



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

---

## Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No. 0641

HEARING DATE: JANUARY 20, 2010

*Date:* January 13, 2010  
*Case No.:* **2010.0006U**  
*Project Address:* **2301 SAN JOSE AVENUE**  
*Landmark No.:* 180 (Geneva Office Building and Power House)  
*Zoning:* P (Public)  
40-X Height and Bulk District  
*Block/Lot:* 6972/036  
*Project Sponsor:* Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Office of Historic Preservation  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001  
*Staff Contact* Michael Smith - (415) 558.6322  
[michael.e.smith@sfgov.org](mailto:michael.e.smith@sfgov.org)  
*Reviewed By:* Tina Tam – (415) 558-6325  
[tina.tam@sfgov.org](mailto:tina.tam@sfgov.org)

1650 Mission St.  
Suite 400  
San Francisco,  
CA 94103-2479

Reception:  
**415.558.6378**

Fax:  
**415.558.6409**

Planning  
Information:  
**415.558.6377**

**ADOPTING FINDINGS RECOMMENDING TO THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER THAT THE GENEVA OFFICE BUILDING AND POWER HOUSE, LANDMARK No. 180, LOCATED AT 2301 SAN JOSE AVENUE, ON LOT 036 IN ASSESSOR'S BLOCK 6972, BE NOMINATED TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES AND THAT THE OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROCESS THE NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION.**

### PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, On December 3, 2009, Milford Wayne Donaldson, State Historic Preservation Officer forwarded a request to the San Francisco Planning Department (hereinafter "Department") for review and comment on the nomination of 2301 San Jose Avenue, also known as the Landmark No. 180, the Geneva Office Building and Power House, on Lot 036 in Assessor's Block 6972, to the National Register of Historic Places (hereinafter "National Register").

Pursuant to the Certified Local Government Agreement between the Office of Historic Preservation (hereinafter "OHP") and the City and County of San Francisco, the Historic Preservation Commission (hereinafter "Commission") is provided with a sixty (60) day review and comment period to provide written comments to the OHP before the State Historical Resources Commission takes action on the above-stated National Register nomination.

The National Register is the official list of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation. The National Register's criteria for evaluating the significance of properties were designed to recognize the accomplishments of all peoples who have made a contribution to the Nation's heritage in the areas of Events, Persons, Design/Construction, and Information Potential. The four National Register criteria are designed to guide state and local governments, federal agencies and others in evaluating potential entries into the National Register.

At its hearing on January 20, 2010 the Historic Preservation Commission, acting in its capacity as San Francisco's Certified Local Government Commission, reviewed the nomination of the Geneva Office Building and Power House at 2301 San Jose Avenue, to the National Register.

In reviewing the nomination, the Commission has had available for its review and consideration reports, photographs, and other materials pertaining to the nomination contained in the Department's case file, and has reviewed and heard testimony and received materials from interested parties during the public hearing on the Project.

The property is City Landmark No. 180. In 1998, the property was determined eligible for the National Register through Section 106 Review and was assigned a rating of "2S2". The property was surveyed as part of the Department's 1976 Architectural Survey and assigned a rating of "3".

According to the nomination's summary, the Geneva Complex, consisting of both the Office Building and Power House, are eligible for the National Register at the local level under Criterion A, for its local association with the development of San Francisco's electrical railway system and its association with the history of organized labor in San Francisco. The property is also eligible for the National Register under Criterion C as a representative of pre-earthquake brick construction, rendered in the Romanesque and Queen Anne styles. The buildings' period of significance is 1901, marking the year the Office Building was constructed, to 1944, marking the year the San Francisco Municipal Railway occupied the property and it underwent several alterations. The Commission has reviewed and concurs with said determination.

Properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places are automatically included in the California Register of Historical Resources and afforded consideration in accordance with state and local environmental review procedures.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby **recommends** that the Geneva Office Building and Power House located at 2301 San Jose Avenue, also known as Landmark No. 180, located on Lot 036 in Assessor's Block 6972, be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places pursuant to Criterion A & C, and **further recommends** the State Historic Preservation Officer to process the National Register nomination.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby directs its Recording Secretary to transmit this Resolution, and other pertinent materials in the case file **2010.0006U** to the State Historic Preservation Officer.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was **Adopted** by the Historic Preservation Commission on January 20, 2010.

Linda Avery  
Recording Secretary

AYES: Damkroger, Martinez, Wolfram, Buckley, Matsuda, Hasz  
NOES: none  
ABSENT: Chase (recused)  
ADOPTED: January 20, 2010