

Carmel Preservation Association

Dear Planning Commissioners:
Please help SAVE Carmel's appeal, charm, and magic!

THE STATEMENT BELOW WAS SIGNED BY 712 PETITIONERS:

“PETITION TO SAVE THE UNIQUE ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER OF CARMEL BY THE SEA”

“The following residents of and visitors to Carmel love our village character, and we respectfully ask that the City Council/Planning Commission reassess the approval process for demolitions, remodels, and new construction. Please consider the ambiance that has been Carmel for over 100 years. It is being eroded with “anywhere USA” buildings: sterile facades and box-like structures, including use of excessive glass and industrial materials that do not fit the old world charm of our village in the forest.”

WHO SIGNED THIS PETITION?

44% OR 310 CARMEL BY THE SEA RESIDENTS

19% OR 136 CARMEL SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

28% OR 202 VISITORS

09% OR 64 UNKNOWN ZIPS

PLUS 110 supportive facebook RESPONDENTS

TOTALING 822 SUPPORTERS!

HERE ARE TYPICAL EXAMPLES OF WHAT PEOPLE SAID:

visitor: “yes, of course we’ve noticed the modern style homes coming into the village. If this continues, we won’t be coming back.”

local: “I went down to get some blood taken for tests, you know, got into conversation with the two nurses. They were saying, Oh, no, we're losing Carmel. No, no, we see it.”

visitor: “We have been coming here since the 80s. We absolutely love it. We come multiple times a year. And I have noticed that over the past 30 years, it is definitely losing its charm, the quaintness and the rustic quality of the cottages, it's just disappearing, And what you're left with is McMansions with no consideration whatsoever for the original charm, what you have come here for, and now you want to change it. And it makes no sense. It needs to stop.”

MESSAGE:

Carmel's fate is in your hands. Carmel is extraordinary and deserves to be protected for future generations. Over the past few years, Carmel has fallen vulnerable to the pressures of demolition and development in this period of unprecedented prosperity. People, who want what they have in Anywhere, USA, are bringing their *Anywhere, USA, house designs* into our tiny residential tree-lined streets, without consideration that they do not “blend in” with their neighbors or the rest of the village. The bigger, the squarer, the more glass, the straighter, the flatter, the taller, ...yes, the better! Carmel's Preservation Association disagrees with this concept and what Carmel-by-the-Sea is and was created to be.

Carmel's Preservation Association cherishes Frank Lloyd Wright, Robinson Jeffers, Mary Austin, Arnold Genthe; the list goes on. However, for those who want to alter Carmel because this is America and they want what they want, we say: to honor Carmel means to cherish what we have been given, not to make it look like the rest of the country. Please be the leaders who actually protect Carmel's appeal from the pressure of change in the name of “progress.” THANK YOU!