



**CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE**  
300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

**ERRATA SHEET**

**TO:** Chair Sawyer and Members of the Historic Resources Committee  
**FROM:** Alyson Hunter, Associate Planner  
**MEETING DATE:** November 28, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** HRC Meeting Agenda - Errata Sheet

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**Attached is additional information for your consideration at the November 28, 2018 HRC Meeting:**

Agenda Item	Information Provided/Corrected
<b>9b – 1661 Sunset Ave</b>	Letter from Anthony Kirk, Historian ( <b>Attachment 1</b> )

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

*Alyson Hunter*

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Alyson Hunter, Associate Planner

*Anthony Kirk, Ph.D.  
420 Alberto Way, No. 13  
Los Gatos, CA 95032  
408-827-4959*

27 November 2018

Mark Lord  
Tim Allen Properties  
P.O. Box 350  
Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA 93921

Dear Mr. Lord:

I received the Residential Building Record for the Spanish Colonial Revival property at 1661 Sunset Drive, Pacific Grove only this afternoon. Unfortunately, the Record is significantly different than what one typically receives from the Monterey County Assessor's Office and does not provide the information we were seeking. Although there is insufficient time to prepare a written evaluation of the property, I should like to bring two aspects of its history to your attention.

First, Charles J. Hittell settled in the house shortly after its construction was completed, in 1930 and called it home until his death in 1938. Although a well-trained artist, he seems to have painted few canvases in his lifetime. The property, which had been purchased by his wife, Amy Bowen Hittell, a physician, has a magnificent view of the Pacific Ocean. Charles Hittell was the son of Theodore H. Hittell, an eminent San Francisco attorney and author of the four-volume *History of California*. He studied art for two years at the California School of Design, and in 1884 he and the famed landscape painter William Keith journeyed to Munich, where he was a student for four years. He subsequently made his way to Paris, enrolling in the Académie Julian. A fascinating character, he often dressed as a cowboy, wearing chaps, spurs, and a ten-gallon hat, which was said to have been given to him by Buffalo Bill Cody.

According to Peter Fairbanks, proprietor of Montgomery Gallery, the oldest gallery in San Francisco dedicated to the exhibition of early California art, no more than six paintings by Carlos Hittell have appeared at auction in the course of thirty years. Of these paintings, the highest auction price for a Hittell to come under the hammer, including the buyer's premium, was \$4,400. The lowest was \$3,025. By all appearances, Hittell was not a significant artist.

Second, the house at 1661 Sunset Drive was significantly altered by construction of a large two-story addition, apparently after the death of both Charles and Amy Hittell. The addition stands to the west of the original one-story house, which in former times had a magnificent view of the Pacific Ocean. In my opinion the property appears to have lost its historic integrity.

Sincerely yours,



Anthony Kirk, Ph.D.