

From: June Thomas <thomasju@umich.edu>
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 4:50 PM
To: Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>
Subject: Historic District--Hayden House letter of support

Historic District Commission,

RE: Robert & Erma Hayden House Historic District, 1201 Gardner Avenue

Please accept this letter of support for designation of the Robert Hayden house, which is under consideration. I read the report at an earlier stage, and found it to be a great assessment of the qualifications of this property for historical designation. The report was beautifully well-written and documented. I was more than happy to discuss that draft report with your consultant, by phone, and to offer just a few more details on Erma. Designating this house will be a great step forward for Ann Arbor, bringing honor to that neighborhood and to the city as a whole.

I met Robert and Erma Hayden when I was a graduate student at UM in the 1970s. They were a wonderful couple, and Robert carried the mantle of poetry greatness with supreme humility. His poems are wonderful sketches of life during an important era. As a member of the Baha'i Faith community, to which the Haydens belonged, I was particularly proud of the many achievements both of them gained, locally as well as nationally for Robert. I have many fond memories of sitting in their beautiful living room over the years, since Patrick and Maia continued the tradition of warm hospitality so notable during the years that her parents, Robert and Erma, were alive.

Many thanks for the time and effort you have invested in this project.

With warm appreciation,

June

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June Manning Thomas, Ph.D.

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