

ATTACHMENT 1

APPROVED FINDINGS

OCTOBER 2, 2014

2539 Telegraph Avenue

Landmark Initiation LM2014-0004 for a City of Berkeley Landmark, Structure of Merit designation.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Landmark, Structure of Merit Designation of the Center for Independent Living (CIL) character defining mural feature located on the south retaining wall of the larger CIL property at 2539 Telegraph Avenue

CEQA FINDINGS

The project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code §21000, et seq.) pursuant to Section 15308 and 15331 of the CEQA Guidelines.

LANDMARKS PRESERVATION ORDINANCE FINDINGS

Pursuant to Berkeley Municipal Code Section 3.24.110.B.1 the Landmarks Preservation Commission of the City of Berkeley finds the CIL mural is worth preserving for its cultural and historic value as a distinctive character defining feature of the larger CIL property located at 2539 Telegraph Avenue, which is eligible for City of Berkeley Landmark status under BMC Section 3.24.110.2 (Cultural Value) for its association with the movement or evolution of cultural and social developments of the City. For thirty-six years, 2539 Telegraph Avenue served as the primary office of the Center for Independent Living, the nation's first disability advocacy and service group organized and operated by persons with disabilities. The CIL moved to this building in 1975, three years after the group was formally founded. While earlier office locations, both in a two-bedroom apartment on Haste Street and on the second and fourth stories of the Kroeber Building at 2054 University Avenue, are notable as the first offices of the CIL, 2539 Telegraph Avenue is the location where the group expanded their staff to its largest number—over 200 people by the close of the 1970s—and where the group's most broadly influential actions were organized: in the second half of the 1970s. During the group's residency at the subject building, the CIL successfully lobbied the state legislature for direct funding for attendant care for disabled people, hosted the first National Conference on Independent Living in 1975, and organized the ultimately successful sit-in at the San Francisco offices of the Federal Department of Health, Education, and Welfare for implementation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, in 1977. In the 1980s, federal-level advocacy work included marshaling support of legislation including the Mental Illness Bill of

Rights (1985), the Air Carrier Access Act (1988), and the Fair Housing Amendments Act (1988), and West Coast testimony leading up to the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 1990. Important organizations that evolved out of the Berkeley CIL include the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF), the World Institute on Disability (WID), Computer Training Program (later, the Computer Technologies Program [CTP]), and the Bay Area Outreach Recreation Program (BORP). Since the establishment of the Berkeley CIL in 1972, over 400 CILs have been established in the United States, and international CIL organization include the European Network on Independent Living (ENIL) with groups in Canada, Ireland, England, Scotland, and other countries around the world. These groups all share the basic philosophy that people with disabilities are entitled to the same civil rights, options, and control over choices in their lives as people without disabilities, a philosophy that was first articulated and acted upon by the CIL in Berkeley, California; and

Pursuant to BMC Section 3.24.110.B.2.a the mural feature was created during the period of significance for 2539 Telegraph Avenue, which spans from 1975 when the organization moved into the building, to 1990, when the CIL marshaled West Coast testimony in support of the successfully-passed Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); with the understanding that the advocacy work of the CIL and its continued positive effect on the lives of persons with disabilities continues into the current day; and

Pursuant to BMC Section 3.24.110.B.2.c the mural feature has historical significance to the City for its association with the larger 2539 Telegraph Avenue property and the events that occurred there; and

While the CIL mural feature is weathered it retains integrity of design and materials such that it would be recognizable by someone who knew it during the period of significance;

The approximately 20-foot wide by 6-foot tall distinctive character defining CIL mural feature, painted on the board formed concrete retaining wall on the south side of the larger 2539 Telegraph Avenue property, is **hereby designated** a City of Berkeley Landmark, Structure of Merit; and

Individuals identified in the CIL mural feature to be preserved include:

- Michael Williams, described as the “grandmaster” of Augmented Communications.
- Don Galloway, head of CIL's Research and Development department, who had a long career in Washington DC.
- Ann Hiserman, architect and an early resident, possibly the first woman resident, of the Cowell Residence Program, precursor to U.C. Berkeley's Physically Disabled Students Program. She is shown in the mural in a Bay Area Outreach and Recreation Program (BORP) archery class, from a photo in CIL's national quarterly, *The Independent*.
- Brad Lomax, of CIL's transportation department.
- Dale Dahl, born deaf and later became quadriplegic by auto accident, who started deaf services at CIL and forged links between the deaf and mobility disability communities.
- Nancy D'Angelo, early attendant referral for CIL.