

From: nancy@a2modern.org
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2014 8:57 AM
To: Planning
Subject: 515/517 Oxford

Dear Planning Commission:

Thank you for recognizing the historical importance of the property at 515/517 Oxford Road. The home and architectural studio of Professor George B. Brigham. As noted in earlier letters to the Commission, Brigham is noted for bringing architectural modernism to Ann Arbor and for educating a host of young architects like Robert C. Metcalf. Ann Arbor has a very rich history of modernism due to teaching and research that was taking place at the University of Michigan. It was an era of great innovation in building, both in living patterns and in materials. There is much interest within the State of Michigan and across the country in this era of innovation. Many communities have embraced their history and I am writing today to urge the city of Ann Arbor to do the same.

In 2010, several interested homeowners formed a group called a2modern. The purpose is to raise the awareness and appreciation of modern architecture. One "product" we researched, designed and published was a biking/walking map of the Ann Arbor Hills/Geddes/Arboretum area. The map highlights 86 domestic modern structures. I would like to advocate that the city take a proactive stance towards the preservation of the rich architectural heritage here in Ann Arbor by forming a committee to select a number of structures deemed most significant and then creating protections for those properties.

As far as the current proposal for the Brigham home and studio, I am pleased to see that the city has worked with the owner in an effort to preserve the facade of the home. I do not like the fact that the property will be rezoned and that the structure basically will be "lost" forever.

Sincerely,

Nancy Deromedi
homeowner
819 Avon Road
Ann Arbor