

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE XAVIER HOUSE IN STA. ANA, IN THE 6TH DISTRICT AS HISTORICAL LANDMARK IN THE CITY OF MANILA.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, the Xavier House in Sta. Ana, Manila, probably built in 1859, has long been occupied by the Jesuits and is known as a rare and unique piece of early 19th century riverside structure;

WHEREAS, Xavier House is located on Pedro Gil Street (formerly Herran Street) and a few meters from the Sta. Ana Church and the main square, Plaza Felipe Calderon;

WHEREAS, what is remarkable about this structure is its grandiose architecture, its walls are made of adobe stones, the main entrance of which faces the Pasig River, its floor laid with decorative tiles coupled with narra wooden panels, which is rarely seen today;

WHEREAS, what is even more meaningful about this house is its historical significance to our country in general, and history of the Sta. Ana District, in particular, as in the words of Fr. James B. Reuter, a living hero of the 1986 People Power Revolution, "the house is a natural memorial of the history of the Philippines";

WHEREAS, it is in this Jesuit-owned house where Fr. James B. Reuter directed the "Radyo Bandido" broadcast during the height of the People Power Revolution in 1986;

WHEREAS, the Xavier House is truly a reed standing boldly amidst the sands of commercialism and development slowly engulfing the city and threatening edifices of cultural, historical and architectural value;

WHEREAS, there is a need to protect such a noteworthy structure from any attempt to deface or demolish it in the guise of "commercial development", hence preserving its chronological importance as a part of Sta. Ana's historical district and country's history is most imperative and highly justified: NOW, THEREFORE

Be it ordained by the City Council of Manila, in session, assembled, THAT:

SECTION 1. The Xavier House structure in Sta. Ana, in the 6th District is hereby declared a historical landmark in the City of Manila.

SEC. 2. It shall be placed under the preservation and conservation program of the Manila Historical and Heritage Commission.

SEC. 3. The City Engineer's Office is hereby directed to desist from the issuance of any demolition permit on the subject property upon the declaration of the same as a heritage house in compliance with the applicable policies and objectives of the Manila Historical and Heritage Commission which shall cause the installation of an appropriate marker thereat.

SEC. 4. All plans and specifications for future construction, repair and renovation of the Xavier House structure should pass prior approval from the Manila Historical and Heritage Commission before any building or renovation permit maybe issued by the City Engineer's Office.

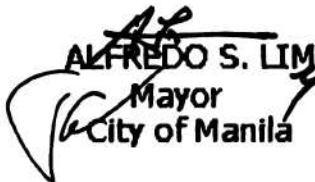
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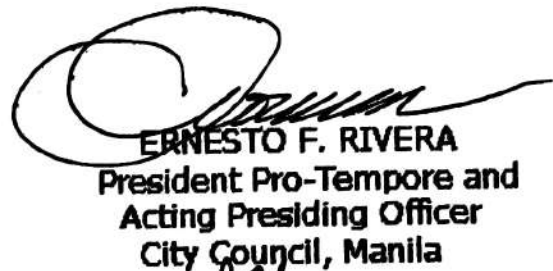
SEC. 5. Effectivity Clause. - This Ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

Enacted by the City Council of Manila at its regular session today, July 9, 2009.

Approved by His Honor, the Mayor, on **28 JULY 2009**

APPROVED:


ALFREDO S. LIM
Mayor
City of Manila


ERNESTO F. RIVERA
President Pro-Tempore and
Acting Presiding Officer
City Council, Manila

ATTESTED:


RAFAELITO M. GARAYBLAS
Secretary to the Mayor


LUCH R. GEMPIS, JR.
Secretary to the City Council

GM

PRINCIPAL AUTHORS: HON. DANILO VICTOR H. LACUNA, JR., Hon. Luciano M. Veloso, Hon. Ma. Lourdes M. Isip-Garcia, Hon. Jocelyn B. Dawis-Asuncion, Hon. Dennis B. Alcoreza, Hon. Rafael P. Borromeo, Hon. Joel R. Chua, Hon. Louisito N. Chua, Hon. Jesus M. Fajardo, Hon. Corazon C. Gemale, Hon. Cristina A. Isip, Hon. Arlene W. Koa, Hon. Marlon M. Lacson, Hon. Moises T. Lim, Hon. Edward V.P. Maceda, Hon. Victoriano A. Melendez, Hon. Ramon D. Morales, Hon. John Marvin C. Nieto, Hon. Erick Ian O. Nieva, Hon. Monina U. Silva, Hon. Josefina M. Siscar, Hon. Amalia A. Tolentino, Hon. Manuel M. Zarcal, Hon. John Russell Benedict M. Ibay, Hon. Salvador H. Lacuna, HON. MA. SHEILAH H. LACUNA-PANGAN, Majority Floor Leader, HON. ERNESTO F. RIVERA, President Pro-Tempore and Acting Presiding Officer and HON. FRANCISCO "Isko Moreno" DOMAGOSO, Vice-Mayor and Presiding Officer.

CO-AUTHORS: Hon. Raymundo R. Yupangco, Hon. Roderick D. Valbuena, Hon. Ivy A. Varona and Hon. Jocelyn J. Quintos.

OMR:mf/avt/jvl/jok