

1 [Planning Code - Landmark Designation - 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical  
2 Center)]

3 **Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H.  
4 Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 4968, Lot No. 032, as a  
5 Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code; affirming the Planning Department's  
6 determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making public  
7 necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code, Section 302, and  
8 findings of consistency with the General Plan, and with the eight priority policies of  
9 Planning Code, Section 101.1.**

10 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.  
11 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.  
12 **Deletions to Codes** are in *strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*.  
13 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.  
14 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.  
15 **Asterisks (\* \* \* \*)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code  
16 subsections or parts of tables.

17 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

18 Section 1. Findings.

19 (a) CEQA and Land Use Findings.

20 (1) The Planning Department has determined that the proposed Planning Code  
21 amendment is subject to a Categorical Exemption from the California Environmental Quality  
22 Act (California Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq., "CEQA") pursuant to Section  
23 15308 of the Guidelines for implementation of the statute for actions by regulatory agencies  
24 for protection of the environment (in this case, landmark designation). Said determination is  
25 on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 180559 and is incorporated herein  
by reference. The Board of Supervisors affirms this determination.

1 (2) Pursuant to Planning Code Section 302, the Board of Supervisors finds that  
2 the proposed landmark designation of 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical  
3 Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, will serve the public necessity, convenience,  
4 and welfare for the reasons set forth in Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No. 961,  
5 recommending approval of the proposed designation, which is incorporated herein by  
6 reference.

7 (3) The Board of Supervisors finds that the proposed landmark designation of  
8 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot  
9 032, is consistent with the San Francisco General Plan and with Planning Code Section  
10 101.1(b) for the reasons set forth in Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No. 961,  
11 recommending approval of the proposed designation, which is incorporated herein by  
12 reference.

13 (b) General Findings.

14 (1) Pursuant to Section 4.135 of the City Charter, the Historic Preservation  
15 Commission has authority "to recommend approval, disapproval, or modification of landmark  
16 designations and historic district designations under the Planning Code to the Board of  
17 Supervisors."

18 (2) A community-sponsored Application for Article 10 Landmark Designation for  
19 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot  
20 032 was submitted to the Planning Department by Dr. Arelious Walker, Pastor of True Hope  
21 Church of God.

22 (3) On January 17, 2018, the Historic Preservation Commission added 6301  
23 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, to  
24 the Landmark Designation Work Program, which was adopted by the Historic Preservation  
25

1 Commission on June 15, 2011 and is a list of individual properties and historic districts under  
2 consideration for landmark designation.

3 (4) The Designation report was prepared by Desiree Smith, Planning  
4 Department Preservation staff and reviewed by Tim Frye, Planning Department Preservation  
5 staff. All preparers meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards  
6 and Planning Department Preservation staff reviewed the report for accuracy and  
7 conformance with the purposes and standards of Article 10.

8 (5) The Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of April 18,  
9 2018, reviewed Planning Department Preservation staff's analysis of 6301 Third Street's  
10 historical significance pursuant to Article 10 as part of the Landmark Designation Case Report  
11 dated April 18, 2018.

12 (6) On April 18, 2018, the Historic Preservation Commission passed Resolution  
13 No. 951, initiating designation of 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center),  
14 Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, as a San Francisco Landmark pursuant to Section  
15 1004.1 of the Planning Code. Said resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
16 Supervisors in File No. 180559 and is incorporated herein by reference.

17 (7) On May 16, 2018, after holding a public hearing on the proposed  
18 designation and having considered the specialized analyses prepared by Planning  
19 Department Preservation staff and the Landmark Designation Case Report, the Historic  
20 Preservation Commission recommended approval of the proposed landmark designation of  
21 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot  
22 032, in Resolution No. 961. Said resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of  
23 Supervisors in File No. 180559.

24 (8) The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H.  
25 Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, has a special character and

1 special historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and value, and that its designation as a  
2 Landmark will further the purposes of and conform to the standards set forth in Article 10 of  
3 the Planning Code.

4  
5 Section 2. Designation.

6 Pursuant to Section 1004 of the Planning Code, 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H.  
7 Coleman Medical Center), in Assessor's Parcel No. 4968 Lot 032, is hereby designated as a  
8 San Francisco Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code. Appendix A of Planning  
9 Code, Article 10 is hereby amended to include this property.

10  
11 Section 3. Required Data.

12 (a) The description, location, and boundary of the Landmark site consists of the City  
13 parcel located at 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's  
14 Parcel No. 4968 Lot 032, in San Francisco's Bayview neighborhood.

15 (b) The characteristics of the Landmark that justify its designation are described and  
16 shown in the Landmark Designation Case Report and other supporting materials contained in  
17 Planning Department Docket No. 2017-012290DES. In brief, 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H.  
18 Coleman Medical Center), in Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, is eligible for local  
19 designation under National Register of Historic Places Criterion B, as it is associated with the  
20 lives of significant persons in our past. Specifically, designation of 6301 Third Street (aka  
21 Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, is proper given that  
22 it is associated with Dr. Arthur H. Coleman, a nationally prominent African American  
23 physician-lawyer and influential healthcare and civil rights activist. Dr. Coleman purchased the  
24 property at 6301 Third Street to construct a purpose-built medical facility to serve Bayview  
25 residents. Opening in 1960, the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center reflected the popular

1 architectural styles of the period, and served as a modern symbol of community health,  
2 progress, and success. He recruited a team of African American physicians to join him in his  
3 vision of providing comprehensive health services to the area's low-income African American  
4 residents. Dr. Coleman was celebrated as a local pioneer in the nationally significant  
5 community health center movement of the 1960s, worked tirelessly to bring about racial equity  
6 within healthcare and the medical profession, and advocated for the needs of the Bayview's  
7 African American community.

8 (c) The particular features that shall be preserved, or replaced in-kind as determined  
9 necessary, are those generally shown in photographs and described in the Landmark  
10 Designation Case Report, which can be found in Planning Department Docket No. 2017-  
11 012290DES, and which are incorporated in this designation by reference as though fully set  
12 forth herein. The character-defining interior features of the building are those associated with  
13 areas that have historically been accessible to the public and are depicted in the floor plans or  
14 photos in the Landmark Designation Report dated May 16, 2018. Specifically, the following  
15 features shall be preserved or replaced in kind:

16 All exterior elevations, form, massing, structure, roofline, architectural ornament, and  
17 materials identified as:

- 18 (1) Location and site built to property line along Third Street;
- 19 (2) Two story height;
- 20 (3) Flat roof;
- 21 (4) Boxed eaves;
- 22 (5) Stucco cladding;
- 23 (6) Porcelain enameled steel panels with abstract boomerang motifs on Third  
24 Street and Ingerson Avenue elevations;
- 25

1 (7) Historic recessed pharmacy entrance at north corner with fully glazed  
2 aluminum frame door, flanked by large aluminum frame windows and  
3 transom;

4 (8) Historic main entry along Third Street elevation including:

5 (A) Angled and recessed main entry with porcelain enameled steel return  
6 at the south and stucco and glazing at the north return;

7 (B) Fully glazed aluminum frame double doors;

8 (C) Two aluminum frame windows flanking the double doors;

9 (D) Large glazed double-height transom above entry;

10 (E) Historic metal stylized address numbers at transom;

11 (F) Historic suspended abstract light fixture at entry;

12 (G) Applied ornamental medical emblem on north return; and

13 (H) Stucco clad planter abutting north return.

14 (9) Fenestration of ganged and single aluminum casement and awning  
15 windows and aluminum storefront system at ground level; and

16 (10) Letter signage reading, "The Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center" on the  
17 Ingerson Avenue elevation, located between the first and second floors.

18 All publicly accessible interior features identified as:

19 (1) Double-height entry lobby with straight run stair, second floor landing  
20 configuration, and porcelain enameled steel panels along south return.

21  
22 Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after  
23 enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the  
24 ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board  
25 of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

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APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ANDREA RUIZ-ESQUIDE  
Deputy City Attorney

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**City and County of San Francisco**  
**Tails**  
**Ordinance**

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

**File Number:** 180559

**Date Passed:** July 31, 2018

Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 4968, Lot No. 032, as a Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making public necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code, Section 302, and findings of consistency with the General Plan, and with the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

July 16, 2018 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED

July 24, 2018 Board of Supervisors - PASSED ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 9 - Cohen, Brown, Kim, Mandelman, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Yee  
Excused: 2 - Fewer and Tang

July 31, 2018 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED

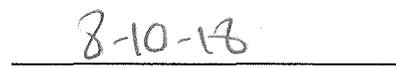
Ayes: 11 - Cohen, Brown, Fewer, Kim, Mandelman, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Tang and Yee

File No. 180559

**I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was FINALLY PASSED on 7/31/2018 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Angela Calvillo**  
Clerk of the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**London N. Breed**  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date Approved**



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

## Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No. 961 HEARING DATE MAY 16, 2018

*Case No.* 2017-012290DES  
*Project:* 6301 Third Street (Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center)  
Recommendation to Board of Supervisors  
*Staff Contact:* Desiree Smith (415) 575-9093  
[desiree.smith@sfgov.org](mailto:desiree.smith@sfgov.org)  
*Reviewed By:* Tim Frye – (415) 575-6822  
[tim.frye@sfgov.org](mailto:tim.frye@sfgov.org)

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CA 94103-2479

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Information:  
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### RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ARTICLE 10 LANDMARK DESIGNATION OF 6301 THIRD STREET (AKA ARTHUR H. COLEMAN MEDICAL CENTER), ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 4968, LOT 032, AS LANDMARK NO. XXX

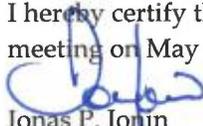
1. WHEREAS, A community-sponsored Application for Article 10 Landmark Designation for 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, was submitted to the Planning Department by Dr. Arelious Walker, Pastor of True Hope Church of God; and
2. WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of January 17, 2018, added 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, to the Landmark Designation Work Program; and
3. WHEREAS, Additional research and analysis of the significance of 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, was conducted by Planning Department staff Desiree Smith and was reviewed by Planning Department Staff Tim Frye, who meets the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, for accuracy and conformance with the purposes and standards of Article 10; and
4. WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of April 18, 2018 reviewed Department staff's analysis of 6301 Third Street's historical significance pursuant to Article 10 as part of the Landmark Designation Case Report dated April 18, 2018 and initiated Landmark designation process through Resolution No. 951; and
5. WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission finds that the nomination of 6301 Third Street as a landmark is in the form prescribed by the Historic Preservation Commission and contains supporting historic, architectural, and/or cultural documentation; and
6. WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission finds that the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center is significant for its association with Dr. Arthur H. Coleman, a nationally prominent

African American lawyer-physician and influential healthcare and civil rights advocate. Dr. Coleman purchased the property at 6301 Third Street to construct a purpose-built medical facility to serve Bayview residents. Opening in 1960, the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center reflected the style of the period and served as a modern symbol of community health, progress, and success. He recruited a team of African American physicians to join him in his vision of providing comprehensive health services to the area's low-income African American residents. Dr. Coleman was heavily involved with a wide variety of community and neighborhood initiatives – as a local pioneer in the nationally significant community health center movement of the 1960s, as a tireless advocate for racial equity within the healthcare system and the medical profession, and as an advocate for the Bayview's African American community; and

7. WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission finds that 6301 Third Street meets the eligibility requirements of Section 1004 of the Planning Code and warrants consideration for Article 10 landmark designation; and
8. WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission finds that the boundaries and the list of exterior and interior character-defining features, as identified in the Landmark Designation Report dated May 16, 2018, should be considered for preservation under the proposed landmark designation as they relate to the building's historical significance and retain historical integrity; and
9. WHEREAS, The proposed designation is consistent with the General Plan priority policies pursuant to Planning Code, Section 101.1 and furthers Priority Policy No. 7, which states that historic buildings be preserved, and will serve the public necessity, convenience and welfare pursuant to Planning Code, Section 302; and
10. WHEREAS, The Department has determined that landmark designation is exempt from environmental review, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 (Class Eight - Categorical).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends to the Board of Supervisors approval of landmark designation of the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center (aka 6301 Third Street), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032 pursuant to Article 10 of the Planning Code.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Historic Preservation Commission at its meeting on May 16, 2018.

  
Jonas P. Ionin  
Commission Secretary

AYES: Black, Hyland, Johnck, Johns, Matsuda, Wolfram

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Pearlman

ADOPTED: May 16, 2018



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

## Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No. 951

HEARING DATE APRIL 18, 2018

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

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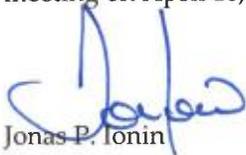
*Case No.* 2017-012290DES  
*Project:* 6301 Third Street (Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center)  
Landmark Designation Initiation  
*Staff Contact:* Desiree Smith (415) 575-9093  
[desiree.smith@sfgov.org](mailto:desiree.smith@sfgov.org)  
*Reviewed By:* Tim Frye – (415) 575-6822  
[tim.frye@sfgov.org](mailto:tim.frye@sfgov.org)

### **RESOLUTION TO INITIATE DESIGNATION OF 6301 THIRD STREET. (AKA ARTHUR H. COLEMAN MEDICAL CENTER), ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 4968, LOT 032, AS AN ARTICLE 10 LANDMARK.**

1. WHEREAS, A community-sponsored Application for Article 10 Landmark Designation for 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, was submitted to the Planning Department by Dr. Arelious Walker, Pastor of True Hope Church of God; and
2. WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of January 17, 2018, added 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, to the Landmark Designation Work Program; and
3. WHEREAS, Additional research and analysis of the significance of 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, was conducted by Planning Department staff Desiree Smith, who meets the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualification Standards (Standards), and was reviewed by Planning Department Staff Tim Frye, who also meets the Standards, for accuracy and conformance with the purposes and standards of Article 10; and
4. WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of April 18, 2018, reviewed Department staff's analysis of 6301 Third Street's historical significance pursuant to Article 10 as part of the Landmark Designation Case Report dated April 18, 2018;
5. WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission finds that the nomination of 6301 Third Street as a Landmark is in the form prescribed by the HPC and contains supporting historic, architectural, and/or cultural documentation; and
6. WHEREAS, The Historic Preservation Commission urges the property owner to consider working with Planning Department staff and community stakeholders to install an interpretive plaque or other interpretive element to the exterior of the building for educational purposes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Historic Preservation Commission hereby initiates designation of 6301 Third Street (aka Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center), Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032 as a Landmark pursuant to Article 10 of the Planning Code.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Historic Preservation Commission at its meeting on April 18, 2018.



Jonas P. Ionin  
Commission Secretary

AYES: Johns, Johnck, Pearlman, Matsuda, Wolfram, Black, Hyland

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

ADOPTED: April 18, 2018



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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**HEARING DATE:** May 16, 2018  
**CASE NUMBER:** 2017-012290DES – Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center  
**TO:** Historic Preservation Commission  
**FROM:** Desiree Smith  
Preservation Planner, 415-575-9093  
**REVIEWED BY:** Tim Frye  
Historic Preservation Officer, 415-575-6822  
**RE:** Landmark Recommendation Resolution

1650 Mission St.  
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On April 18, 2018, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) adopted Resolution No. 951 to initiate Article 10 landmark designation of 6301 Third Street, known as the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center. Under Article 10, initiation and recommendation are two distinct steps of the landmark designation process which require separate hearings and resolutions.

Attached is a draft **Resolution to Recommend** approval to the Board of Supervisors the designation of the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center as a San Francisco landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code, Section 1004.1. The Planning Department recommends adopting this Resolution.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Draft Resolution  
Draft Designation Ordinance  
Article 10 Landmark Designation Report  
Original Landmark Designation Application submitted by Dr. Arelious Walker  
April 18, 2018 Case Report  
Resolution 951  
Letters of Support



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## Landmark Designation Case Report

*Hearing Date:* April 18, 2018  
*Case No.:* 2017-012290DES  
*Project Address:* 6301 Third Street  
*Zoning:* NC-3 (Neighborhood Commercial, Moderate Scale)  
*Block/Lots:* 4968/032  
*Property Owner:* Mojoe Capital LLC  
132 Laurelwood Drive  
Novato, CA 94949  
*Staff Contact:* Desiree Smith – (415) 575-9093  
desiree.smith@sfgov.org  
*Reviewed By:* Tim Frye – (415) 575-6822  
[tim.frye@sfgov.org](mailto:tim.frye@sfgov.org)

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### PROPERTY DESCRIPTIONS & SURROUNDING LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

6301 Third Street (the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center, subject property) is located at the southeast corner of Third Street and Ingerson Avenue in the Bayview district of San Francisco. The subject property is two-stories with a flat roof, boxed eaves, and stucco cladding, and is built to the property lines along both of its primary (north and west) elevations. Constructed in 1960, the building features a design aesthetic characteristic of the period. Porcelain enameled steel panels featuring abstract boomerang motifs, for example, clad portions of both the Third Street and Ingerson Avenue elevations. Fenestration includes ganged and single aluminum casement and awning windows on the primary elevations, and a metal storefront system at the ground level. On the Ingerson Avenue elevation is letter signage reading, “The Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center.”

The Third Street corridor with which it is aligned, displays a mix of residential, commercial, and institutional (church and school) uses. The subject property is adjacent to the San Francisco MUNI “KT-Ingleside/Third Street” metro rail line that runs along Third Street and is near an entrance to the U.S. 101/Bayshore Freeway. Behind the building to its east is a residential neighborhood characterized by two-story single family homes dating to various time periods. The property is located within the NC-3 (Neighborhood Commercial, Moderate Scale) Zoning District and a 40-X Height and Bulk District.

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The case before the Historic Preservation Commission is the consideration of the initiation of a Community-Sponsored Article 10 Landmark Designation Application for the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center at 6301 Third Street, Assessor’s Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, as a San Francisco Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code, Section 1004.1, and recommending that the Board of Supervisors approve of such designation.

## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW STATUS

The Planning Department has determined that actions by regulatory agencies for protection of the environment (specifically in this case, landmark designation) are exempt from environmental review, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 (Class Eight - Categorical).

## GENERAL PLAN POLICIES

The Urban Design Element of the San Francisco General Plan contains the following relevant objectives and policies:

OBJECTIVE 2: Conservation of Resources that provide a sense of nature, continuity with the past, and freedom from overcrowding.

POLICY 4: Preserve notable landmarks and areas of historic, architectural or aesthetic value, and promote the preservation of other buildings and features that provide continuity with past development.

Designating significant historic resources as local landmarks will further continuity with the past because the buildings will be preserved for the benefit of future generations. Landmark designation will require that the Planning Department and the Historic Preservation Commission review proposed work that may have an impact on character-defining features. Both entities will utilize the Secretary of Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* in their review to ensure that only appropriate, compatible alterations are made.

## SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING CODE SECTION 101.1 – GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY AND IMPLEMENTATION

Planning Code Section 101.1 – Eight Priority Policies establishes and requires review of permits for consistency with said policies. On balance, the proposed designation is consistent with the priority policies in that:

- a. The proposed designation will further Priority Policy No. 7, that landmarks and historic buildings be preserved. Designation of the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center will help to preserve an important historical resource that is significant for its association with Dr. Arthur H. Coleman, a nationally prominent African American lawyer-physician and influential healthcare and civil rights advocate.

## BACKGROUND / PREVIOUS ACTIONS

The Community-Sponsored Article 10 Landmark Designation Application was prepared by Dr. Arelious Walker, pastor of True Hope of God Church, and submitted to the Planning Department on August 22, 2016. Department staff reviewed the nomination and provided comments to the applicant on October 19, 2016. The application was put on pause due to scheduling needs of the community stakeholders, and was resumed in August of 2017. At that time, Department staff conducted a site visit and met with Dr. Walker and the current building tenant, the Bayview Hunters Point Clinic.

The property was added to the HPC's Landmark Designation Work Program on January 17, 2018 to enable staff to carry out additional research for the property. Shortly after, Supervisor Malia Cohen's

office reached out to the Department indicating interest in sponsoring the landmark ordinance legislation. In February, Department staff met with the owner of the property to explain the benefits of landmark designation and answer questions. Additional research and writing, including a set of three oral interviews and the preparation of a landmark designation case report, was carried out by Planning Department staff member, Desiree Smith, and reviewed by Tim Frye.

If the Historic Preservation Commission decides to initiate Article 10 landmark designation of the subject property, the item will be considered again by the Historic Preservation Commission at a subsequent hearing. At that time the Historic Preservation Commission may adopt a resolution recommending that the Board of Supervisors support the designation. The nomination would then be considered at a future Board of Supervisors hearing for formal Article 10 landmark designation.

## **APPLICABLE PRESERVATION STANDARDS**

### **ARTICLE 10**

Section 1004 of the Planning Code authorizes the landmark designation of an individual structure or other feature or an integrated group of structures and features on a single lot or site, having special character or special historical, architectural or aesthetic interest or value, as a landmark. Section 1004.1 also outlines that landmark designation may be initiated by the Board of Supervisors or the Historic Preservation Commission and the initiation shall include findings in support. Section 1004.2 states that once initiated, the proposed designation is referred to the Historic Preservation Commission for a report and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to approve, disapprove or modify the proposal.

Pursuant to Section 1004.3 of the Planning Code, if the Historic Preservation Commission approves the designation, a copy of the resolution of approval is transmitted to the Board of Supervisors and without referral to the Planning Commission. The Board of Supervisors shall hold a public hearing on the designation and may approve, modify or disapprove the designation.

In the case of the initiation of a historic district, the Historic Preservation Commission shall refer its recommendation to the Planning Commission pursuant to Section 1004.2(c). The Planning Commission shall have 45 days to provide review and comment on the proposed designation and address the consistency of the proposed designation with the General Plan, Section 101.1 priority policies, the City's Regional Housing Needs Allocation, and the Sustainable Communities Strategy for the Bay Area. These comments shall be sent to the Board of Supervisors in the form of a resolution.

Section 1004(b) requires that the designating ordinance approved by the Board of Supervisors shall include the location and boundaries of the landmark site, a description of the characteristics of the landmark which justify its designation, and a description of the particular features that should be preserved.

Section 1004.4 states that if the Historic Preservation Commission disapproves the proposed designation, such action shall be final, except upon the filing of a valid appeal to the Board of Supervisors within 30 days.

## **ARTICLE 10 LANDMARK CRITERIA**

The Historic Preservation Commission on February 4, 2009, by Resolution No. 001, adopted the National Register Criteria as its methodology for recommending landmark designation of historic resources. Under the National Register Criteria, the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, materials, workmanship, and association, and that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or properties that have yielded, or may likely yield, information important in prehistory or history.

## **PUBLIC / NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT**

The nomination was submitted by community member and Pastor of True Hope Church of God, Dr. Arelious Walker. The current tenant of the property, the BayView Hunters Point Clinic/Marin City is in favor of designation and aided the preparation of the nomination. Patricia Coleman, the daughter of Dr. Coleman, is in support of landmark designation and was interviewed as part of the research and documentation for the designation report.

There is no known public or neighborhood opposition to designation of the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center at 6301 Third Street as an Article 10 landmark. The Department will provide any public correspondence received after the submittal of this report in the Historic Preservation Commission's correspondence folder.

## **PROPERTY OWNER INPUT**

The property owner is Mojoe Capital LLC. Department staff met with the property owner in February of this year to discuss landmark designation, including the process, benefits, and responsibilities of the owner. Preservation staff has also worked with the property owner to obtain the necessary entitlements for minor scopes of work to the property that respect and retain essential character-defining features.

## **STAFF ANALYSIS**

The case report and analysis under review was prepared by Department preservation staff. The Department has determined that the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center at 6301 Third Street meets the requirements for Article 10 eligibility as an individual landmark. The justification for inclusion is outlined below under the Significance and Integrity sections of this case report.

## **SIGNIFICANCE**

The Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center is significant for its association with Dr. Arthur H. Coleman, a nationally prominent African American lawyer-physician and influential healthcare and civil rights advocate. Dr. Coleman purchased the property at 6301 Third Street to construct a purpose-built medical facility to serve Bayview residents. Opening in 1960, the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center reflected the style of the period and served as a modern symbol of community health, progress, and success. He recruited a team of African American physicians to join him in his vision of providing comprehensive

health services to the area's low-income African American residents. Dr. Coleman was heavily involved with a wide variety of community and neighborhood initiatives – as a local pioneer in the nationally significant community health center movement of the 1960s, as a tireless advocate for racial equity within the healthcare system and the medical profession, and as an advocate for the Bayview's African American community.

#### INTEGRITY

The Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center retains excellent integrity of setting, location, design, workmanship, feeling, and association. In particular, the property retains sufficient integrity to express its association with the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center, established by nationally prominent African American lawyer-physician, Dr. Arthur H. Coleman, in 1960 to serve the area's growing and underserved African American community. The facility retains strong integrity of association, as it continues to be used as a medical center targeted towards helping underserved populations. The building has undergone only minimal exterior alterations since its period of significance, namely the replacement of the large window above the front entry on the Third Street elevation. The property is currently undergoing interior renovations, sponsored by the new tenant, the Bayview Hunters Point Clinic. A permit was also recently approved for the replacement of windows. Permits for exterior work were reviewed by Planning Department preservation staff for compliance with the *Secretary's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.

#### CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES

Whenever a building, site, object, or landscape is under consideration for Article 10 landmark designation, the Historic Preservation Commission is required to identify character-defining features of the property. This is done to enable owners and the public to understand which elements are considered most important to preserve the historical and architectural character of the proposed landmark.

Staff recommends the character-defining *exterior* features include the massing, form, structure, architectural ornament and materials identified as:

- Location and site built to property line along Third Street,
- Two story height,
- Flat roof,
- Boxed eaves,
- Stucco cladding,
- Porcelain enameled steel panels with abstract boomerang motifs on Third Street and Ingerson Avenue elevations,
- Historic recessed pharmacy entrance at north corner with fully glazed metal frame door, flanked by large metal frame windows and transom,
- Historic main entry along Third Street elevation including:
  - Angled and recessed main entry with porcelain enameled return at the south and stucco and glazing at the north return
  - Fully glazed metal frame double doors
  - Two metal frame windows flanking the double doors

- Large glazed double-height transom above entry
- Metal stylized address numbers at transom
- Historic suspended abstract light fixture at entry
- Applied ornamental medical emblem on north return
- Stucco clad planter abutting north return
- Fenestration of ganged and single metal casement and awning windows and metal storefront system at ground level,
- Letter signage that reads "The Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center" on the Ingerson Ave., elevation located between the first and second floors, and

Character-defining *interior* features identified as:

- Double height entry lobby with open stair railing and porcelain enameled steel return along south wall.

## BOUNDARIES OF THE LANDMARK SITE

Encompassing all of and limited to Lot 032 on Assessor's Block 4968 at the southeast corner of Third Street and Ingerson Avenue.

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Based on the Department's analysis, the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center at 6301 Third Street, Assessor's Parcel No. 4968, Lot 032, meets the requirements for Article 10 eligibility as an individual landmark as it is associated with persons significant to our past.

The subject property also meets two of the Historic Preservation Commission's priorities for designation which include:

1. *The designation of properties with strong cultural or ethnic associations*  
The subject property is associated with San Francisco's African American community.
2. *The designation of buildings located in geographically underrepresented areas*  
The subject property is located in an area that is geographically underrepresented in landmark buildings, as there are few designated landmarks in the Bayview Hunters Point area.

The Department recommends the Historic Preservation Commission initiate Article 10 Landmark designation for the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center as the subject property meets the eligibility requirements for Article 10 designation; meets two of the Historic Preservation Commission's priorities for designation; and is a Community-Sponsored Landmark Designation Application.

Under Article 10, The Historic Preservation Commission may recommend approval, disapproval or approval with modifications of the proposed initiation of the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center landmark designation. If the Historic Preservation Commission approves initiation, a second hearing will be held to consider whether or not to recommend the landmark designation to the Board of Supervisors.

A copy of the motion of recommendation is then transmitted to the Board of Supervisors, which will hold a public hearing on the designation and may approve, modify or disapprove the designation (Section 1004.4). If the Historic Preservation Commission disapproves the proposed designation, such action shall be final, except upon the filing of a valid appeal to the Board of Supervisors within 30 days (Section 1004.5).

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Exhibits
- B. Draft Resolution initiating designation
- C. Draft Ordinance
- D. Landmark Designation Report
- E. Historic Landmark Designation Application prepared by Dr. Arelious Walker and additional information provided by the Bayview Hunters Point Clinic

# Site Photo



6301 THIRD STREET  
ARTHUR H. COLEMAN MEDICAL CENTER

Article 10 Landmark Designation  
**Case Number** 2017-012290DES  
Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center  
6301 Third Street

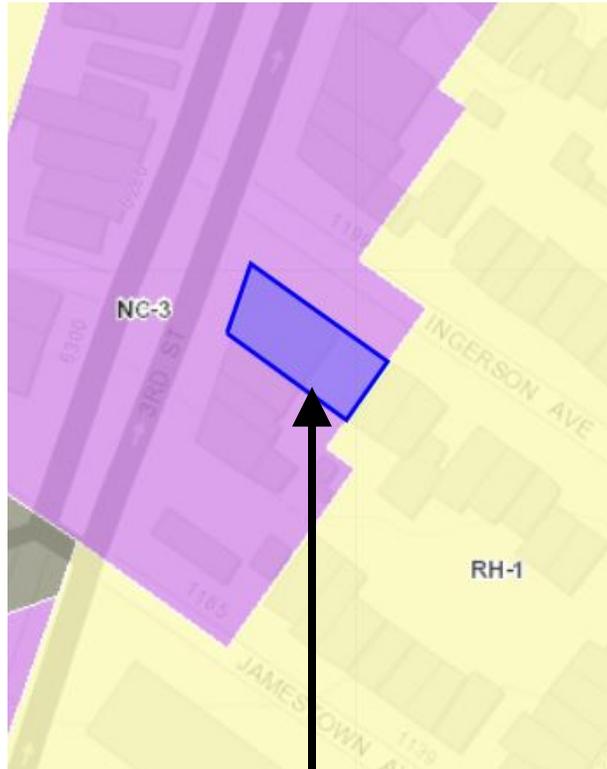
# Parcel Map



6301 THIRD STREET

Article 10 Landmark Designation  
**Case Number** 2017-012290DES  
Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center  
6301 Third Street

# Zoning Map



6301 THIRD STREET

Article 10 Landmark Designation  
**Case Number** 2017-012290DES  
Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center  
6301 Third Street

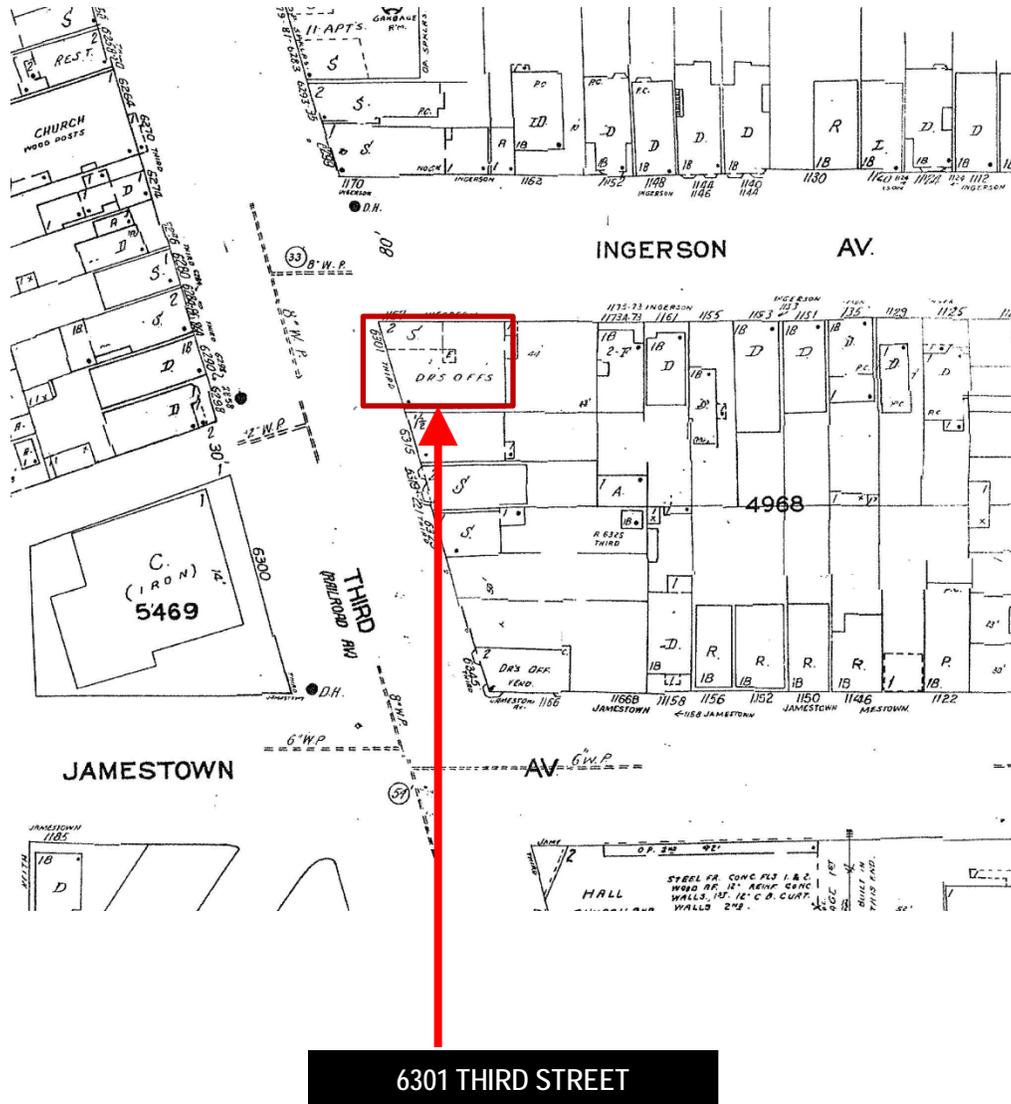
# Aerial Photo



6301 THIRD STREET

Article 10 Landmark Designation  
**Case Number** 2017-012290DES  
Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center  
6301 Third Street

# Sanborn Map\*



\*The Sanborn Maps in San Francisco have not been updated since 1998, and this map may not accurately reflect existing conditions.

Article 10 Landmark Designation  
Case Number 2017-012290DES  
Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center  
6301 Third Street



# LANDMARK DESIGNATION REPORT



## Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center 6301 Third Street

Initiated by the Historic Preservation Commission, April 18, 2018  
Approved by the Board of Supervisors, July 31, 2018  
Signed by Mayor, August 10, 2018  
Effective Date, September 9, 2018

**Landmark No. 279**

Cover: Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center, 1960 (Source: Bayview Hunters Point Clinic)

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is a seven-member body that makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the designation of landmark buildings and districts. The regulations governing landmarks and landmark districts are found in Article 10 of the Planning Code. The HPC is staffed by the San Francisco Planning Department.

*Only language contained within the Article 10 designation ordinance, adopted by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, should be regarded as final.*

# Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center

## 6301 Third Street

**Built:** 1960  
**Architect:** Hans G. Glass

This Article 10 Landmark Designation Report provides documentation and assessment to demonstrate the historical, cultural, or architectural significance for the purpose of local designation as a San Francisco City Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code. This document may reference previous studies and supporting documentation, such as historic context statements, surveys, state or national historic registries, and or other comparable documents. For more information regarding supporting documentation and source material, please reference the materials listed in the bibliography.

### CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION

Persons: Associated with persons significant to our past.

### PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE

1960-2002

The Period of Significance is 1960 through 2002, corresponding with the year the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center was constructed through the year that its founder, Dr. Arthur H. Coleman, last worked at the facility.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center is significant for its association with Dr. Arthur H. Coleman, a nationally prominent African American lawyer-physician and influential healthcare and civil rights advocate. Dr. Coleman purchased the property at 6301 Third Street to construct a purpose-built medical facility to serve Bayview residents. Opening in 1960, the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center reflected the popular architectural styles of the period, and served as a modern symbol of community health, progress, and success. He recruited a team of African American physicians to join him in his vision of providing comprehensive health services to the area's low-income African American residents. Dr. Coleman was celebrated as a local pioneer in the nationally significant community health center movement that began in the 1960s, worked tirelessly to achieve racial equity within the healthcare system and the medical profession, and advocated for the needs of the Bayview's African American community.

## PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The historic Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center at 6301 Third Street is located at the southeast corner of Third Street and Ingerson Avenue in the Bayview neighborhood in southeast San Francisco. The Third Street corridor with which the building is aligned displays a mix of residential, commercial, and institutional uses (churches and a school). Behind the building to the east is a residential neighborhood characterized by two-story single family homes constructed during various time periods. 6301 Third Street sits adjacent to the San Francisco MUNI “KT-Ingleside/Third Street” metro rail line that runs along Third Street and is also in close proximity to an entrance to the U.S. 101/Bayshore Freeway.



The historic Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center at 6301 Third Street, view southeast.

The subject property is two-stories in height with a flat roof, boxed eaves, and stucco siding. It is built to the property line along its primary (west) elevation on Third Street and has only a small set-back along its secondary street-facing (north) elevation on Ingerson Avenue. A small parking lot is located at the rear on the east portion of the parcel.

Constructed in 1960, the building features a design aesthetic characteristic of the period. Porcelain enameled steel panels featuring abstract boomerang motifs clad portions of both the Third Street and Ingerson Avenue elevations. Porcelain enamel, also called vitreous enamel, is a “thin coating of glass fused to metal at temperatures above 800 degrees Fahrenheit.”<sup>1</sup> The practice of applying porcelain enamel to metals for architectural purposes began in Austria and Germany in during the mid-nineteenth century. Its use in the United States began during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, picking up steam in the early twentieth century and becoming widely employed by the 1920s.<sup>2</sup> The porcelain enameled steel panels cladding the southern portion of the west elevation of 6301 Third Street continue onto the south return at the entryway and into the interior lobby. Patricia Coleman, daughter of Dr. Coleman and longtime office administrator for the medical center, recounted that her mother, Ruth Coleman, was an artist and participated in the design process for the new building, including the selection of the porcelain enameled steel panels that adorn the center’s walls.<sup>3</sup>

There are two historic main entrances to the building. At the north corner is a historic recessed pharmacy entrance with a fully glazed aluminum frame door, flanked by large aluminum frame windows and a transom. The second historic entrance is located midway along the Third Street elevation within an angled and recessed entryway. The entryway is characterized by porcelain enameled steel panels at the south return and stucco and glazing at the north return. A stucco clad

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<sup>1</sup> Jester, Thomas C., “Porcelain Enamel,” In *Twentieth-Century Building Materials: History and Conservation*. New York: McGraw Hill, 1995, 255.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Patricia Coleman, Interview with author, January 31, 2018.

planter abuts the north return. Fully glazed aluminum frame double doors open up to a double height entry lobby with open staircase; the doors are flanked by two aluminum frame windows and a large glazed double-height transom with original stylized metal address numbers. In front of the transom hangs a historic abstract light fixture that is red and white in color. The porcelain enameled steel panels cladding the exterior along the Third Street elevation continue into the interior lobby.



6301 Third Street (left), where Dr. Coleman established his multi-purpose medical facility in 1960, and 6315 Third Street (right, built 1918), which Dr. Coleman purchased in 1991 in order to expand services offered through the center. This Landmark designation, however, applies only to 6301 Third Street. Additional photographs are located in the Appendix.

## CONSTRUCTION AND OCCUPANT HISTORY

The first permit filed for 6301 Third Street was submitted by the property owner, R. O'Brien, in October of 1912 to erect a redwood shed at the southeast corner of Ingerson Avenue and Railroad Avenue (now Third Street). A second permit was filed in 1948 by a subsequent owner, Foster Kleiser Co., seeking to erect a sign/billboard on the property.

Dr. Arthur H. Coleman purchased the property at 6301 Third Street in 1959, at which time was an empty parcel, for the purposes of constructing a modern medical facility to serve Bayview residents, especially members of the area's underserved African American community. On May 18, 1959, he submitted a building permit application to construct the two-story medical office, listing Hans G. Glass, AIA (991 Main Street in Santa Clara) as the architect and W.J. Nicholson Co. Inc. (also of Santa Clara) as the contractor. A permit to erect was approved on August 10, 1959 and construction commenced soon after, estimated at a total cost of \$95,000. The new center was named, "San Francisco Medical Associates."

The grand opening of the San Francisco Medical Associates (renamed the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center in 1983) took place on February 28, 1960. Dozens of attendees received a tour of the multi-specialty facility furnished with the latest medical equipment. A certificate of occupancy and final completion was issued on April 29, 1960. A year later in 1961 a neon sign reading, "Wesley Johnson Pharmacy," was installed above the entrance of a pharmacy at the corner of Third and Ingerson Avenues. Q.R.S. Neon Co. (690 Potrero) fabricated the sign.

On September 12, 1991, Dr. Coleman along with William M. Ball Jr., Lawrence A. Neblett, and Barbara M. Holloway purchased the building next door at 6315 Third Street in order to expand their services.

Following Dr. Coleman's death in 2002, the San Francisco Medical Associates continued to own the property at 6301 Third Street. Dr. Coleman's daughter, Patricia Coleman, continued to serve as administrator, recruiting new tenants and overseeing the continued use of the property as a community health center. Since 2005, a number of organizations and private practices have operated out of the facility, including the Bayview Hunters Point Health and Resource Center, the Center for Traditional Midwifery, San Francisco Medical Associates, Marin City Health & Wellness Center (dba Bayview Hunters Point Clinic), Dr. Joshwin Hall (dentist), Dr. JayVon Muhammad (CEO of Bayview Hunters Point Clinic), and Marlenea Watkins (health outreach coordinator).

In 2016, the property was purchased by Mojoe Capital LLC, Mark Giraudo Property Trust, and TD Investments LP. The Bayview Hunters Point Clinic, operated by the Marin City Health & Wellness Center, has leased the space since then. Several of the clinic's physicians, including the CEO, Dr. JayVon Muhammad, grew up in the Bayview neighborhood and received medical care from Dr. Coleman. It is the expressed goal of the Bayview Hunters Point Clinic to carry on Dr. Coleman's legacy by continuing to offer medical services out of the historic Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center.

To that end, the Bayview Hunters Point Clinic began a series of interior alterations in 2017 in order to modernize the facility. Several permits were approved in 2017 and 2018 to carry out electrical, HVAC, plumbing, flooring, and grid work, and to add a new fire alarm system and make other interior improvements.<sup>4</sup> Previous alterations to the building consist of a roof replacement in 1993 and window replacements (date unknown) that resulted in additional aluminum sashes at the storefront system.

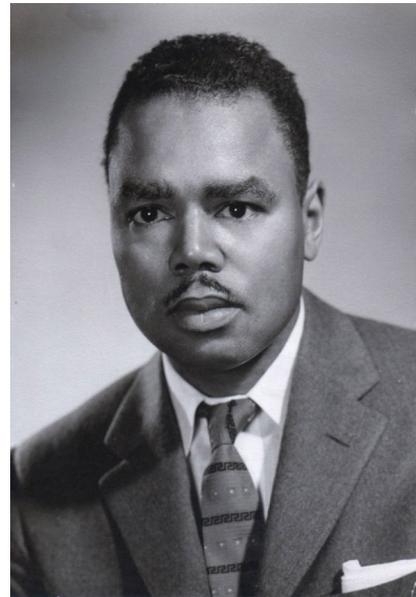
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<sup>4</sup> San Francisco Department of Building Inspection, Building Permit Records.

## HISTORIC CONTEXTS

### Dr. Arthur H. Coleman

Dr. Arthur Haywood Coleman (1920-2002) was born February 20, 1920 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Jesse and Virginia Coleman. His parents, who obtained 11<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade educations, respectfully, strongly supported their son's academic pursuits and Coleman went on to become the first in his extended family to attend and complete college.<sup>5</sup> In 1937 he graduated at the top of his class from Pennsylvania State College (now Pennsylvania State University) where he was one of only 13 African Americans students. Reflecting on that time, Dr. Coleman stated, "It was a very lonely, very tough life, but this brought out a certain toughness in me about meeting the realities of life."<sup>6</sup> In 1944 he obtained a medical degree from Howard Medical College in Washington D.C. – one of only two medical schools that enrolled black students in any significant numbers at that time.<sup>7</sup> After completing a year-long internship at the Homer G. Phillips Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri, Dr. Coleman joined the U.S. Air Force where he served as an aviation medical examiner with the rank of Captain from 1945 to 1948.<sup>8</sup>



Dr. Arthur H. Coleman, circa 1960.  
Source: Patricia Coleman

#### *Establishing a Medical Practice in Bayview-Hunters Point*

Upon serving out his term with the U.S. Air Force, Dr. Coleman sought to establish a medical practice where his talents and skills could be put to use helping those in most need. He heard about an opportunity in a small Georgia town, but after being confronted with very direct and blatant racism during a trip to the state Dr. Coleman instead chose to relocate to San Francisco.<sup>9</sup> He recounted his decision in a 1984 interview with the *Nob Hill Gazette*:

I read that there were great opportunities for a young black physician in San Francisco. Prior to World War II, there wasn't but one in the whole city. I really didn't want to stay in Philadelphia. I thought that it was one of the most nonprogressive [sic] cities in the world, so I came out here and set up practice on the second floor of a grocery store—just one block from where the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center is today.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Patricia Coleman, Interview with author, January 31, 2018.

<sup>6</sup> Bucklin, Linda, "Arthur H. Coleman at the Helm," *Nob Hill Gazette*, March 18, 1984.

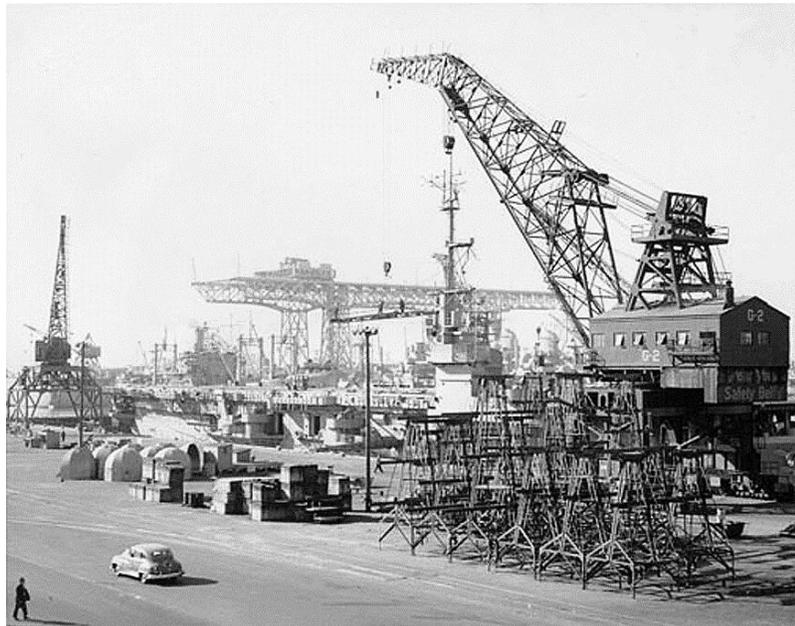
<sup>7</sup> Hill, Julius W., "The Golden State Medical Association: The California Chapter of the National Medical Association," *California Medicine* III, no. 1. (July 1969): 46-49.

<sup>8</sup> Lelchuk, Ilene, "Doc No Holiday," *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 23, 2001; Undated clipping from *S.F. Independent*, in Arthur Coleman file of *SF Examiner* Library.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid. and Patricia Coleman, Interview with author, January 31, 2018; Lelchuk, Ilene, "Arthur Coleman - first black physician in S.F.," *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 27, 2002.

<sup>10</sup> Bucklin, Linda, "Arthur H. Coleman at the Helm," *Nob Hill Gazette*, March 18, 1984.

Dr. Coleman chose to open his practice in the Bayview neighborhood, located in the southeast part of the city near the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, after learning of the acute healthcare needs among African Americans living in that area.<sup>11</sup> Hunters Point had become a predominantly black enclave during World War II when over 27,000 thousand African Americans from the U.S. South moved to the city in search of wartime employment.<sup>12</sup> By 1945 the black population of Hunters Point was 42 percent, while the neighboring Bayview remained majority white.<sup>13</sup> Following the war many African Americans chose to stay in the area. The migration of Southern blacks to the Bay Area continued during the postwar years as well, with many new arrivals settling in Bayview-Hunters Point.<sup>14</sup> It was during this time when the Bayview transitioned into a predominantly African American neighborhood, as whites left the neighborhood for new housing opportunities that were opening up in new suburban tract homes in San Francisco and throughout the Bay Area.<sup>15</sup> By the end of 1948, Dr. Coleman became the area's first black doctor, practicing medicine in an upstairs rental unit located at Third and Hollister Streets (6245 Third Street) in the Bayview.<sup>16</sup>



Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, 1950.  
Source: San Francisco Public Library

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<sup>11</sup> Patricia Coleman, Interview with author, January 31, 2018.

<sup>12</sup> Tim Kelley Consulting, The Alfred Williams Consultancy, VerPlanck Historic Resource Consulting, and the San Francisco Planning Department, *African American Citywide Historic Context Statement (Unpublished Draft)*, San Francisco: 2015, 80.

<sup>13</sup> Lelchuk, Ilene, "Doc No Holiday," *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 23, 2001; Tim Kelley Consulting, The Alfred Williams Consultancy, VerPlanck Historic Resource Consulting, and the San Francisco Planning Department, *African American Citywide Historic Context Statement (Unpublished Draft)*, San Francisco: 2015, 84.

<sup>14</sup> Tim Kelley Consulting, The Alfred Williams Consultancy, VerPlanck Historic Resource Consulting, and the San Francisco Planning Department, *African American Citywide Historic Context Statement (Unpublished Draft)*, San Francisco: 2015, 91.

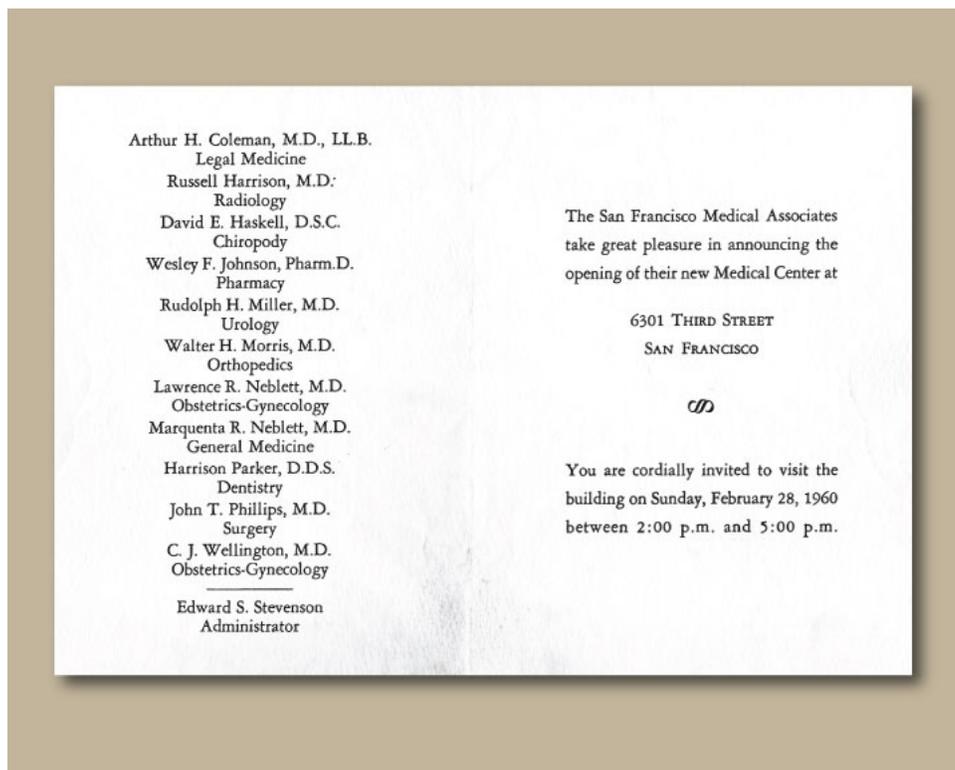
<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>16</sup> Lelchuk, Ilene, "Arthur Coleman - first black physician in S.F.," *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 27, 2002; "Biographical Material on You," clipping in the "Coleman, Arthur Haywood Dr. Biogs - only" file at the *SF Examiner* Library, December 6, 1956.

*San Francisco Medical Associates (later Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center)*

In 1959, Dr. Coleman purchased an empty parcel at the corner of Third Street and Ingerson Avenue to construct a medical facility large enough to offer specialized medical services for the area's growing African American community. He had already practiced medicine in the Bayview for 11 years, renting an upstairs unit located above a corner grocery store at Third and Hollister Streets (6245 Third Street) to operate a private practice.<sup>17</sup> The new site was only one block away from his original location. In a 1984 interview with the *Nob Hill Gazette*, Dr. Coleman explained his reasons for opening an expanded medical practice in the Bayview: "I'm in general practice, and I realized that I was sending many patients across town for specialized care. I said why do that? Why not bring the doctors out here? So that's what I did."<sup>18</sup>

Dr. Coleman achieved this vision by recruiting ten other black physicians to join him at his new multi-specialty health clinic. In 1960, the San Francisco Medical Associates (later the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center) at 6301 Third Street opened to great excitement.



Announcement for the opening of the Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center, 1960.  
Source: Patricia Coleman

<sup>17</sup> Patricia Coleman, Interview with author, January 31, 2018.

<sup>18</sup> Bucklin, Linda, "Arthur H. Coleman at the Helm," *Nob Hill Gazette*, March 18, 1984.



Photographs of the grand opening in 1960 show the interior lobby and hallways of the new San Francisco Medical Associates building. People of all ages are in attendance to tour the space.  
Sources: Bayview/Hunters Point Clinic and Patricia Coleman



Attendees of the grand opening in 1960 viewed the modern medical facilities and offices, including the reception area, x-ray room, physical therapy whirlpool, dental suite, and pharmacy. A reception was hosted following tours of the facility, as seen in the photo at bottom right.  
Sources: Bayview/Hunters Point Clinic and Patricia Coleman

Together, Dr. Coleman and his medical associates offered comprehensive medical services to area residents, most of whom, but not all, were African American. Dr. Coleman regularly helped people who had no insurance or money, providing health care services free of charge. Services offered included primary care, obstetrics and gynecology, surgery, radiology, urology, dental, and podiatry. Among the physicians was Dr. Harrison Parker, the Bayview's first black dentist, who went on to serve the neighborhood for 38 years.<sup>19</sup> The center also featured a pharmacy located at the prominent northwest corner entrance of the building. Services were later expanded to include ophthalmology, maternal health, laboratory, and mental health services.

The practice thrived until the 1970s when state medical reimbursements began to dwindle and doctors began to leave for more lucrative jobs; it was becoming more and more difficult for young doctors to make a living in private practice. It was during the 1970s when Dr. Coleman once again became a solo general practitioner. For 42 years, Dr. Coleman and his medical associates provided "wraparound health care for Black residents by Black practitioners."<sup>20</sup> In 1983, the facility's name was changed from "San Francisco Medical Associates" to the "Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center" in honor and recognition of Dr. Coleman's service and achievements.

In total, Dr. Coleman practiced medicine in the Bayview for 54 years and served over 25,000 patients. He operated his medical practice out of 6301 Third Street until a week before his death in 2002, working seven days a week, still making house calls, and rarely taking a vacation. When he passed away in 2002, Dr. Coleman was the last remaining family physician in private practice in the Bayview.<sup>21</sup> His legacy, however, lives on through the efforts of his daughter, Patricia Coleman, and a number of his protégés, including Dr. JayVon Muhammad, who heads the Bayview Hunters Point Clinic (part of the Marin City Health and Wellness Center) which as of the writing of this report operates out of 6301 Third Street (see Epilogue for additional information).



Dr. C.J. Wellington (right) with a woman touring the new facility when it opened in 1960.  
Source: Patricia Coleman

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<sup>19</sup> Lelchuk, Ilene, "Arthur Coleman - first black physician in S.F.," *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 27, 2002.

<sup>20</sup> Bayview Hunters Point Clinic, "Statement of Significance for 6301 Third Street," submitted to San Francisco Planning Department, August 2017.

<sup>21</sup> Lelchuk, Ilene, "Doc No Holiday," *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 23, 2001.

*Fighting for Equity within the Medical Profession*

Dr. Coleman was involved in numerous efforts to promote equity within the medical profession and improve the nation’s healthcare system to better serve African Americans and other disadvantaged populations. He served several terms as the first vice president (and later president) of the National Medical Association (NMA), president of the California Medical Association (CMA), and president of the John Hale Medical Society (the local affiliate of the NMA and CMA).<sup>22</sup> He also served as president of the American College of Legal Medicine and was responsible for convincing the National Medical Fellowships – an organization that awarded scholarships to students of color studying medicine – to open a West Coast office in San Francisco, eventually serving as chairperson of the local board.<sup>23</sup>

In November 1967, Dr. Coleman joined the faculty at the University of California Medical School (UC Medical School) where he lectured and helped to recruit black medical scholars as guest speakers. He also advocated for changes at the San Francisco General Hospital, which was administered by the UC Medical School.<sup>24</sup> In fact, his advocacy was critical in the UC Medical School’s decision to allow general practitioners, not just specialists from the University, to practice at the facility.<sup>25</sup>

During the era of segregation, aspiring African American doctors had only two options for medical school: the Howard University College of Medicine in Washington D.C. and Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee.<sup>26</sup> In 1969, 85 percent of the approximately 6,000 African American doctors in the U.S. were graduates of one of these two programs.<sup>27</sup> These aspiring physicians faced even more obstacles following graduation, as “it was almost impossible after their medical training to receive internships or residencies, or even to practice medicine in accredited and many non-accredited hospitals.”<sup>28</sup> In addition, the dominant national medical association of the time, the American Medical Association (as well as its local affiliates), barred African Americans from joining the organization.<sup>29</sup>



The May/June 1970 cover story of a community newspaper discusses Dr. Coleman’s proposal to turn the San Francisco General Hospital into a community hospital.  
Source: San Francisco Public Library

<sup>22</sup> *Sun Reporter*, “Dr. Coleman to Head Medical Society,” February 7, 1970.

<sup>23</sup> *Oakland Post*, “Dr. Coleman to head Black physicians association,” October 19, 1975.

<sup>24</sup> *San Francisco Examiner*, “Coleman to Medical Faculty,” November 29, 1967.

<sup>25</sup> Boquist, William, “S.F. Hospital Plan May Lead the Nation,” *San Francisco Examiner*, May 1, 1966.

<sup>26</sup> *Sun Reporter*, “Dr. Arthur Coleman: San Francisco’s First Black Physician Mourned,” January 2, 2003.

<sup>27</sup> Hill, Julius W., “The Golden State Medical Association: The California Chapter of the National Medical Association,” *California Medicine* III, no. 1. (July 1969): 46-49.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>29</sup> Baker, Robert B., “The American Medical Association and Race,” *AMA Journal of Ethics* 16, no. 6 (June 2014): 479-488.

Despite these roadblocks, Coleman became an accomplished doctor (and later lawyer) who leveraged his own successes to uplift others in his community and bring about improved health outcomes for African Americans, as well as racial equity within the medical profession.

### *National Medical Association*

Established in Atlanta, Georgia in 1895, the National Medical Association (NMA) was formed to represent black physicians and health professionals in the United States. Its founders had been barred from joining the established medical association of the time – the American Medical Association (AMA) – due to a racist policy that prevented African Americans from participating. The NMA, thus, formed out of necessity for black doctors, dentists, pharmacists, and other healthcare workers seeking to participate in a professional medical organization.<sup>30</sup> Over the ensuing years, Dr. Coleman served terms as both president and vice president of the NMA.

The AMA, in existence since 1847, effectively denied participation of black physicians until the 1960s. In 2005, AMA President Ronald Davis organized the “Writing Group for the History of African Americans and Organized Medicine,” led by Dr. Robert B. Baker, to examine the AMA’s history of racial discrimination. Davis summarized the researchers’ findings as follows:

(1) in the early years following the Civil War, the AMA declined to embrace a policy of nondiscrimination and excluded an integrated local medical society through selective enforcement of membership standards; (2) from the 1870s through the late 1960s, the AMA failed to take action against AMA-affiliated state and local medical associations that openly practiced racial exclusion in their memberships—practices that functionally excluded most African American physicians from membership in the AMA; (3) in the early decades of the 20th century, the AMA listed African American physicians as “colored” in its national physician directory and was slow to remove the designation in response to protests from the National Medical Association (NMA); and (4) the AMA was silent in debates over the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and put off repeated NMA requests to support efforts to amend the Hill-Burton Act’s “separate but equal” provision, which allowed construction of segregated hospital facilities with federal funds.

These dishonorable acts of omission and commission reflected the social mores and racial segregation that existed during those times throughout much of the United States. But that context does not excuse them. The medical profession, which is based on a boundless respect for human life, had an obligation to lead society away from disrespect of so many lives. The AMA failed to do so and has apologized for that failure.<sup>31</sup>

Davis, on behalf of the AMA, issued a formal apology to the NMA in 2008.<sup>32</sup>

Unlike the AMA, the NMA was open to people of all racial and ethnic backgrounds. The NMA attracted black doctors who sought to work within new and established medical centers, hospitals, and medical societies in service to the country’s underserved communities. It also advocated for increased opportunities for aspiring black physicians. For decades, medical training for African Americans was limited to Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee and Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, D. C. Obtaining residencies or internships—both essential to the professional development of aspiring physicians—was also a difficult and sometimes impossible task

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<sup>30</sup> National Medical Association, “History,” Accessed January 16, 2018. <http://www.nmanet.org/page/History>.

<sup>31</sup> Baker, Robert B., “The American Medical Association and Race,” *AMA Journal of Ethics* 16, no. 6 (June 2014): 479-488.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*

for African Americans due to rampant discrimination within the profession. Moreover, it was “almost impossible” for black medical school graduates to “practice medicine in accredited and many non-accredited hospitals.”<sup>33</sup>

The NMA offered educational scholarships for black students and together with state and local affiliates advocated for major medical and paramedical institutions to recruit and admit African Americans and other people of color into their rosters. The NMA actively lobbied for the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, organized committees “charged with furthering the implementation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act with respect to health,” and served as the only national medical organization to endorse Medicare prior to and during its enactment in 1965 (the AMA was strongly opposed to Medicare at the time, a position it has since reversed).<sup>34</sup>

As leader of the NMA (he served terms as both president and vice president), Dr. Coleman pushed forward a civil rights agenda. In 1964, he spoke on behalf of a delegation of African American physicians at an AMA committee hearing on constitutional amendments, warning: “The American Medical Association can expect demonstrations at its door next summer in New York City unless it acts against racial discrimination in medicine.”<sup>35</sup> He further confronted AMA officials with questions about why the organization had no committee on civil rights and informed them that black doctors were systematically “refused hospital privileges” due to their lack of membership in local medical societies, which they were barred from entering due to racist attitudes and policies.<sup>36</sup>

### *The Golden State Medical Association*

The establishment of the NMA in 1895 spurred the formation of state and local chapters all over the country, but it was not until 1950 when California witnessed the birth of its first affiliate organization comprised of African American physicians. The first such organization was the Drew Society of Los Angeles, which also spearheaded the formation of the state chapter, the Golden State Medical Association (GSMA), that same year.



Dr. Walter Morris (right), one of Coleman's SF Medical Associates, during tour of new facility in 1960.  
Source: Patricia Coleman

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<sup>33</sup> Hill, Julius W., “The Golden State Medical Association: The California Chapter of the National Medical Association,” *California Medicine* III, no. 1. (July 1969): 46-49.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, 47.

<sup>35</sup> *San Francisco Examiner*, “Warning to AMA on Rights,” June 24, 1964.

<sup>36</sup> *Ibid.*

Dr. Coleman became president of the GSMA in the early 1970s. He presided over the association's annual convention held in San Diego in 1972 during which a "delegation of [African American] Northern California dentists organized a state dental group" for the first time.<sup>37</sup> As president he also oversaw a historic meeting between black and white medical groups, who convened during the 101<sup>st</sup> annual convention of the California Medical Association (CMA) also held in 1972. The meeting took place between representatives of the GSMA and the California Medical Political Action Committee (CMPAC), an affiliate of the CMA comprised mostly of white doctors. The historic gathering was described in a 1972 article published in the *San Francisco Examiner*: "For the first time, the political arms of organized black and white medicine in California sat down together yesterday with the announced intention of reaching a common accord."<sup>38</sup> While the GSMA petitioned CALPAC to help improve health care services for low income and disadvantaged populations, CALPAC indicated it was "primarily interested in electing candidates to Congress and state office who have the same viewpoint as the majority of [its] doctors."<sup>39</sup> Despite CALPAC's lackluster reception of the GSMA's aims, Dr. Coleman hailed the meeting as "a real landmark" and one that resulted in two African American doctors participating in the CMA's annual lobbying trip to Washington, D.C. for the first time ever.



"Black Medicine—Today and Tomorrow" is the theme of the forthcoming statewide convention of the Golden State Medical Association to be held in San Diego, June 23, 24 and 25. Shown here are four members of the steering committee at a recent planning meeting in San Diego: (L-R) Leon Kelley, M.D. (San Diego), Budget Committee member and co-chairman of the Entertainment and Hospitality Committee; Richard Butcher, M.D. (San Diego), co-chairman, Program Committee; Arthur H. Coleman, M.D. (San Francisco), convention chairman and president-elect of GSMA; and James G. Bryant, M.D. (Oakland), co-chairman, Budget Committee.

A photo of Dr. Coleman with other members of the CSMA's 1972 conference steering committee, published in the April/May 1972 edition of *Hunters Point-Bayview CHS News*.  
Source: San Francisco Public Library

<sup>37</sup> *San Francisco Examiner*, "S.F. Dentists To Affiliate With NMA Unit," June 22, 1972.

<sup>38</sup> Melnick, Norman, "Black, White Medical Groups in 1<sup>st</sup> Meet," *San Francisco Examiner*, February 13, 1972.

<sup>39</sup> *Ibid.*

### *The John Hale Medical Society*

In San Francisco, the local affiliate of the NMA and the GSMA was known as the John Hale Medical Society, formed in 1965 at the suggestion of San Francisco-based African American physician, Dr. Julius Hill. The society operated a Western Addition Health Team area office at 567 Grove Street where it was “staffed by physicians, health aides, public health nurse, a medical librarian, a receptionist and a typist.”<sup>40</sup> In 1969, the John Hale Medical Society hosted the NMA’s annual meeting in San Francisco.<sup>41</sup>

Dr. Coleman became president of the John Hale Medical Society in 1970 at a time when San Francisco had only 35 practicing black physicians. As president, Dr. Coleman collaborated with fellow board member, Dr. Edwin Johnson, to establish a local scholarship fund for black medical students, raising \$4,000 in the first year. The organization also donated funds to send a group of African American medical students from the University of California to the Student National Medical Association meeting held in Chicago. The John Hale Medical Society pressured local medical institutions to both hire black medical educators and invite black medical scholars to serve as guest speakers. In 1971 it hosted a statewide convention in San Francisco in an effort to revamp a dormant GSMA.<sup>42</sup>

Also in 1970, the John Hale Medical Society began to collaborate with the newly established Hunters Point Bayview Community Health Services (CHS) to organize a Medi-Cal lobbying trip to the state capitol. An article reporting back on the advocacy initiative states: “The legislators said that it was the most effective and the most impressive piece of lobbying that they had ever seen done by Blacks.”<sup>43</sup> These two organizations, along with the Bayview Model Cities Program, also worked together to develop a drop-in clinic in Hunters Point.

Through his involvement in professional and educational organizations, and by training and hiring young black doctors, Dr. Coleman worked tirelessly to promote opportunities for African Americans within the medical profession. Through his service, leadership, and mentorship, Dr. Coleman also encouraged black physicians to bring their education and training back to the community.



Dr. John Jones of John Jones Pharmacy located at 6301 Third Street, circa 1960s or 1970s  
Source: Patricia Coleman

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<sup>40</sup> *Sun Reporter*, “Dr. Coleman to Head Medical Society,” February 7, 1970; Polk’s San Francisco city directory, 1969-1970.

<sup>41</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>42</sup> “Black Medics Head Scholarship Fund,” clipping in Arthur H. Coleman folder of San Francisco Public Library.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*



John Hale Medical Society and its auxiliary held their biennial change-of-command ceremonies January 21 at San Francisco's Marine Memorial Club. Following dinner and a brief program, the newly installed officers posed for this picture. L-R—Auxiliary: Mrs. Oscar Daniels (Ismay), chaplain; Mrs. Fred C. Williams (Kitty), recording secretary; Mrs. Edward Hambrick (Vivian), treasurer; Mrs. James Teal (Josie), president; and Mrs. Thurl L. Banks (Joyce), parliamentarian.

Leonard R. Myers, M.D. (center) was installed as president of JHMS. To his right are Oscar Jackson, M.D., president-elect; Charles Donaldson, M.D., treasurer; Fred Williams, M.D., secretary; Arthur H. Coleman, M.D. and Waldense C. Nixon, M.D., board members.

Highlights of the evening included the presentation of a plaque for distinctive service by Dr. Coleman (out-going president) to the Hon. Willie Brown, California State assemblyman and chairman of the legislature's powerful Ways and Means Committee; and, presentation of an engraved gold medallion to Mrs. Banks (the auxiliary's out-going president) for two years of meritorious service by Mrs. Teal.

Installation of officers was performed by Attorney Joe Williams.

The February/March 1972 edition of *Hunters Point-Bayview CHS News*, showing officers of the John Hale Medical Society and its auxiliary.  
Source: San Francisco Public Library

### *A Pioneer in the Field of Legal Medicine*

In 1956, Dr. Coleman earned a law degree from Golden Gate University and gained membership in the California State Bar, becoming one of only 15 people in the country to hold dual degrees in law and medicine. He was motivated to pursue law after witnessing countless patients suffering from workplace injuries, and sought to understand and help address the root cause of such problems. As Dr. Coleman stated in a 1984 interview, "While I was practicing, I saw many legal and social problems in the community. People would come to me—as a leader in the black community—for advice. So I made the decision to go to law school."<sup>44</sup> To acquire his degree Dr. Coleman attended night school while continuing to serve his clients in the Bayview during the day. Upon obtaining his law degree, Dr. Coleman began offering free legal advice to his clients at the clinic and became involved with a number of national organizations in order to influence policies and practices in a larger way, including the Black Congress on Health, Law, and Economics which he co-founded, and the American College of Legal Medicine for which he served as president.<sup>45</sup>

<sup>44</sup> Bucklin, Linda, "Arthur H. Coleman at the Helm," *Nob Hill Gazette*, March 18, 1984.

<sup>45</sup> *Oakland Post*, "Dr. Coleman to head Black physicians association," October 19, 1975.

### *Healthcare Advocate, Civil Rights Activist, and Community Leader*

Dr. Coleman was a tireless advocate for healthcare, civil rights, and community needs. Well-respected as a community leader in the Bayview and at City Hall, he also held leadership positions within state and national organizations. Former San Francisco Mayor John Shelley in 1964 considered appointing Dr. Coleman to the Board of Supervisors, but “Coleman instead recommended Terry Francois,” who went on to become the city’s first African American Supervisor.<sup>46</sup> Dr. Coleman was heavily involved in political activities, co-founding the Candlestick Democratic Club in the 1950s to increase voter registration rates in Bayview Hunters Point and actively participating in political campaigns like Diane Feinstein’s run for mayor, Stanley Mosk’s second run for Attorney General during which Dr. Coleman headed up a “Northern California Doctor’s Committee,” and Terry A. Francois’ 1970 campaign for Municipal Court Judge.<sup>47</sup> He was part of a Civil Rights Task Force of the Democratic Party for Northern California created in 1963, charged with implementing the civil rights goals of the Democratic Party. Other members of that committee included noted community leaders like Cyril Magnin, Herman Gallegos, Louis Garcia, Joan Finney, Mas Yonemural, Elizabeth R. Gatov, John Sobieski, and Verna Canson.<sup>48</sup>

He sat on nonprofit boards and donated to causes that were important to him, including the Library Foundation of San Francisco (the fundraising arm of the San Francisco Public Library) for which he served as president and board member. Dr. Coleman was largely responsible for spearheading the fundraising efforts begun in the mid-1960s to establish the African American Affinity Center at the San Francisco Public Library, which continues to offer special collections and programs “by and about the African American community.”<sup>49</sup> Following Dr. Coleman’s death in 2002, the Friends & Foundation of the San Francisco Public Library formed an endowment in his name, which helps to pay for new acquisitions and collections related to African Americans as well as staff trainings and other initiatives aimed at improving library services for black patrons. Among the other organizations he helped lead were the Hunters Point Boys Club, Interracial Understanding, the San Francisco Committee on Youth, and the San Francisco Planning and Urban Renewal Association.<sup>50</sup>

Dr. Coleman was also highly entrepreneurial, working to help African Americans advance economically and promoting the development of affordable housing in the Bayview-Hunters Point area. In 1964 he was elected president of the Trans Bay Savings and Loan Association (1738 Post Street and 2400 Sutter Street), an African American lending institution formed by Jefferson A. Beaver in 1949 to help finance residential development and home loans for African Americans who were, by and large, unable to access financing from mainstream institutions due to widespread discriminatory lending practices.<sup>51</sup> He also belonged to an all-black developer group called Vanguard, whose other

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<sup>46</sup> *San Francisco Chronicle*, “Pistol Death of a Doctor’s Son,” February 17, 1975; *San Francisco Chronicle*, “Mayor’s Job Offers Refused,” August 19, 1964.

<sup>47</sup> Martin, Fred, “Next Supervisor? – Negro Dr. Coleman,” *San Francisco Examiner*, June 3, 1964; Untitled *San Francisco Examiner* clipping dated April 28, 1962, in Arthur H. Coleman files of *San Francisco Examiner* library; Untitled *San Francisco Examiner* clipping dated April 16, 1970, in Arthur H. Coleman files of *San Francisco Examiner* Library.

<sup>48</sup> *San Francisco Examiner*, “Civil Rights Task Force Head Named,” November 8, 1963.

<sup>49</sup> “Friends & Foundation Pay Tribute to Library Leader and Advocate,” 2002 clipping in Arthur H. Coleman files of San Francisco Public Library.

<sup>50</sup> Lelchuk, Ilene, “Doc No Holiday,” *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 23, 2001; *Oakland Post*, “Dr. Coleman Heads S.F. Health Program,” October 9, 1968.

<sup>51</sup> Montgomery, Ed, “Merger to Save S&L Urged,” *San Francisco Examiner*, Nov. 5, 1965; *San Francisco Examiner*, “Coleman New President at Trans-Bay,” October 17, 1964; Tim Kelley Consulting, The Alfred Williams Consultancy, VerPlanck Historic Resource Consulting, and the San Francisco Planning Department, *African American Citywide Historic Context Statement (Unpublished Draft)*, San Francisco: 2015, 91.

members included chief assistant state public defender Clifton R. Jeffers, real estate broker T.W. Washington, former San Francisco Supervisor Terry A. Francois, and attorney Benjamin D. James Jr.<sup>52</sup> Through these associations, as well as his participation in the Joint Housing Committee of the Bayview Neighborhood Center, Dr. Coleman worked with the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency to advocate for the construction of affordable housing in Bayview-Hunters Point throughout the 1970s.<sup>53</sup>



Dr. Coleman (third from right, seated) in a meeting with Justin Herman of the Redevelopment Agency and others discussing a proposed housing development project for Hunters Point, circa 1970. Source: San Francisco Public Library Historic Photograph Collection

As a San Francisco Port Commissioner through the 1980s, Dr. Coleman learned about the high rates of asthma and breast and prostate cancer among Bayview-Hunters Point residents, inspiring him to establish a nonprofit organization called the Bayview-Hunters Point Health and Environmental Resource Center (which also operated out of 6301 Third Street).<sup>54</sup> The effort began with a group of volunteers canvassing the neighborhood and handing out flyers with information about early detection tests for environmentally-related illnesses, urging area residents to seek regular checkups and screenings. As said of Dr. Coleman by colleague, Betty McGee, “His motto is if they’re not coming in for services, then we’ll have to take the services to them.”<sup>55</sup>

The dedicated healthcare advocate also served as chairman of the Health Council of the United Community Fund and the Board of Directors at St. Luke’s Hospital, the San Francisco Association of Mental Health, and former U.S. Senator Bob Dole’s Dole Foundation to “help people with disabilities live independently.”<sup>56</sup> Countless newspaper articles chronicle his advocacy around making the San

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<sup>52</sup> Adams, Gerald, “Site option is awarded to all-black developers,” *San Francisco Examiner*, August 22, 1979.

<sup>53</sup> “Friends & Foundation Pay Tribute to Library Leader and Advocate”; Coleman, Patricia, interview with author, January 31, 2018; Lechuk, Ilene, “Arthur Coleman - first black physician in S.F.,” *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 27, 2002.

<sup>54</sup> Lechuk, Ilene, “Arthur Coleman - first black physician in S.F.,” *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 27, 2002; Bucklin, Linda, “Arthur H. Coleman at the Helm,” *Nob Hill Gazette*, March 18, 1984.

<sup>55</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>56</sup> Lechuk, Ilene, “Doc No Holiday,” *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 23, 2001.

Francisco General Hospital more responsive to the needs of Bayview-Hunters Point residents, holding a press conference on the topic in 1969. He also worked with other activists to petition local hospitals to hire African American interns.<sup>57</sup>

A 1968 *San Francisco Examiner* article entitled, "Bayview-Hunters Point Improvement Goals Urged," outlined Dr. Coleman's goals for improving the neighborhood, which ranged from job training programs to public housing, and represented a call to action to support proposals being put forward by the community.<sup>58</sup> As a board member of the Bayview-Hunters Point Nonprofit Community Development Corporation, Dr. Coleman was quoted in local newspapers calling for more housing and just as important, for a process by which Bayview-Hunters Point residents would be able to "participate in every phase of planning, building, and management."<sup>59</sup> In 1961, following a riot at a Hunters Point housing project, Dr. Coleman chaired a 100-member committee comprised of Bayview residents to study various "means of combating discrimination in employment and housing, the lack of adequate recreation facilities in the area and the lack of ... 'proper educational guidance' in the schools."<sup>60</sup> The common thread among each of these efforts was a belief in community self-determination, a concept that Dr. Coleman strongly believed in and promoted vociferously.

Bayview community leader and longtime patient of Dr. Coleman, Eloise Westbrook, once said of Coleman: "Arthur is one of the persons in Hunters Point you'd call an unsung hero... [He] is the kind of a person who never liked to be in the forefront, but he was behind you, pushing."<sup>61</sup> The two collaborated on a number of civic activities together through their work with the Bayview Neighborhood Community Center. Dr. Coleman was an early member of the organization, serving on its committees and acting as chairman of the board for a period of time.<sup>62</sup> This important organization represented the nexus of political and community leadership for the Bayview neighborhood; among the organization's many efforts was the formation of an Economic Opportunity Council office in Hunters Point.<sup>63</sup>

### ***Anti-Poverty Programs in Bayview-Hunters Point, 1964-1976***

As part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty" and "Great Society," the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 was enacted to help alleviate poverty throughout the nation. In San Francisco, Bayview-Hunters Point suffered from some of the highest poverty rates in the post-war period. In response, the Bayview-Hunters Point community rallied to participate in Johnson's newly established federal program. An Economic Opportunity Council (EOC) office that opened in the neighborhood in 1965 created dozens of job opportunities for Bayview-Hunters Point residents and sparked new social programs such as Head Start and job training and placement programs. It was estimated that the EOC spurred the creation of 774 new jobs for area residents.<sup>64</sup>

Dr. Coleman was selected by then-Mayor John F. Shelley to serve as the EOC's first director. His first order of business was to ensure majority community control of the EOC board of directors, an

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<sup>57</sup> *Sun Reporter*, "CHS Raps Plans for New Hospital Addition," December 20, 1969.

<sup>58</sup> Johansen, Harry, "Bayview-Hunters Point Improvement Goals Urged," *San Francisco Examiner*, April 15, 1968.

<sup>59</sup> *San Francisco Examiner*, "First Ask People' - Coleman," December 12, 1967.

<sup>60</sup> *San Francisco Examiner*, "Committee of 100 To Study Area," August 28, 1961.

<sup>61</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>62</sup> Skidmore, Joel, "Hunters Point: Community At Crossroads," *Sun Reporter*, January 15, 1972.

<sup>63</sup> Tim Kelley Consulting, The Alfred Williams Consultancy, VerPlanck Historic Resource Consulting, and the San Francisco Planning Department. *African American Citywide Historic Context Statement (Unpublished Draft)*. San Francisco: 2015.

<sup>64</sup> *San Francisco Chronicle*, "The Poverty Industry in Hunters Point," February 17, 1972.

outcome Dr. Coleman successfully achieved after a long negotiation process with the mayor. Dr. Coleman only served in that role for two years, however, as he grew frustrated with its structure, “chaotic fiscal policies,” “dissent within leadership,” and a general lack of communication with the mayor. He instead chose to focus once again on his medical practice and advocacy work in healthcare.

In 1970, a second federally funded anti-poverty program spurred by the Johnson administration — Model Cities— came to the Bayview-Hunters Point. One of two Model Cities programs in San Francisco (the other was in the Mission District), the Bayview-Hunters Point Model Cities program focused largely on employment and workforce development, however it also contained a Model Cities Health Task Force in which Dr. Coleman participated. He sat on the 21-member commission charged with overseeing the entire program. Among the Health Task Forces’ activities was a Southeast Consumers Health Conference held in January of 1970 at the Burnett School Auditorium in Hunters Point that focused on the need for increased community control of San Francisco General Hospital. The conference attracted over 500 people.<sup>65</sup> The program was short-lived, however, as the Nixon Administration discontinued the program in 1976.<sup>66</sup>

### *Hunters Point Bayview Community Health Services, 1967-1972*

Community health centers had spread throughout the country as an outgrowth of the Civil Rights Movement and offered a new approach to healthcare in order to better serve marginalized populations. These centers were supported by federal dollars, initially from the Office of Economic Opportunity as a component of President Lyndon B. Johnson’s War on Poverty program, and later administered by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.<sup>67</sup> In the 1960s, the Economic Opportunity Council (EOC) approached the John Hale Medical Society, headed by Dr. Coleman, with an idea to establish a community health center in the Bayview using funds from the newly established federal program. What resulted from that partnership was the Hunters Point Bayview Community Health Services (CHS).

At the core of the community health center model was an understanding that many prevalent health problems are rooted in social causes that disproportionately affect communities of color and those who are economically and socially disadvantaged. These new community health centers took a comprehensive approach to healthcare, offering health education, advocacy, case management, intervention, and translation services. Some carried out community participatory research and most were tailored to the population they were intended to serve—typically families, low income individuals, farmworkers, ethnic minority groups, seniors, and homeless populations. In addition, most community health centers utilized community governance and nonprofit business models, which enabled practitioners to help patients regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay.<sup>68</sup>

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<sup>65</sup> *Sun Reporter*, “Hunters Point in Uproar Over Health Care Cutbacks,” January 17, 1970.

<sup>66</sup> *San Francisco Chronicle*, “Outside’s Impact on Hunters Point,” February 18, 1972.

<sup>67</sup> Community Health Foundation, “CHC Movement: A National Program, Building on Local Roots,” Accessed February 21, 2018. <http://chcchronicles.org/stories/chc-movement-national-program-building-local-roots>

<sup>68</sup> Community Health Foundation, “CHC Movement: A National Program, Building on Local Roots,” Accessed February 21, 2018. <http://chcchronicles.org/stories/chc-movement-national-program-building-local-roots>; “Part 1: The OEO and the early champions of neighborhood health centers,” Video, Community Health Foundation, Accessed online March 3, 2017, <http://www.chcchronicles.org/stories/part-1-oeo-and-early-champions-neighborhood-health-centers>.

Dr. Coleman sought out to help the community apply for funds towards the development of a new community center in Bayview-Hunters Point, but supported a different approach. As he explained during a 1969 interview with a local television news network:

When the EOC [Economic Opportunities Council] proposed a health center for the community, the general reaction was it was more of the same old stuff. They were just simply dressing it up in new clothes. It was still a double-system of healthcare and the community felt like it wanted something better if there was any way possible.<sup>69</sup>

Dr. Coleman believed it was in the best interest of low income patients to participate in the traditional “free choice” healthcare market common among the affluent, and saw most community health centers as a “dual system of health care” that isolated low-income people, funneling them into an inferior system of health care.<sup>70</sup> He instead aimed to help people from low income economic backgrounds access private practices, emphasizing that “quality health care is a right rather than a privilege and should be the same for all people”.<sup>71</sup>



An ad in the May/June 1972 edition of *Hunters Point-Bayview CHS News* for the CHS' family planning clinic.  
Source: San Francisco Public Library

<sup>69</sup> “Hunters Point: A View from the Hill,” Television, Directed by Ira Eisenberg for Assignment Four, KRON-TV, San Francisco: October 5, 1969, Accessed online March 3, 2017, <https://diva.sfsu.edu/collections/sfbatv/bundles/206166>.

<sup>70</sup> Pearlman, David, “Spreading the Medical Word in Hunters Point,” *San Francisco Chronicle*, October 9, 1968.

<sup>71</sup> *Sun Reporter*, “Hunters Point in Uproar Over Health Care Cutbacks,” January 17, 1970.

# HUNTERS POINT - BAYVIEW Community Health Service News

Vol. III—No. II

San Francisco, California

March/April, 1971

## Massive Medi-Cal Lobby

### Blacks Walk Capitol Halls

A host of organizations representing thousands of Black voters in Northern California sent delegates to visit their legislators in Sacramento on Wednesday, February 17, regarding the Medi-Cal cuts. This legislative venture was co-sponsored by the Hunters Point-Bayview Community Health Service (CHS) and Radio KDIA. It was acknowledged by the legislators and the community as one of the most effective, well-organized lobbying efforts yet to be staged by Blacks. The coalition of organizations participating was impressive. Among them were: Bayview-Hunters Point Joint Housing Committee; South East Poverty Commission; E.O.C.-Hunters Point; E.O.C.-Sunnyvale; Black Nurses Association; Black Social Workers; West Oakland Health Center; Hunters Point-Bayview Community Health Service; Food Alliance Association of Oakland; W.R.O., Oakland; Model Neighborhood Agency—Oakland; Model Neighborhood Agency—San Francisco—Health Task Force; Family Planning Unit—Community Health Service; Friends of Hunters Point; Sons of Sunnyvale; Youth Serving Humanity of North California; Self-Help Drug Abuse Center—San Francisco; St. Paul of the Shipwreck Catholic Church; Shafter Avenue Sr. Citizens; University of California Black Students Union; University of California Black Caucus; University of California Medical Center; John Hale Medical Society, affiliate of Natl. Med. Assn., San Francisco; Sinkler-Miller Medical Society (affil. of Natl. Med. Assn.-Oakland); Northern California Medical-Dental-Pharmaceutical Association; South Park Citizens Association; Providence Baptist Church; Western Addition Sr. Citizens; Head Start Parents; Sacramento Observer and Radio KDIA.

The visit was necessary in order to inform the legislators of the physical and psychological scars the Medi-Cal cuts have had upon Black people and to ask their support in having Medi-Cal restored to the meaningful and necessary posture it had prior to the cuts on December 15, 1970. Senator George Moscone and Assemblyman Willie Brown were co-hosts to the delegation.

The delegation traveled to Sacramento via chartered bus provided by Radio KDIA. They assembled in Room 260 at the State Capitol at 10 a.m., at which time a press conference was held. Print and broadcast media turned out en masse. At 11 a.m. the delegates received legislators who would not have been available for afternoon appointments. Position papers on behalf of the delegates were presented by: Leonard Meyers,

M.D., president-elect of John Hale Medical Society; Charles Marion U.C. Black Caucus; Dr. Willard Smith, public relations director of the West Oakland Health Center; Mrs. Clara Sample of the Black Nurses Association; Mrs. Louise Williams, director of the Department of Social Services-CHS; and James Abernathy, legal advisor at CHS. Lillian Forrier, director of the Department of Public Information at CHS coordinated the venture and chaired the morning sessions. Among the other lobbyists were: Mercedes Marcelline Gachmere, Tona Watkins, Lena Braud, Willie Bell McDowell; Messrs. Paul Banks, Thomas Kemp, J. W. Robinson, Robert Lavid, Clarence Braud, Darrell Cornelius, Dewey Rogers, James A. Curry, David Schermerhorn, George Davis, Booker Wilson; Misses Patricia Womack, Yvonne Mitchell, Bettye J. Randle, Audrey Deas, Yvonne Miller and Father Barry Benvenuto.

#### SOCIAL ENGINEERING

Dr. Meyers declared to the legislators that the governor of California's action in permitting the present cuts in the Medi-Cal program to abide, is the "type of social engineering which has perpetuated the Black Man's menes; and created a survival anxiety, mistrust and endless attenuating tension-anxieties visited in the main upon the indigent." He further stated that this



George Davis, CHS drug abuse clinic aide, was among representatives of 38 Black organizations who journeyed to Sacramento on January 17 to ask California State legislators to support meaningful Medi-Cal legislation. A total of 48 assemblymen (women) and senators were visited during the group's five-hour stay at the capitol. Assemblyman Willie Brown and Senator George Moscone were co-hosts to the delegation. CHS and Radio KDIA co-sponsored the venture.

state "should be about the business of changing the life style of Black people as it relates to health—of directing them from a crisis-oriented status (visiting the doctor only when in pain) to an awareness and utilization of good health practices (visiting the doctor at the first indication of illness). The Medi-Cal cutbacks are reversing this important and fundamental approach."

He went on to point to several medical and dental cases which showed the inequities of the Medi-Cal cutbacks. "One of the most serious cases handled by CHS," he said, "was a female who went to a local M.D. and said 'I have used my two visits for a month.' He said 'cover mind, you look ill to me: I'll worry about payment later.' He did lab work which confirmed his diagnosis of in-

(Continued on Page Three)



Social Health Technician Barbara Curry and Radio KDIA executive Charles "Chuck" Scruggs listen attentively as public housing modernization program and Medi-Cal cuts are explained at recent CHS town meeting health forum. Mr. Scruggs was master of ceremonies for the Medi-Cal portion of the program.

## CHS Volunteers Raise \$ for Youth

### Sponsor Hundreds to Concerts

This year over 400 boys and girls from the Hunters Point-Bayview-Sunnyvale area will be able to attend the youth concerts at the San Francisco Opera House, because seven ladies from CHS volunteered their efforts to make it possible. Last year only 14 youngsters from that area were able to attend.

The concerts, sponsored by the San Francisco Symphony Association for 4th, 5th and 6th graders, cost \$1.25 per child. When this information was imparted to the staff of CHS by Edward Stevenson, member of the Symphony Association's advisory committee, the following ladies met to make this opportunity a reality for the children of the area in which they work:

Bettye Randle, Haroldine Liggins, Mavis Savory and Jean Calhoun, secretaries at the agency; Rebecca Hopkins, social health technician; and Carlton Talafero, I.N. Lillian Fortier, committee chairwoman, is director of the agency's Department of Public Information.

This group of ladies solicited hundreds of dollars in four days from their co-workers, from businessmen and health professionals who wanted to sponsor youngsters to a delightful afternoon at the symphony. Their work, however, does not end there. They will also serve as chaperones and ushers at the youth centers.

Their efforts have been lauded by the association's administrative assistant, Bruce Blair Miller (see Letters, page 4);

Mrs. Herbert C. Moffitt, chairman; and Edward Stevenson, who brought the idea to them in the first place.

The committee designated the following elementary schools in southeast San Francisco as recipients of the tickets to the concerts (the dates that they will be attending are also noted): Hunters Point II and Burnett — March 26; St. Paul of the Shipwreck, Candelstick Cove, Visitation Valley and Jedediah Smith—April 16;

and Sir Francis Drake—May 7. A concert is also scheduled for April 2. The program, which is the same for each concert, is titled "Out West" and consists of the following: Music from "Rodeo," and "Billy the Kid" by Aaron Copland; Ancient Desert Drone by Henry Cowell; music from "Birds of Paradise" by John La Montaine; and Pacific 231 by Arthur Honegger. Nikolaus Wynn will be the conductor and narrator.

## No Jail for Poor

(Associated Press)

Washington, D. C.—The Supreme Court has unanimously ruled out jailing people simply because they are too poor to pay their fines.

The decision in a Texas traffic case, could have enormous impact across the nation because a large percentage of the people in jails and prisons are there only because they cannot pay a fine.

The decision follows a similar but unrelated ruling by the California Supreme Court last September. The California decision involved a San Jose case in which two men were convicted of arson, one paid a fine and went free but the other was jailed to work off the fine because he was indigent.

On March 2, 1971, United States Justice William J. Brennan said imprisoning a convicted poor man for an offense customarily punishable only

by a fine is invidious discrimination in violation of the constitution's guarantee of equal protection of laws.

In a second ruling, the court ordered the states to open their divorce courts to poor people who are unable to pay the cost of their suits.

The 8:1 decision came in a case from Connecticut where people seeking divorces have to pay about \$60 each in court costs. Justice John M. Harlan

(Continued on Page Six)

### AT NO COST

- Babysitting
  - Transportation for medical appointment
  - Jobs and scholarships
  - Medical care application
- See Classified Section—Page 7 for details

CHS published its own newspaper, the *Hunters Point-Bayview CHS News*, which covered the activities of the center and other topics.

The March/April 1971 edition featured an article about a massive demonstration in Sacramento co-sponsored by the CHS against cuts to Medi-Cal.

Source: San Francisco Public Library

With Dr. Coleman's help, the community successfully secured a multimillion-dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (known today as the Department of Health and Human Services) in 1967 to establish the Hunters Point Bayview Community Health Service (CHS) at 5815 Third Street. The five-year pilot program was overseen by the John Hale Society and directed by Dr. Arthur Coleman.<sup>72</sup> It served "an area of 5,000 families located mainly in the Hunters Point, Candlestick Cove, Sunnysdale and Alice Griffith housing projects."<sup>73</sup> Dr. Coleman limited but still maintained his private medical practice at 6301 Third Street over the lifespan of the program. An open house ceremony for the program attracted hundreds, with business man and tavern owner, Sam Jordan, serving as Master of Ceremonies, and Senator Alan Cranston delivering the dedicatory address.<sup>74</sup>

The initiative was highlighted in a television program called "Hunters Point: A View from the Hill," aired October 5, 1960 on KRON-TV, which included an interview of Dr. Coleman, summarizing CHS as follows:

Once we really found out what the needs were, what the problems were, it was simple enough to come up with an innovative idea. They needed babysitters, they needed a way to get to doctors, they wanted freedom of choice like everybody else to pick their own doctor. We attempt to assist them in overcoming these factors by the use of health teams. It's the function of the team to go out into the field, to knock on doors, to talk to people, find out what their problems are and try to motivate them to the extent that they will now on their own begin to seek healthcare....I think it will have a tremendous social impact. For the first time the community is beginning to talk about lack of resources. They feel now the need for a hospital. We're using our own talent, our own resources, our own manpower to do things that we think will help this community and we are not interested and will not be dictated by planners from outside of the community for this community.<sup>75</sup>

In its initial year, more than 1,100 families comprising over 5,000 individuals were registered for CHS.<sup>76</sup> It represented the area's "only community controlled health care delivery system" and was considered a model of low-income health services.<sup>77</sup> As part of the program, 90 residents were trained as "social health technicians," and along with social workers and public health nurses, formed teams who went door-to-door conducting interviews as part of a survey to evaluate community perceptions around healthcare. Low and moderate income community members were also eligible to receive free medical, pharmaceutical, mental health, and dental services from private practitioners.<sup>78</sup> CHS also oversaw a family planning clinic called the Bay View-Hunters Point Community Health Center, located at 1641 La Salle, which it took over from an unsuccessful Planned Parenthood operation. As described by Ruth Williams, director of the clinic, the center's focus was on "helping women have healthier babies."<sup>79</sup>

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<sup>72</sup> *Sun Reporter*, "Dr. Coleman to Head Medical Society," February 7, 1970.

<sup>73</sup> *Oakland Post*, "Dr. Coleman Heads S.F. Health Program," October 9, 1968.

<sup>74</sup> Powell, Joyce, "New Hunters Point-Bayview Health Center Dedicated," *Sun Reporter*, November 30, 1968.

<sup>75</sup> "Hunters Point: A View from the Hill," Television, Directed by Ira Eisenberg for Assignment Four, KRON-TV, San Francisco: October 5, 1969, Accessed online March 3, 2017, <https://diva.sfsu.edu/collections/sfbatv/bundles/206166>.

<sup>76</sup> *Sun Reporter*, "Hunters Point-Bayview Health," September 20, 1969.

<sup>77</sup> *Sun Reporter*, "Hunters Point in Uproar Over Health Care Cutbacks," January 17, 1970.

<sup>78</sup> *Sun Reporter*, "Hunters Point-Bayview Health," September 20, 1969.

<sup>79</sup> Gillette, Robert, "Bayview Family Planning: Aim is Healthier Babies, Not Fewer Births," *San Francisco Examiner*, July 12, 1970.

CHS, while short-lived, was significant as a unique and local manifestation of the national community health center movement that emerged in the U.S. during the late 1960s. As predicted by Dr. Coleman in 1960, the program sparked a larger discussion about the need for resources, including a hospital, for the Bayview-Hunters Point area. His vision was eventually realized almost two decades later when the Southeast Health Center Clinic opened in 1979.<sup>80</sup>



Capacity crowd from Burnett School Auditorium for second community health forum co-sponsored by CHS and Radio KDIA. Audience endorsed massive lobbying efforts on Medi-Cal cuts and discussed housing modernization program. (See stories pages one and three.)

An image from the March/April 1971 edition of *Hunters Point-Bayview CHS News* showing attendees of a community health forum co-sponsored by CHS at the Burnett School Auditorium.

Source: San Francisco Public Library



**BABYSITTING SERVICES AT CHS**—CHS often provides services that should be covered by the Department of Social Welfare. So that persons may keep their medical appointments, CHS also provides babysitting services, by responsible senior citizens, to those who could not otherwise afford them. The babysitting unit is headed by Mrs. Marcellee Cashmere, far right. Others shown (L-R) are: Mesdames Emma Devis, Florence Miller and Iola Burnett.

CHS offered babysitting services in order to help adults attend medical appointments.

Source: May/June 1970 edition of *Hunters Point-Bayview CHS News*, San Francisco Public Library

<sup>80</sup> "Hunters Point: A View from the Hill," Television, Directed by Ira Eisenberg for Assignment Four, KRON-TV, San Francisco: October 5, 1969, Accessed online March 3, 2017, <https://diva.sfsu.edu/collections/sfbatv/bundles/206166>; SF Health Network, "Southeast Health Center," Accessed online March 20, 2018, <http://www.sfhealthnetwork.org/primary-care-3/southeast-health-center/>. Additional evidence supporting Dr. Coleman's role in advocating that a separate hospital be constructed in the southeast part of the city can be found in "Hunters Pt. Hospital Aid Cited: Up to City, Says Doctor," *San Francisco Examiner*, Dec. 9, 1969; "Control of Hospital Studied," *San Francisco Examiner*, Dec. 3, 1969; "Sox, Coleman Agree: Want Community Hospital," *San Francisco Examiner*, December 10, 1969; "City Ponders a Citizen-Run General Hospital," Russ Cone, *San Francisco Examiner*, March 4, 1970.

## *Epilogue: A Lasting Legacy*

In 1998, the people of Bayview-Hunters Point organized a parade down Third Street to celebrate Dr. Coleman's 50<sup>th</sup> year of service to the community and to honor his life's work. He rode ten blocks in a motorized cable car with hundreds surrounding him in gratitude for his loving dedication to the neighborhood and community. In total, Dr. Coleman practiced medicine in the Bayview for 54 years and is remembered as a humble and caring individual, as well as an influential community leader and key figure in the areas of healthcare and civil rights.<sup>81</sup>

Dr. Coleman continued to work full time out of his medical center at 6301 Third Street until a week before his passing in 2002. He was survived by his wife, Renee Coleman; daughters Patricia Coleman and Ruth Coleman; son John Coleman; three granddaughters and a grandson; and former wife, Ruth Coleman. His vision of community health care and his inspiring legacy continues on through the efforts of his daughter Patricia Coleman and others, including many former patients and students of the late doctor.

Today the Bayview Hunters Point Clinic operates out of the building at 6301 Third Street, continuing to serve the neighborhood with the goal of changing health disparities among African Americans and other underserved groups.<sup>82</sup> In 2006, Patricia Coleman, M.J. and Marilyn Metz, M.D. established the Arthur H. Coleman Community Foundation aimed at eliminating health disparities in Bayview Hunters Point through health education programs, preventative care, and chronic disease management services.<sup>83</sup>



Dr. Coleman and the San Francisco Medical Associates at the center's grand opening in 1960, standing in front of the Third Street entrance.  
Source: Patricia Coleman

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<sup>81</sup> Lelchuk, Ilene, "Doc No Holiday," *San Francisco Chronicle*, May 23, 2001; *Sun Reporter*, "Community Control of Hospital: Differences In Approach?" November 28, 1970.

<sup>82</sup> Marin City Health & Wellness Center, "Bayview Hunters Point Clinic," Accessed March 12, 2018, <http://www.marincityclinic.org/bayview-hunters-point/>.

<sup>83</sup> Community Initiative, "Arthur H. Coleman Community Health Foundation," Accessed April 4, 2018, <https://coleman.wedid.it/>.

## **Integrity**

The seven aspects of integrity used by the National Register of Historic Places, the California Register of Historical Resources, and Article 10 of the Planning Code are: location, design, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling, and association in relation to the period of significance.

### **Location**

The building is still in its original location at the southeast corner of Third Street and Ingerson Avenue.

### **Design**

The building retains very high integrity of design with no major alterations. It remains a two-story medical facility clad in stucco, glazing, and porcelain enameled steel panels. Its historic corner entry and recessed entry along the Third Street elevation remain intact, along with its original fenestration pattern of ganged and single metal casement and awning windows on the primary elevations, and a metal storefront system at the ground level.

### **Feeling & Association**

The property retains integrity of feeling and association as it remains in use as a medical clinic, continuing to serve the Bayview-Hunters Point community as it did historically.

### **Setting**

The Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center retains integrity of setting, located along the Third Street mixed commercial and residential corridor. To the east of the property is a residential neighborhood of mostly two-story single family homes of mixed vintage. It is located adjacent to the San Francisco MUNI "KT-Ingleside/Third Street" metro rail line as well as an entrance to the U.S. 101/Bayshore Freeway. Historically the property had been adjacent to the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks, which ran along what was then called Railroad Avenue (now Third Street).

### **Materials & Workmanship**

The property also retains integrity of materials and workmanship. Original materials including stucco, glazing, and porcelain enameled steel panels, and aluminum frame windows and storefront remain. Original details such as metal address numbers and the metal light fixture above the Third Street entrance are also intact. Several signs were installed and uninstalled over the years as specific physicians or affiliated organizations changed. For example, a neon sign reading "Wesley Johnson Pharmacy" was installed in 1961 and was uninstalled after Wesley Johnson left the practice. Currently, a sign reading, "Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center" remains on the north elevation. Another sign reading "Medical Associates" was placed on the west elevation for a period of time but no longer remains. The only exterior alterations include reroofing in 1993.

Overall, the building retains very high integrity to convey its original use and association, design, and period of construction.

## ARTICLE 10 REQUIREMENTS SECTION 1004(B)

### Boundaries of the Landmark Site

Encompassing all of and limited to Lot 032 in Assessor's Block 4968.

### Character Defining Features

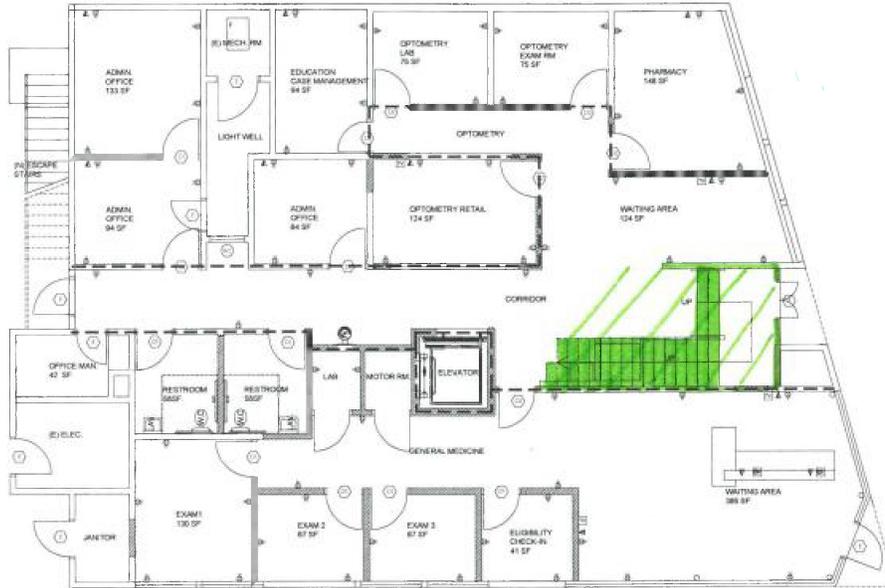
Whenever a building, site, object, or landscape is under consideration for Article 10 Landmark designation, the Historic Preservation Commission is required to identify character-defining features of the property. This is done to enable owners and the public to understand which elements are considered most important to preserve the historical and architectural character of the proposed landmark.

Character-defining features include all primary *exterior* elevations, form, massing, structure, architectural ornament and materials identified as:

- Location and site built to property line along Third Street
- Two story height
- Flat roof
- Boxed eaves
- Stucco cladding
- Porcelain enameled steel panels with abstract boomerang motifs on Third Street and Ingerson Avenue elevations
- Historic recessed pharmacy entrance at north corner with fully glazed aluminum frame door, flanked by large aluminum frame windows and transom
- Historic main entry along Third Street elevation including:
  - Angled and recessed main entry with porcelain enameled return at the south and stucco and glazing at the north return
  - Fully glazed aluminum frame double doors
  - Two aluminum frame windows flanking the double doors
  - Large glazed double-height transom above entry
  - Metal stylized address numbers at transom
  - Historic suspended abstract light fixture at entry
  - Stucco clad planter abutting north return
- Fenestration of ganged and single aluminum casement and awning windows and metal storefront system at ground level
- Letter signage that reads "The Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center" on the Ingerson Ave. elevation located between the first and second floors

Character-defining *interior* features identified as:

- Double height entry lobby with straight run stair, second floor landing configuration, and porcelain enameled steel return along south wall



Above: floor plan showing location of interior character-defining features. The location and configuration of stairs and historic porcelain enameled steel are shaded in green. The double height entry lobby is illustrated with green hatched marks.

## PROPERTY INFORMATION

**Historic Name:** Arthur H. Coleman Medical Center

**Address:** 6301 Third Street

**Block and Lot:** 4968/032

**Owner:** TD Investments LP, Mark Giraud Property Trust, Mojoe Capital LLC

**Original Use:** Medical Clinic

**Current Use:** Medical Clinic

**Zoning:** NC-3 – Neighborhood Commercial, Moderate Scale

PHOTOGRAPHS



Primary (west) elevation, view east.



Primary (north and west) elevations, view southeast.



North (Ingerson Avenue) elevation, view south.



North entrance at corner of Ingerson Avenue and Third Street, view southeast.



Detail of Porcelain enameled steel panel on north (Ingerson Avenue) elevation, view south.



Detail of sign on north (Ingerson Avenue) elevation, view south.



Detail of metal numbers above Third Street entrance, view east.



Details of Third Street entrance, view east.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

### **San Francisco City and County**

Mark Farrell, Mayor

Malia Cohen, District 10 Supervisor

### **Historic Preservation Commissioners**

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Dr. Arelious Walker, Pastor, True Hope Church of God

Staff of Bayview Hunters Point Clinic/Marin City Health and Wellness

Dr. JayVon Muhammad

Marlenea Watkins

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All contemporary photography by Desiree Smith unless stated otherwise.