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## FREE HOUSE LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME

A 1912 Craftsman bungalow in Mission Hills has been given a new lease on life; now all it needs is a new home. Originally slated to be demolished to make room for the Mission Hills Shopping Center redevelopment called 'Paseo de Mission Hills, the house, located at 4020 Falcon Street is being offered free of charge to any interested party that has a lot available in the greater San Diego area. If the lot is deemed appropriate and the interested party has the resources to situate the house, the developer will pay for the cost of moving the house to the new site.

The developers R.S. Lawrence and CLB Partners agreed to pay for the cost of moving the house after Mission Hills Heritage (MHH) took issue with the developers over the destruction of the area's historic structures. Hoping the house without a home can be saved before the grading begins, Janet O'Dea one of the original founders of MHH said, "We're keeping our fingers crossed that someone will come forward to claim it. I think it might need a little work, but it's a free house."

The Black Historical Society (BHS) of San Diego has expressed interest in the house and is willing to work with the developer to take the house. The BHS believes the developer should be more generous in their responsibilities of disposing the property, as in finding someone to donate land or an easement, or even donating a lot outright, Karen Huff CEO of BHS said. If anyone has land they are willing to donate or lease to the Society for a write-off Huff encourages them to contact BHS. The phone number is (619) 685-7215.

It was the first house to be built on the block making it the oldest historic structure on the street. Originally owned by Fred and Mary Griswold, who owned and operated Empire Lumber Sales and moved to Chula Vista in 1925, it was later rented to its most famous resident, Landscape Architect Roland S. Hoyt. Hoyt lived in the house from 1928 to 1929 while working with George Marston in the landscaping of Presidio Park.

With construction slated to begin on the Paseo de Mission Hills as early as the end of this year or early next year, it is hoped that someone will step forward and claim the little house without a home. For more details on obtaining this historic home call Allen Matkins at 619-235-1531.

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