Historic Resource Survey Coordinator. Staff will pursue the logistics and contractual arrangements.

Added Starters:

- * **Welwood Murray Cemetery:** Hayes informed the Board that the few remaining upright gravestones placed in the Welwood Murray Cemetery (located north of Alejo Road at its western terminus) were in jeopardy of being replaced with flat headstones apparently only to facilitate easier maintenance. It was indicated that such upright stones were placed at the graves of Forilla and Cornelia White among others. Discussion followed.

Motion: M/S/C unanimously (Hayes/Henderson) to recommend and request in writing that the Palm Springs Cemetery District Board permit the existing upright headstones placed in the Welwood Murray Cemetery to remain in perpetuity.

It was noted that Police Capt. Marvin Rudin and Don Binkard are the President and General Manager, respectively, of the Palm Springs Cemetery District and that the next meeting of their Board is scheduled for February 14, 1984. Staff was requested to transmit a letter conveying the HSPB's sentiments.

The Banning townsite dates from the year 1894. Charles W. Filkins and George W. Bryant of Riverside had in the previous fall begun buying up land and water rights, through Welwood Murray, from individual owners, among them Rans and Johnny Moore, Sam Black, and Dan Scott. A syndicate was formed by the original promoters together with Jacob Klein, Senator Evan Williams, W.S. James, and Wilson Hays. The syndicate proceeded to subdivide the acreage they had bought, and incorporated the Banning Land Company and the Banning Water Company. The actual recorded date for the Water Company was June 6, for the Land Company July 11. Incorporation of the Land Company was for 50 years, with a capital stock of \$600,000. The incorporators of both companies were Filkins and Bryant, Riverside, Hays, Banning, Klein and Theodore R. Hofer, Carson City, Nevada. Filkins was secretary and Hays manager of both companies. The Land corporation legally expired in 1910.

Dr. Welwood Murray, a dynamic Scotchman, appears early in Banning's history in '76 or '77. He may have come on the advice of General Banning, whose acquaintance he had made at Los Angeles, but it is clear that he at once assumed management of the Scott fluming enterprise. He took up the 80 acres which he later sold to the St. Boniface Indian School.

Born in Edinburgh September 17, 1832, he came to America at 26, and was proofreader for the Harper and Appleton publishing houses in New York. By his first wife, Lily Gourlay Murray, who died in 1860, he had two sons, George and Alan. George, at 82, is an attorney in New York. The second marriage was to Elizabeth Erskine, and one of her sons, Welwood, is buried in Palm Springs.

Murray was justice of the peace in '78, postmaster in '80, school trustee in '83 and made a colorful race against Walter Hathaway for the office of Justice in '88.

After selling his ranch in 1889 he moved to Palm Springs and joined forces with Judge McCallum, a land owner. Three years before this, "Papa" Murray and his wife, known to everyone as "Mamma", had opened the Palm Springs Hotel. (This owned by the White sisters, is even yet sometimes called the Murray house. In 1936 it was moved to make room for the Plaza). Dur Murray died at Beaumont August 3, 1914, and was buried at Palm Springs beside his wife. In the present year, 1938, plans are being completed to found a Welwood Murray Memorial public library in that city.

In speaking of the lumber flume down Water canyon one old-timer tells us that every stick was in debt by the time it reached the track. Between a scarcity of merchantable timber and an erratic flow of water the venture proved unprofitable, was abandoned, probably in 1880, and the mill moved to San Bernardino. (This date of 1880 is suggested by the discontinuance of the Banning post office in September of that year. It was reestablished a month later, however, with Welwood Murray as postmaster). Since the flume provided the community's water supply the settlers kept it in partial repair. When floods washed sections of it out they paid two-bits a barrel for water hauled from the canyon.

Dr. Welwood Murray sold his ranch to the Catholic Indian Bureau for an industrial school. Work was started at once on the main building, brick for which was made by a crew of Chinamen at Captain Fraser's pit near the golf links.

Welwood Murray, one of early Banning's leaders, died at Beaumont August 3.

EXHIBIT A



NO SCALE

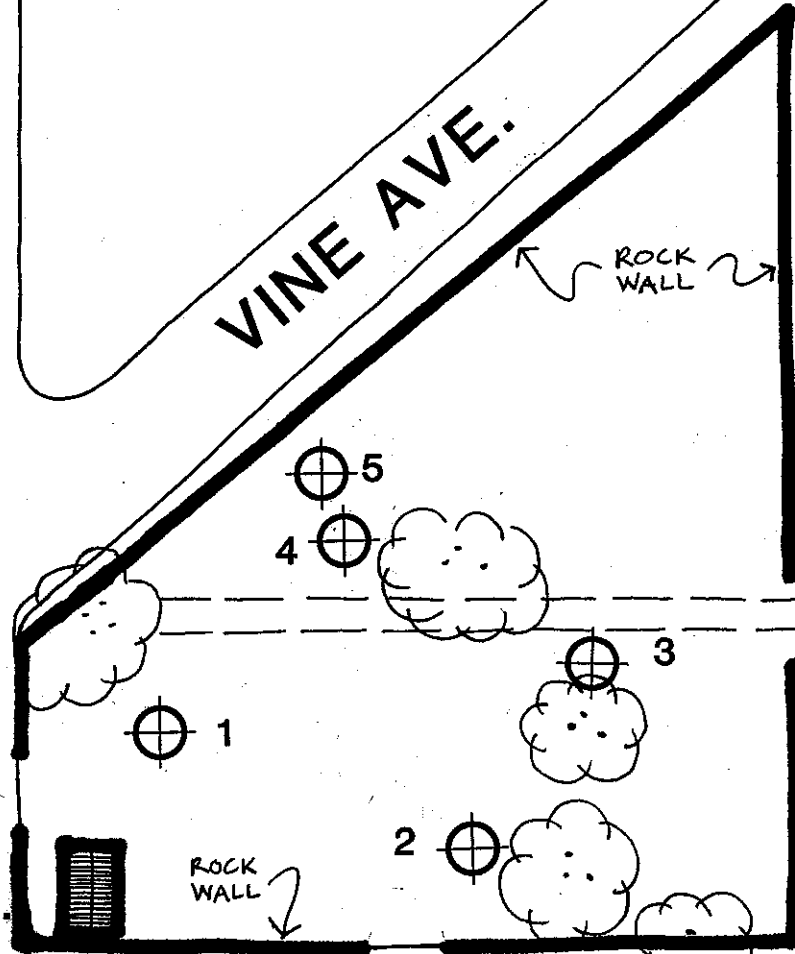
CHINO DR.

VINE AVE.

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O'DONNELL GOLF CLUB

PATENCIO RD.



KEY TO HEADSTONES

1. CLIFF FRAGER
2. FLORILLA & CORNELIA WHITE
3. McCRARY / PINCKARD
4. SANDEFFER
5. SCHWABACHER

Welwood Murray Cemetery