



October 8, 2015

Mr. Flinn Fagg, AICP
Director of Planning Services
City of Palm Springs
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Subject: HSPB ITEM 5B - AN APPLICATION BY ABCDI TRIBAL ALLOTTEE OWNERS TO DEMOLISH THE RAMON DRUG BUILDING

Dear Mr. Fagg,

Originally a military barracks, architect Don Wexler's 1956 modification to the original structure transformed the Ramon Drug Building (440-454 South Indian Canyon Drive) into an important piece of the city's modernist architecture. The building's most notable feature is the concrete and ornamental plaster arcade which is a "fluid" form rarely used by Wexler who is better known for his rectilinear work in steel.

The Ramon Drug Building has already appeared in the 2004 Citywide Historical Resources Survey. Additionally, the building would appear to qualify for Class 1 Historic Site designation under multiple criteria of Chapter 8.05 of the Palm Springs Municipal Code.

Accordingly, we strongly recommend that the city's Historic Site Preservation Board issue a stay of demolition of this Class 3 property pending an investigation into the merits of its potential Class 1 designation.

If you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance please contact the foundation at (760) 837-7117 or at info@pspreservationfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form the name Erik Rosenow.

Erik Rosenow
President