

Naomi Harada
1547 Palos Verdes Mall #248
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
March 5, 2017

Riverside Metropolitan Museum Board
Riverside Metropolitan Museum
3580 Mission Inn Avenue
Riverside, CA 92501

Dear Riverside Metropolitan Museum Board:

I am Naomi Harada the granddaughter of Jukichi and Ken Harada who were brought forth in the case Harada vs the State of California in 1916-1918, resulting in the re-affirmation that American citizens irrespective of their ethnicity could hold title to property in California. The United States Department of Interior, through the National Parks Service recognized the significance of upholding the civil rights of American citizens and the right to own property and deemed the house at 3356 Lemon Street in Riverside, a national historical landmark.

My father, Harold Harada was born in that house. I wish to convey my father's desire for the continuation of the significance of the house into perpetuity as an interpretive site. My grandfather, Jukichi, was a school teacher, what could be a better legacy and teaching tool for civil rights than walking into the home where immigrant parents with citizen children stood up for their right to live in a healthy protected environment? While in the home, one can envision the discussions that were held in the kitchen, dining and living rooms. Feeling history solidifies ideas and concepts. This concept is universal: the hopes and dreams that parents hold for their children can come to fruition because this is the United States, where we have the right to due process, the right to free speech, the right to question when we have been wronged, premises of our democracy. These premises were actualized by Jukichi Harada, his attorney, A. Adair, and Judge Hugh Craig.

As members of the Riverside Metropolitan Museum Board, you too can have a role in advocating for civil rights, I strongly urge each of you to perpetuate these lessons of democracy and support the preservation of the Harada House.

Please let me know how I may be of assistance. I look forward to engaging in future communication and work.

Sincerely,



Naomi Harada