

ԳԾԱԳՐԵՐԻ ԱՆՎԱՆԱՑԱՆԿ CONTENT		
ԳԾԱԳՐԻ ՀԱՄԱՐԸ SHEET NUMBER	ԳԾԱԳՐԻ ԱՆՎԱՆՈՒՄԸ DRAWING TITLE	ՄԱՍՇԵ. SCALE
A000	ԱՆՎԱՆԱՑԱՆԿ / CONTENT	1:100
A100	ԳՈՅՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ ՈՒՆԵՑՈՂ ԳԼԽԱԿՈՐ ՀԱՏԱԿԱԳԻԾ / EXISTING GENERAL PLAN	1:150
A101	ԳՈՅՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ ՈՒՆԵՑՈՂ ՀԱՏԱԿԱԳԻԾ / EXISTING PLAN	1:100
A102	ԳՈՅՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ ՈՒՆԵՑՈՂ D-A, 1-4 ՃԱԿԱՏՆԵՐ / EXISTING D-A, 1-4 FACADES	1:100
A103	ԳՈՅՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ ՈՒՆԵՑՈՂ A-D, 4-1 ՃԱԿԱՏՆԵՐ / EXISTING A-D, 4-1 FACADES	1:100
A200	ԶԱՆԴՄԱՆ ՀԱՏԱԿԱԳԻԾ / DEMOLISHING PLAN	1:100
A300	ՀԱՏԱԿԱԳԻԾ 0.0 ԴՆԻՇՈՒՄ / PLAN AT LEVEL 0.00 IN	1:100
A301	ԿՏՐԿԱԾՔՆԵՐ 1-1 , 3-3 / SECTIONS 1-1 , 3-3	1:100
A302	ԿՏՐԿԱԾՔՆԵՐ 2-2 ,4-4 / SECTIONS 2-2 , 4-4	1:100

As William Saroyan's house is conceived as a shell where he spent most of his life, to convert it into a house-museum we need a very well-grounded design philosophy.

Design philosophy as per existing situation is divided to three main directions;
1- Personal (His life and hobbies)
2- Professional (His professional carrier)
3- His dreams (This is ongoing process
which is connected to deep researches and data collecting and in the results of some events
which will be organized in his house museum).

During research period, we will gather bunch of multimedia materials, photo, videos, audios etc. By combining these aterials together inside the shell we will have an opportunity to create various scenarios by 3D mapping, for different events, days or do some modifications in the museum schedule which will attract the local visitors to visit more often.

This system gives us lots of flexibility to create different scenarios in the existing shell.
Story telling multimedia based on William Saroyan's stories and etc.
Every year we can manage a contest for multimedia artists in result of which we will raise the international awareness about William Saroyan and his writings.

We believe first in focusing on the concept of the house-museum and William Saroyan's relationship with his family and friends in Fresno, this part is important for us to avoid any future difficulties in PR with his friends and relatives in Fresno.

This project is interesting and challenging for us because we consider William Saroyan as an Armenian American writer who explain his feelings and emotions through his writings and we will try our hard to express his feeling through architecture and museum solutions.

We work with our Client to determine the possible understanding the reality of safety, cost, and ultimate operational success.



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License number: 11424

ՎՆԻՔ:
STAMP:

ԱՄԱՐՑԻ ԱՆՎԱՆՈՒՄ
PROJECT TITLE:

Վ.ՍԱՐՈՅԱՆ - ՏՈՒՆ

SAROYAN HOUSE
PROJECT

ԱՄԱՐՑԻ ՀԱՑԵ
PROJECT ADDRESS:
2729 Գրիֆիթի Վեյ
Ֆրեսկո, ԿԱ 93726

2729 Griffith Way
Fresno, CA 93726

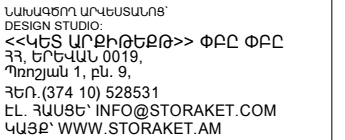
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CLIENT NAME:

ԻՆՏԵԼԵԿՏՈՒԱԼ ՌԵՆԵՍԱՆՍ
ՀԻՄՆԱՂԱՄ
INTELLECTUAL RENAISSANCE
FOUNDATION

ՓՈՓՈԽՈՒԹՅՈՒՆՆԵՐ/ՎԵՐԱՆԱՅՈՒՄ
REVISIONS

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
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NOT FOR CONTRUCTION



Կնիք:
STAMP:

2729 Griffith Way
Fresno, CA 93726

[illegible]

ԳՆԱԳՐԵՒԻ ԱՎԱՆՈՒՄԸ
DRAWING TITLE:

ԳՈՅՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ ՈՒՆԵՑՈՂ
ԳԼԽԱԿՈՐ ՀԱՏԱԿԱԳԻՏ
EXISTING GENERAL PLAN

A100

USՈՒԳԵՑ՝	Շ.ԻՍԱՆՅԱՆՍ
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license number: 11424

STAMP:

PROJECT TITLE:

4. ՍԱՐԴՅԱՆ - ՏՈՒՆ

SAROYAN HOUSE
PROJECT

PROJECT ADDRESS:
729 Գրինֆիլդ Վեյ
Բոնեգլոս, ԿԱ 93726

2729 Griffith Way
Fresno, CA 93726

CLIENT NAME:

ՀԱՏԵԼԵԿՏՈՒԳԼ ՌԵՆԵՍԱՆՍ
ՐԻՄՆԱԴՐԱՄ
INTELLECTUAL RENAISSANCE
FOUNDATION

ՓՈՓՈԽՈՒԹՅՈՒՆՆԵՐ/ՎԵՐԱՆԱՅՈՒՄ
REVISIONS

[illegible]

PROJECT PHASE:

ՃՇԽԱՏԱՆՔԱՅԻՆ ՆԱԽԱԳԻԾ
CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTATION

RAWING TITLE:

EXISTING A-D, 4-1
FACADES

SHEET NUMBER:

A103

SCALE: 1 : 100

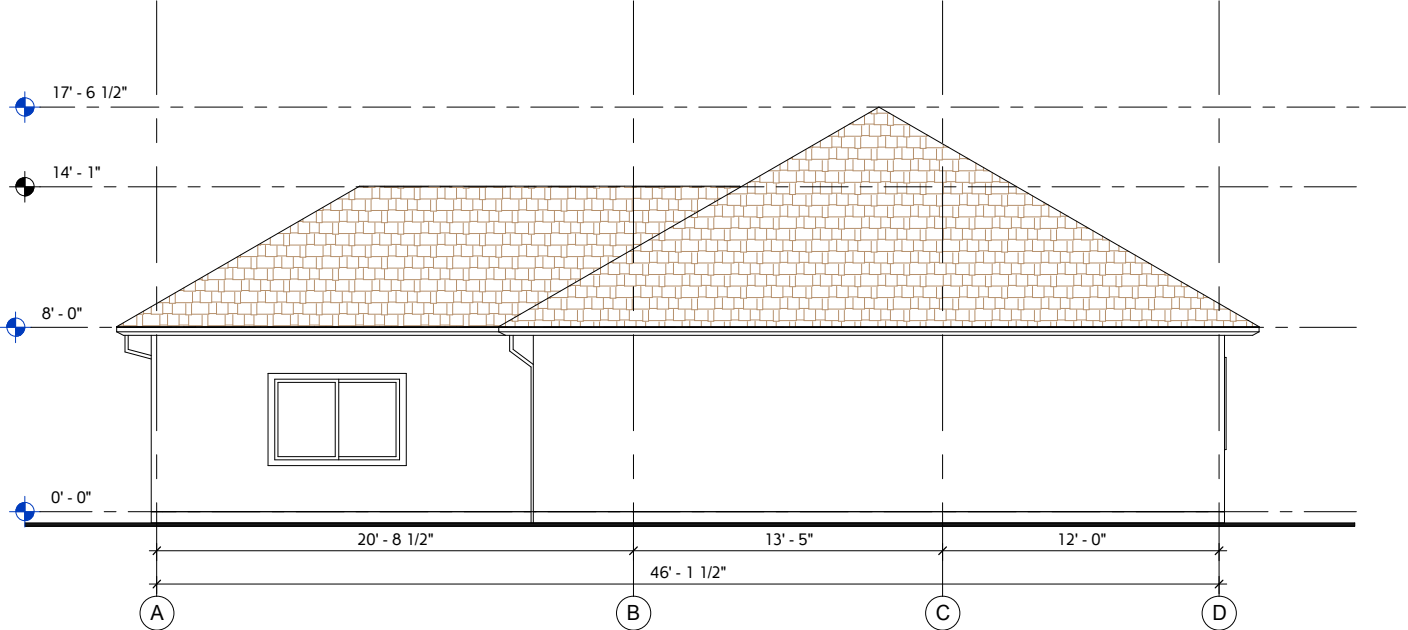
DATE: 18.02.09

PROJECT NUMBER:	161105
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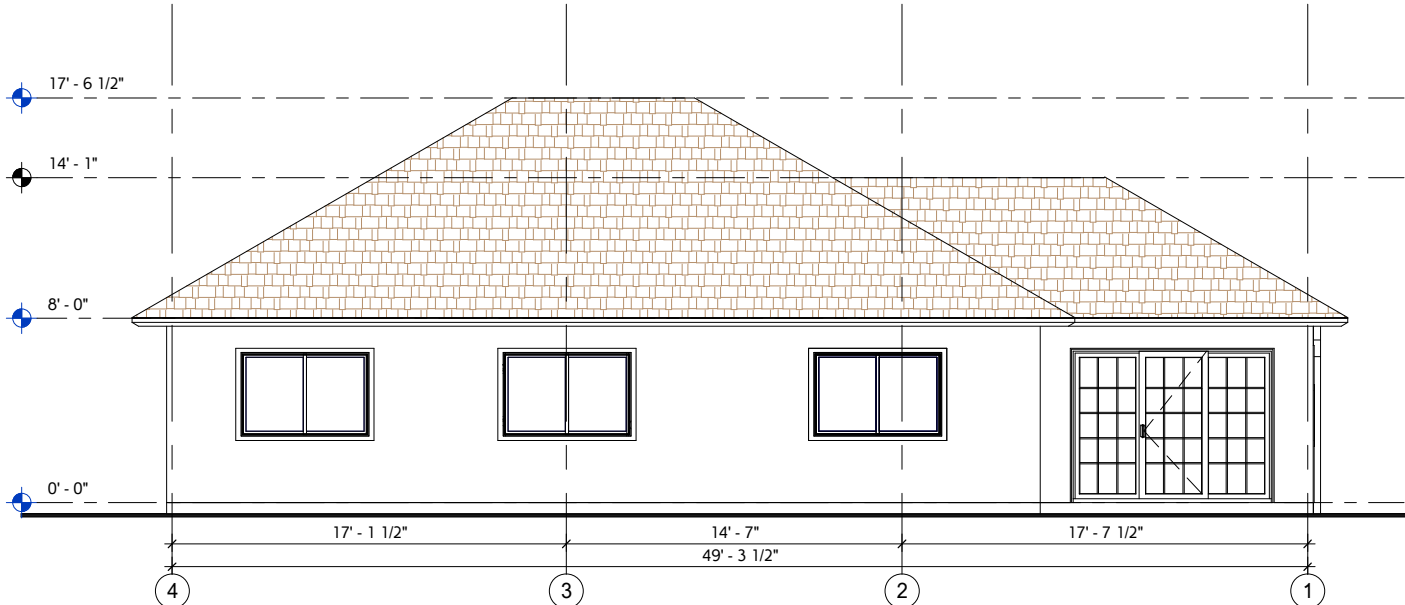
Ե.ԱՂԱՄԱԼՅԱՆ
E.AGHAMALYAN

CHECKED BY: Շ.ԻՍԱՆՅԱՆՍ
SH.ISANIANS

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EXISTING FACADE A-D



EXISTING FACADE 4-1

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license number: 11424

STAMP:

PROJECT TITLE:

Վ.ՍԱՐՈՅԱՆ - ՏՈՒՆ
SAROYAN HOUSE
PROJECT

PROJECT ADDRESS:
729 Գրինֆիլդ Վեյ
Բոնեգլոս, ԿԱ 93726

2729 Griffith Way
Fresno, CA 93726

CLIENT NAME:
ՀՆՏԵԼԵԿՏՈՒԱԼ ՌԵՆԵՍԱՆՍ
ԻՆՏԵԼԵԿՏՈՒԱԼ
INTELLECTUAL RENAISSANCE
FOUNDATION

ՓՈՓՈԽՈՒԹՅՈՒՆՆԵՐ/ԿԵՐԱՆԱՅՈՒՄ
REVISIONS

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PROJECT PHASE:

ՃՈՒՏԱՆՔԱՅԻՆ ՆԱԽԱԳԻԾ
CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTATION

ծԱԳՐԵՐԻ ԱՆՎԱՆՈՒՄԸ
RAWING TITLE:

DEMOLISHING PLAN

SHEET NUMBER:

A200

SCALE: 1 : 100

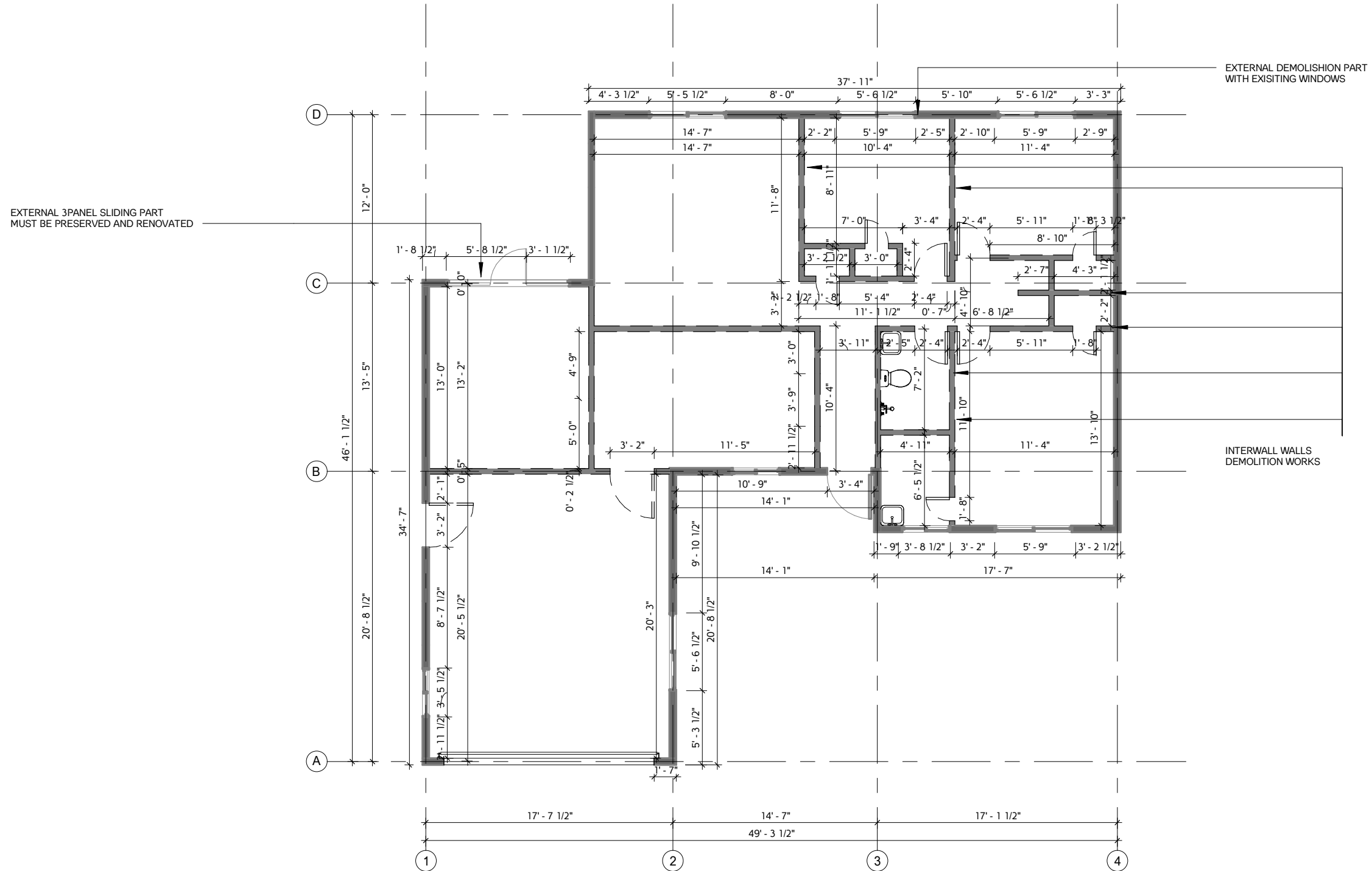
DATE: 18.02.09

PROJECT NUMBER: 161105

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DRAWN BY: **E.AGHAMALYAN**

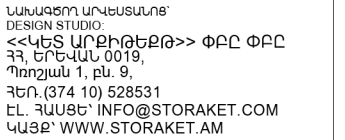
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SAROYAN HOUSE
PROJECT

CLIENT NAME
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ՀԻՄՆԱԴՐԱՄ
INTELLECTUAL RENAISSANCE
FOUNDATION

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
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ԱՇԽԱՏԱՆՔԱՅԻՆ ՆԱԽԱԳԻԾ
CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTATION

ԿՏՐՎԱԾՔՆԵՐ 1-1 , 3-3
SECTIONS 1-1 , 3-3

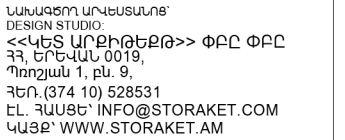
A301

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Վ.ՍԱՐՈՅԱՆ - ՏՈՒՆ
SAROYAN HOUSE
PROJECT

ՊԱՏՎԻՐԱՏՈՒՄ

ՓՈՓՈԽՈՒԹՅՈՒՆՆԵՐ/ԿԵՐԱՆԱՅՈՒՄ
REVISIONS

[illegible]

ԿՏՐՎԱԾՔՆԵՐ 2-2 ,4-4
SECTIONS 2-2 , 4-4

A302

USNԻԳԵՑ՝	Շ.ԻՍԱՆՅԱՆՍ
CHECKED BY:	SH.ISANIANS

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Operational Statement

DATE: February 10, 2018

TO: Chris Lang, Planner
County of Fresno
Public Works & Planning

Department

FROM: Hakob Hakobyan
Director
INTELLECTUAL RENAISSANCE

FOUNDATION

PROJECT: Saroyan House Project

Mr. Chris Lang,

Thank you for your Guidance on this proposed project at William Saroyan house located at 2729 Griffith Way, Fresno, CA 93726

Included here, we have provided the Operational Statement to accompany the entitlements already issued for this site. Please advise if you would like this to also be included on our drawings prior to issuance of permits.

There are existing planning entitlements for this site for which no changes are proposed. We would like to know which one those are.

Thanks,
Hakob Hakobyan

State the overall goals of the William Saroyan Home and Museum

The opening of William Saroyan's House Museum is a happening of a great importance not only for the Armenian community in the US, but also for the entire Armenian diaspora. It is planned to turn this place into a place of pilgrimage for all the Saroyan admirers around the world. The realization of this project is a tribute to Saroyan's work and heritage.

The foundation plans to recreate the atmosphere of Saroyan's house so that each and every visitor can get to know Saroyan's lifestyle. The opening of the museum will contribute to the revival of cultural life in Fresno, as well as promote love towards literature among the younger generation.

How will this facility be funded?

The renovation and the future operations of William Saroyan's house museum will be funded by the Intellectual Renaissance Foundation. During the first year after the official opening of the museum there will be no entrance fee for the visitors.

List all the various cultural events that may occur on site

Based on the size of the house and its location in the residential area, all the activities will be divided into two categories,

a) indoor activities

All of the activities in the museum will be indoor activities in correspondence with the residential area rules and regulations. There will be some artifacts from W. Saroyan and there will be holographic stage, where W. Saroyan will have regular live interaction with his fans, every week or every two weeks. The number of visitors cannot exceed 20 people inside the building.

What is the maximum number of participants that these events will serve

On average, the events will host approximately 20 visitors.

Will the museum and cultural events be open to the public or only by reservation

The museum will mostly be open to public but there will also be certain events with invitation only.

How often will tours be scheduled? Will there be a fee for these and who is the intended audience (children, adults)?

One-hour tours will be scheduled from Tuesday to Sunday, twice in a day. During the first year after the official opening the tours will be free of charge.

Will there be a staff person present at all times that the museum is open?

There will always be a staff member present in the museum. He or she will accompany the visitors and answer their questions if there are any.

How many visitors, school children versus public would you expect to accommodate?

Because of the size of the building and interactive artifacts, the museum will be able to accommodate 20 visitors at a time.

Will events be scheduled for the backyard, and if so how often.

Only once a year, W.Saroyan birthdays at August 31st will be organized in the house with access to backyard.

Nature of the operations:

The foundation will renovate William Saroyan's house, located at 2729 W Griffith Way, Fresno, CA. Repairing works should be applied to those items of the house, which have been damaged over time and are currently in bad condition. Repairs should be applied to the roof. Afterwards, it will be decorated with a 3D drawing of William Saroyan, so that the museum's location can be visible on Google Maps. Debris need to be cleaned out of the valley areas. Annual cleanings will be carried out to ensure proper flow and drainage run off. All flashings will be checked periodically to make sure that leakage doesn't occur. The damaged vent cover will be maintained/repared to prevent water infiltration. Front entry door is damaged, which is why replace will be needed. Wood components are prone to decay and insect damage, which is why further evaluation will be carried out by a licensed pest control company.

The damaged wires will be replaced. No GFCIs are observed. While it may not have been required when home was built, GFCIs will be installed out of safety issues in accordance with today's safety standards.

Evaporative cooler is damaged. It will be replaced. The heater did not function properly at time of inspection. Its condition will be evaluated, and certain repairs will be carried out. In the lawn area, a transforming stage will be constructed, which will be used during events and ceremonies. Saroyan's bust will be placed in front of the museum.

Number of customers or visitors:

In the future, we plan to have an estimated number of visitors, amounting to 40-50 people per week..

Number of employees:

The house museum will have from 2 to 3 full-time employees, including a director, an archivist, a guide and a librarian.

Service and delivery vehicles:

No. special delivery vehicle is considered.

Access to site:

Access to the museum is provided by the paved road of W Griffith Way.

Number of parking spaces:

The location of the museum is not suitable for building a big parking lot. However, there will be a parking space available for 3 or 4 cars in front of the house. Also, there will be a parking spot for bicycles near the lawn area. There are two parking lots in 0.4 miles from the museum. Currently, the foundation negotiates with the owners regarding the usage of these parking spots by the visitors of the museum.

Equipment used on site:

The equipment stored on site includes lawn mowing equipment and water sprinklers for landscaping purposes. Touch screens, projectors and devices for customer registration will be placed inside the house.

What supplies and or materials are used and how are they stored:

General museum supplies will be kept on site in storage closets, cabinets and offices for Administration.

Does the use cause an unsightly appearance:

No

Estimated volume of water to be used:

Lawn Irrigation systems will be applied, however they are not yet inspected within the scope of a standard home inspection. Entire sprinkling system should be checked and corrected.

There is hot water supply. Its estimated capacity is 40 +/- gallons. According to the Fresno legislation, lawn irrigation combined with domestic water consumption must not exceed 23 acre feet annually (7.494.582 gallons). According to the calculations, the average amount of water used in the museum will not exceed 679.500 gallons per year.

Describe any proposed advertising, including size appearance and placement

Two or three standard road signs just to show the direction to W.Saroyan museum.

Will existing buildings be used or will new buildings be constructed

The museum will be opened within the existing house of William Saroyan.

Explain which buildings or which portion of buildings will be used in the operation

The renovations will be carried out inside and outside the house. Half of the house will be renovated in a way so that it will recreate Saroyan's living and working atmosphere. The rest of the territory will be used to expose Saroyan's belongings, copies of his works, letters, articles, etc.

Will any outdoor lighting or an outdoor sound amplification system be used

Outdoor lighting will be provided throughout the territory of the museum. Deem lighting will be placed throughout the perimeter of the roof to make sure the museum is visible in the evening. Low voltage exterior speakers will be placed for ceremonies and events.

Landscaping or fencing proposed:

The landscaping and fencing will be fulfilled in the following stages;

1. Grass seed Installation
2. Lawn Fertilizer Repair
3. Organic Lawn Care Installation
4. Sod Installation
5. Landscape Rock installation
6. Lawn Sprinkler repair
7. Mulch installation

At the end we would like to refer to your comments, point by point

1. Relocate the proposed entrance to direct visitors away from the east side of the structure. The relocated entrance should alter the exterior appearance of the structure as little as possible.
 - ***Attaché to this document we are presenting new drawing set, in which we change the entrance to center of the building as it is located in existing building.***
2. Revise the Operational Statement to address concerns regarding the interaction of the proposed museum with surrounding residential properties.
 - What will be the hours of operation? ***From 10:00-18:00***
 - How many days per week will the museum operate? ***From Thursday to Sunday***
 - If by appointment only, how many tours will be scheduled per day, and with how many visitors? Where will visitors with an appointment park? ***4 tour groups and in each group will be 5 visitors this means daily 20 visitors.***
 - If visitors arrive via shuttle, where will the congregation point be located? ***William Saroyan house maximum capacity is 20 visitors per visit and we don't think that it will be a visits with shuttles, but if it happen on the Griffith Way in front of the building, the whole tour will take 30 minutes and the shuttle should maximum park there for 40 minutes.***
 - How many employees will be present, and where will they park? ***2 employees they will park in front of garage door.***
 - What measures are being taken to mitigate any potential impact of increased noise levels for surrounding properties? ***As stated in the operational statement all the activates are going to happen inside the building and the noise level will be in the range of the residential codes.***


3. Monument signs as indicated on initial site plan do not fit in with the residential neighborhood. In order to be approved, signs must maintain the historical and residential character of the site Staff recommends that a hanging porch sign a small wall sign, or a wall mounted plaque to replace the one that had been removed.. Signs, however, are permitted through a separate process and will not be approved with this Conditional Use Permit application. **We will restore the original sign of the building and will not add any other sign.**
4. A sculpture as identified in the Operational Statement may be permitted, however the location and its proposed design must be reflected in the application submittal. **Maine design value is to keep the historical environment of the exterior that's why No sculpture will be add.**
5. A rooftop mural used to identify the museum in aerial and satellite imagery will not be permitted, **there will be not such a thing.**

Owners, Officers and/or Board Members:

Arthur Janibekyan
Dikran Kuyumjian
Rafayel Hovhannisyan
Rafayel Hakobjanyan
Nora Yakoubian

**REPORT TO THE HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION****AGENDA ITEM NO. D-3
COMMISSION MEETING 11-23-88****APPROVED BY**
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

November 16, 1988

**FROM: STAFFORD PARKER, Secretary
Development Department**
**BY: DR. STAN RYS, Deputy Director of Planning
Development Department****SUBJECT: RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING DESIGNATION OF THE WILLIAM
SAROYAN HOME, 2729 WEST GRIFFITH WAY TO THE LOCAL
OFFICIAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC RESOURCES****BACKGROUND**

The Housing and Community Development Commission, in its role as the Historic Preservation review body of the City, has the duty to evaluate properties for placement on the Local Historic Register and to provide a recommendation to the City Council as to whether designation should occur.

The owners of property at 2729 West Griffith Way, represented by Ben Amerkanian, have requested placement of the William Saroyan Home to the Local Official Register of Historic Resources. This will be the second Saroyan home placed on the Register, the earlier one occupied during his boyhood and the later occupied during his adulthood.

Staff has completed a survey of the property, visited the site, and finds it eligible for such placement (Refer to Attachments A, B, and C. This will be the first home less than 50 years of age to be placed on the Register.

Alternatives:

1. Accept the staff's findings as being complete and accurate and adopt the attached resolution (Attachment D) recommending placement on the Local Register. Forward the Resolution to the City Council for final approval.
2. Delay action and request further information prior to making a decision on the matter.
3. Deny the request for placement to the register, stating the grounds for denial.

REPORT TO HCD COMMISSION
HISTORIC RESOURCES 2729 WEST GRIFFITH WAY
Page 2
November 16, 1988

THE ISSUE

Given the information provided on the Survey Form and given the standards set down in the Fresno City Preservation Ordinance, should or should not the referenced structure be recommended for placement on the Local Register?

RECOMMENDATION

1. After public hearing, adopt the attached Resolution recommending placement on the Local Register.
2. Forward the Resolution to the City Council for final review and approval.

FISCAL IMPACT OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

RT:pg
5842T/280

Attachments:

1. Attachment A - History, Architecture, and Findings
2. Attachment B - Inventory Form
3. Attachment C - Vicinity Map and Photograph(s)
4. Attachment D - Draft Commission Resolution

HISTORY, ARCHITECTURE, AND FINDINGS

The request to nominate the William Saroyan home located at 2729 East Griffith Way to the Register is unusual in that the structure is less than fifty years old, is not architecturally unique, and would vie with another, older Saroyan home which is already on the Register. However, this common variety tract home was, for 18 years, Saroyan's home and place of work where he produced the last twelve writings of his prolific literary career. These writings include specific references to this home, its neighborhood and daily life experiences here.

Mr. Saroyan actually lived in the home about six months out of each year, spending the balance of the year in Paris, France, where the owned an apartment. The primary cultural value of the first Saroyan Home, located at 3204 East El Monte Way, is that the author resided there during this formative years, ages 13-19, while the latter home represents a significant period of literary productivity.

Saroyan was clearly a "world citizen" with opportunities for a flamboyant lifestyle, given his associations in entertainment and academic circles. He was in great demand as a lecturer. Saroyan, however, chose a more subdued lifestyle and delighted in his associations with common people and local characters, the experiences allowing him to create in his writings, interesting sketches of everyday life. The home at 2729 West Griffith Way is reflective of this lifestyle and his literary interest.

Although Fresno has produced numerous citizens who have achieved national or international recognition, there will probably be none whose works are greater or more lasting than the author and playwright William Saroyan.

For this reason it is important to memorialize and preserve even the most common possessions and artifacts related to his life such as his typewriter and bicycle. It must therefore be concluded that this structure is worthy of placement on the Local Official Register of Historic Resources.

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

ATTACHMENT B

(State use only)

Ser _____ Site _____ Mo. _____ Yr. _____

UTM _____ Q _____ NR _____ SHL _____

Lat _____ Lon _____ Era _____ Sig _____

Adm _____ T2 _____ T3 _____ Cat _____ HABS _____ HAER _____ Fed _____

IDENTIFICATION

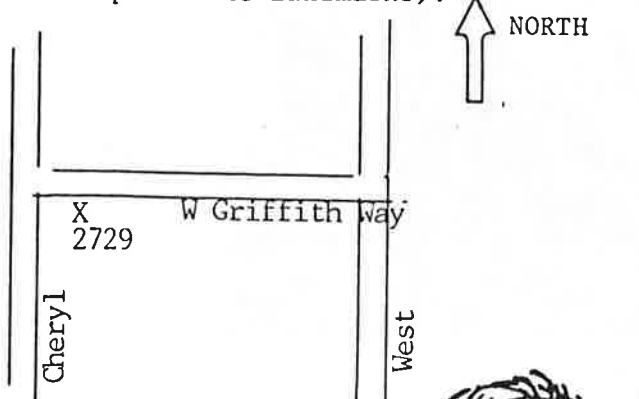
1. Common name: Home
2. Historic name, if known: The William Saroyan Home
3. Street or rural address 2729 West Griffith Way
City: Fresno CA ZIP: 93705 County: Fresno
4. Present owner, if known: M/M Marcus Damon Address: 2729 West Griffith Way
City: Fresno ZIP: 93705 Ownership is: Public ☐ Private ☒
5. Present Use: home Original Use: home
Other past uses: home and writing studio

DESCRIPTION

6. Briefly describe the present physical appearance of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This is a typical tract house built in the early nineteen sixties. Saroyan paid \$13,500 for the house. It has an attached garage that juts out from the main house. A wooden hipped roof and a small front porch is typical of most of the houses in this tract. The house is essentially the same as when he died in 1981.

7. Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):



8. Approximate property size:
Lot size (in feet) Frontage 60',
Depth 90',
or approx. acreage 0.20.
9. Condition: (check one)
a. Excellent ☒ b. Good ☐ c. Fair ☐
d. Deteriorated ☐ e. No longer in existence ☐
10. Is the feature a. Altered? ☐ b. Unaltered? ☒
11. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary)
a. Open land ☐ b. Scattered buildings ☐
c. Densely built-up ☐ d. Residential ☒
e. Commercial ☐ f. Industrial ☐
g. Other ☐
12. Threats to site:
a. None known ☒ b. Private development ☐
c. Zoning ☐ d. Public Works project ☐
e. Vandalism ☐ f. Other ☐
13. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s): Apr 20, 1988

NOTE: The following (Items 14-19) are for structures only.

14. Primary exterior building material: a. Stone ☐ b. Brick ☐ c. Stucco ☒
d. Adobe ☐ e. Wood ☐ f. Other ☐
15. Is the structure: a. On its original site? ☒ b. Moved? ☐ c. Unknown? ☐
16. Year of initial construction 1963 This date is: a. Factual ☐ b. Estimated ☒
17. Architect (if known): unknown
18. Builder (if known): Oscar Spano, Better Homes
19. Related features: a. Barn ☐ b. Carriage house ☐ c. Outhouse ☐ d. Shed(s) ☐
e. Formal garden(s) ☐ f. Windmill ☐ g. Watertower/tankhouse ☐
h. Other ☐ i. None ☒

SIGNIFICANCE

20. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, awards and persons associated with the site when known):

Saroyan burst upon the American writing scene in 1934 with "The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze". Then in 1940 he became the first American playwright to win the Pulitzer Prize and the Drama Critics' Circle Award in the same year (1940) for the play, "The Time of Your Life". His more than 80 books marks him as a writer that will go down in history because his writing strikes a tone for the love of life expressed in all its stages.

It was in this house so many of his books were written. It is fitting that we honor his memory by placing this house on the register of historical places.

21. Main theme of the historic resource: (Check only one): a. Architecture ☐
b. Arts & Leisure ☒ c. Economic/Industrial ☐ d. Exploration/Settlement ☐
e. Government ☐ f. Military ☐ g. Religion ☐ h. Social/Education ☐
22. Sources: List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews, and their dates:
See attached sheet for an abridged list of his books published.

23. Date form prepared: Apr 20, 1988 By (name): Benjamin V. Amirkhanian
Address: 920 E Yale City Fresno CA ZIP: 93704
Phone: 229-7866 Organization: William Saroyan Festival Committee

(State Use Only)

Apr 20, 1988
HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

ATTACHMENT C
Home of William Royan 1964 - 1981
2728 West Griffith Way Fresno CA 93705



Copy to
Roger Taylor

September 27, 1988

Randy McFarland, Chairman
Historic Landmarks & Records Advisory Commission
2420 Mariposa Street
Fresno, CA 93721

RE: Saroyan home--2729 W Griffith Way
Historic Place

Dear Mr. McFarland:

It is understandable that the commission would want to know if Saroyan actually wrote books in the house he bought and lived in about six months out of every year since since 1964 until the time of his death in May, 1981.

It was Saroyan's habit to write every day, usually in the morning hours.

Following are books by Saroyan published after he moved into 2729 W Griffith Way:

- 1964 One Day in the Afternoon of the World published by Harcourt, Brace and World.
- 1966 Publishes the memoir Short Drive, Sweet Chariot (Phaedra) and forms the William Saroyan Foundation.
- 1968 Publishes a collection of occasional pieces, I Used to Believe I Had Forever, Now I'm Not So Sure (Cowles)
- 1971 Publishes Don't Go, But if You Must, Say Hello to Everybody, Cassell, London, and New American Library, New York.
- 1972 Publishes Places Where I've Done Time, Praeger
- 1973 Publishes Days of Life and Death and Escape to the Moon, Dial.
- 1976 Publishes Sons Come and Go, Mothers Hang in Forever, McGraw-Hill.
- 1978 Publishes Chance Meetings, Norton.
- 1979 Publishes Obituaries, Creative Arts.
- 1980 Nominated for American Book Award for Obituaries.
- 1981 Dies of cancer in Fresno, May 18.
- 1983 Posthumous publication of Births, Creative Arts; and My Name is Saroyan, Coward-McCann.

On page 110 in his book, Places Where I've Done Time, Saroyan tells how he bought his house at 2729 W Griffith Way in 1963. Saroyan bought his Paris apartment in 1961.

A cousin, Ruben Saroyan, 1353 N. Palm, 266-6589, was very close to Bill. Please call him and ask what you will about Saroyan's writing habits etc.

Sincerely,

Ben Amirkhanian

Ben Amirkhanian
Chairman, William Saroyan Festival Committee
920 East Yale, Fresno CA 93704 229-7866

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION RECOMMENDING DESIGNATION OF THE WILLIAM SAROYAN RESIDENCE, LOCATED AT 2729 WEST GRIFFITH WAY, TO THE LOCAL OFFICIAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC RESOURCES.

- WHEREAS, at a noticed public hearing on November 23, 1988, the Housing and community Development Commission heard testimony on the subject property; and
- WHEREAS, the home located at 2729 West Griffith Way was purchased by William Saroyan in 1963; and
- WHEREAS, this was his principal residence for the last 18 years of his life; and
- WHEREAS, this home represents the environment in which he produced nine writings, including some which make specific reference to this environment; and
- WHEREAS, William Saroyan, is recognized internationally as a literary genius whose fame through literature will last for many generations; and
- WHEREAS, the structure is located in a neighborhood containing a variety of early day residential structures, ornamental street lights and mature landscaping; and
- WHEREAS, based upon the presentation of facts relating to the criteria for official designation, the structure has been evaluated and determined to have historic and architectural significance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Housing and Community

Development Commission recommends to the City Council that the William Saroyan Home, located at 2729 West Griffith Way be designated to the Local Official Register of Historic Resources as set forth in Article 4 of Chapter 13 of the Fresno Municipal Code relating to the Preservation of Historic Structures.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Housing and Community Development Commission upon motion of Commissioner _____, seconded by Commissioner _____

VOTING: Ayes -

Noes -

Absent -

Stafford W. Parker, Secretary
Housing and Community Development
Commission

DATED:

5842T/246

Apr 20, 1988
HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

ATTACHMENT C
Home of William Saroyan 1964 - 1981
2728 West Griffith Way Fresno CA 93705



WILLIAM SAROYAN HOME
2729 W.GRIFFITH WAY
BUILT IN 1964