

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

P.O. BOX 942896  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94296-0001  
(916) 653-6624 Fax: (916) 653-9824  
calshpo@ohp.parks.ca.gov



# PLEASE NOTE

**National Register of Historic Places (National Register)** nominations are considered **drafts** until listed by the Keeper of the National Register (Keeper). Nominations can be changed at the State Historical Resources Commission meeting based on comments received by, but not limited to:

- Local governments;
- Owners;
- State Historic Preservation Officer;
- Office of Historic Preservation Staff;
- State Historical Resources Commission; and
- General public.

National Register nominations may also be changed by the Keeper prior to listing. Nominations needing substantive changes may require recirculation to all interested parties for additional review and comment.

**California Register of Historical Resources** nominations are considered **drafts** until approved for listing or formally determined eligible for listing by the State Historical Resources Commission. Nominations can be changed at the State Historical Resources Commission meeting based on comments received by, but not limited to:

- Local governments;
- Owners;
- State Historic Preservation Officer;
- Office of Historic Preservation Staff;
- State Historical Resources Commission; and
- General public.

**California Points of Historical Interest** nominations are considered **drafts** until approved for listing by the State Historical Resources Commission and the Director of California State Parks. Nominations can be changed at the State Historical Resources Commission meeting based on comments received by, but not limited to:

- Local governments;
- Owners;
- State Historic Preservation Officer;
- Office of Historic Preservation Staff;
- State Historical Resources Commission;
- General public.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Other names/site number 512 Glen Court, Pasadena, California

## 2. Location

Street & Number 512 Glen Court Not for Publication  N/A  
City or Town Pasadena Vicinity  N/A  
State California Code CA County Los Angeles Code 039  
Zip Code 91105

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal Agency or Tribal government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain): _____	_____	_____

**5. Classification**

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-state	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

Name of related multiple property listing  
MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

MODERN MOVEMENT

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

roof Asphalt

walls Stucco, wood, glass

walls \_\_\_\_\_

other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Please see Section 7 Continuation Sheets.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
 Architecture \_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance Cultural Affiliation  
 1958 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates Architect/Builder  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Straub, Calvin  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Buff, Smith & Hensman

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)  
 Please see Section 8 Continuation Sheets.

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)  
 Please see Section 9 Continuation Sheets.

- Previous documentation on file (NPS)
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
  - previously listed in the National Register
  - previously determined eligible by the National Register
  - designated a National Historic Landmark
  - recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
  - recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: City of Pasadena Planning Department

**10. Geographical Data**Acreage of Property 0.5

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	11	391616	37779860	3		
2				4		

 See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet.

**11. Form Prepared By**Name/Title Barbara Lamprecht, Architectural HistorianOrganization ICF Jones & StokesDate April 4, 2008Street & Number 811 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 800Telephone 213-627-5376City or Town Los AngelesState CA Zip Code 90027**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

Photographs

Representative photographs of the property.

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

Name Barbara & Robert Pike, Pike Family

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (626) 449-5757Street & Number 512 Glen CourtCity or Town PasadenaState CA Zip Code 91105

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). A federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to range from approximately 18 hours to 36 hours depending on several factors including, but not limited to, how much documentation may already exist on the type of property being nominated and whether the property is being nominated as part of a Multiple Property Documentation Form. In most cases, it is estimated to average 36 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form to meet minimum National Register documentation requirements. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section 7 Page 5

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

### Description

#### Summary Paragraph

Given its sleek, crisp lines, building efficiencies and rigorous horizontality, if the Pike House were a canine, it would undoubtedly be a greyhound. The 1,700-square-foot, post-and-beam house on a short, steep cul-de-sac is T-shaped in plan, one story, and has a flat roof. These features contribute to its sense as a “classic” mid-Century house with spare, long lines, without allusions to Craftsman or Japanese aesthetics, in contrast to some other Buff, Straub, and Hensman houses. Like the Mello and Frank houses, the Pike House has a long, shaded processional entrance alongside a primary volume, the master bedroom wing, which is protected by visual access by a long line of clerestory windows on this public side of the house. It is owned by original client Robert Pike who lives there, who purchased the lot from William Carr, the legendary developer responsible for subdividing many of Pasadena’s large early estates and ranchos into residential lots for custom clients (Carr and Conrad Buff often worked together to secure high-caliber properties for Buff, Straub and Hensman clients.)<sup>1</sup> The free-standing, detached, non-contributing studio addition on the northwest of the site was designed by Don Hensman in 1989; there have been other minor alterations which do not affect the home’s overall integrity and were done under the supervision of Buff, Straub, and Hensman.

The property is located within the corporate limits of the City of Pasadena, California; specifically, within that portion of the city west of the Arroyo Seco. The property is located at 512 Glen Court, Pasadena, California, a small cul-de-sac extending north from Glen Oaks Boulevard. The property is accessed by an upward-sloping driveway extending east from the terminus of Glen Court. The building is sited with its primary elevation facing south toward Glen Oaks Boulevard rather than toward Glen Court. The house located on the parcel is historically associated with the property. The parcel, Assessor Parcel Number 5707-003-024, is legally defined as LOT COM NW ON SW LINE OF LOT 7 TR NO 17339, 295.16 FT FROM MOST S COR OF SD LOT THE NE TO A PT IN NE LINE OF SD LOT SE THEREON 143.46 FT FROM MOST N COR OF SD LOT TH S 70\37’47” W.

#### Description

The T-plan’s stem is east-west and contains a bathroom and second bedroom. The “top” of the T, from north to south, contains the living room, kitchen, bathroom and master suite. Materials include glass, wood siding, and stucco. It has exposed beam and tongue-and-groove wood ceilings. The configuration of the living room almost replicates that of the Mello House, with one long wall of glass on the west (made less prone to solar gain because the hillside to the west and the broad overhang) while the interior north elevation features glass (meeting the glass on the long wall) adjacent to a fireplace. The wall opposing the wall of glass features a built-in sofa and soffit lighting, seen in the Mello and Wirick houses. The Japanese ash wood cabinetry on the south interior elevation of the living room is original.

The house is located on a short steep hill ending in a cul-de-sac that was created in the mid 1960s. At that time, new development dictated a new dedicated city street, Glen Court, off the end of Fairlawn Way, the home’s original street. The Pikes bought the land for about \$6,500 in 1956, and estimate building costs at about \$17 per square foot, or \$28,900. Like many other Buff, Straub, and Hensman clients, the Pikes were their own contractor.

#### Alterations and Additions

These include the free-standing, one-story, flat-roofed studio behind the house and northwest of it. It was designed by the firm in 1989 under lead architect Don Hensman (as was the main house) and is made of stucco, wood and glass. Though clearly of a later era, its design is fully compatible with the existing house. The studio does not affect the integrity of the Pike House in any way and is a noncontributing building.

<sup>1</sup> See the Poppy Peak Nomination for more information on William Carr, whose son, John, has continued in his father’s profession.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section 7 Page 6

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

The roof of the Pike House was altered in the 1980s to add blown-in urethane insulation, a change that did not affect the integrity of the design of the house, as the difference in the roof's thickness, where the insulation was not installed, is visually indistinguishable from images of the original roofline. The insulation, according to Mr. Pike, "made all the difference in the world" in the livability of the previously uninsulated house.<sup>2</sup> This treatment was not applied to the non-habitable garage or to the wood overhang leading to the front door were not insulated; further, because the roof of the living area is hidden, this alteration is additionally visually not prominent.

Of note is the change in the front door, which had originally been a wide sliding door, an unusual feature in the house. The opening and thin door surround were not altered. The current door, however, is a one-panel door, in keeping with other Buff, Straub and Hensman doors, and is a reversible alteration.<sup>3</sup>

The asphalt driveway area was replaced with one of interlocking pavers, which reduced solar gain to the site, according to Mr. Pike. This change has compromised the setting to some degree, but does not affect the comprehensive integrity of the house.

Some of the original louver windows were replaced with fixed glass or operable windows, as at the Frank House. The openings were not altered and this reversible alteration does not affect the comprehensive integrity of the house.

In conclusion, neither the free-standing, detached, non-contributing studio by Buff, Smith & Hensman nor the alterations have compromised the integrity of the Pike House. It continues to convey its historical significance.

<sup>2</sup> Interviews with Robert Pike, 31 January and 22 March 2008.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section 8 Page 7

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

### Statement of Significance

Robert Pike was introduced to Buff, Straub and Hensman's work because he lived near Avenue 64 in southwest Pasadena and saw many of their designs realized. He was introduced to his lot by realtor William Carr (see the Poppy Peak background and description), who worked closely with the firm, particularly Conrad Buff, in aligning architect, client and site, a fact which demonstrates the integration of the firm's life and work with its community. While this 1958 house shares most of the character-defining features of Buff, Straub and Hensman work, it also reveals the architects' ability to work in a "classic" Mid-Century style with a flat roof, delivered in a very crisp design with very spare, clean horizontal lines. Of note, too, is the Modern appropriation of the Japanese tradition of "balanced asymmetry," seen in the primary elevation's handling of the two primary volumes interrupted by the main entry path, in turn protected by beams and tongue-and-groove decking which does not extend over the entire width of this important path. Instead, by terminating the decking, the architects allow the play of light to animate the journey to the front door, a play of light that changes over time. Yet while the front of the house is relatively sealed to inquisitive eyes, the rear and private portion of the house opens with glass window walls to the outdoors. In classic Mid-Century modern fashion, broad overhangs expand interior space into the outdoors.

While not large, the house possesses a generosity in the spaces and "traffic patterns" throughout the house. The layout is well-organized and clever, for example, in visually protecting the visitor and user from the car, housed in the carport (another important character-defining feature and exemplary of post World War II design and budget concerns) that is lined with translucent plastic panels. The house retains its integrity, possesses many of the character-defining features required by this property type under the MPS Registration Requirements, is the work of a master architect, Buff, Straub and Hensman, and exemplifies a high quality of design. The Pike House is therefore eligible to qualify for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, Architecture and Design, at the local level of significance, with a period of significance of 1958.

### Significance—Conclusion

#### Argument under Criterion C- Eligible

As demonstrated above, the 1958 Pike House by Buff, Straub and Hensman meets the registration requirements as outlined in the MPS. It has retained the respective required aspects of integrity to a high degree both on the exterior and the interior. It is an excellent example of the firm's body of work in its classic Mid-Century styling, as well as embodying the larger architectural concerns and expressions of Pasadena's "Recent Past" as described in the Context Statement.<sup>4</sup> It is significant as demonstrating innovation in residential Modernism within the period of significance, 1958. Therefore, it is eligible to qualify for listing under Criterion C, Architecture and Design, at the local level of significance, with a period of significance of 1948 – 1968.

<sup>4</sup> Please also see Appendix.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section   9   Page   8  

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

### Bibliographic References

Buff, Straub and Hensman Archives. Office, 1450 W. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena 91105.

Carr, John. Interview, June 19, 2008.

Pike, Robert. Interviews. January 31 and March 22, 2008.

DRAFT

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section Photos Page 9

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

### Photographs

Pike House – Pasadena  
Los Angeles County, California  
Barbara Lamprecht, Jones & Stokes  
March 24, 2008  
Negative: Jones & Stokes  
View: Primary (north) façade, view south.  
CA\_LosAngelesCounty\_512GlenCourt1.tiff



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section Photos Page 10

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

Pike House – Pasadena

Los Angeles County, California

Barbara Lamprecht, Jones & Stokes

March 24, 2008

Negative: Jones & Stokes

View: Primary façade, walkway leading to primary entrance; view south.

CA\_LosAngelesCounty\_512GlenCourt2.tiff



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section Photos Page 11

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

Pike House – Pasadena  
Los Angeles County, California  
Barbara Lamprecht, Jones & Stokes  
March 24, 2008  
Negative: Jones & Stokes  
View: Detail of walkway leading to primary entrance, view south.  
CA\_LosAngelesCounty\_512GlenCourt3.tiff



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section Photos Page 12

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

Pike House – Pasadena  
Los Angeles County, California  
Barbara Lamprecht, Jones & Stokes  
March 24, 2008  
Negative: Jones & Stokes  
View: Detail of walkway leading to driveway, view northeast.  
CA\_LosAngelesCounty\_512GlenCourt4.tiff



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section Photos Page 13

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

Pike House – Pasadena  
Los Angeles County, California  
Barbara Lamprecht, Jones & Stokes  
March 24, 2008  
Negative: Jones & Stokes  
View: Looking south along living room to the study wing  
CA\_LosAngelesCounty\_512GlenCourt5.tiff



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section Photos Page 14

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

Pike House – Pasadena  
Los Angeles County, California  
Barbara Lamprecht, Jones & Stokes  
March 24, 2008  
Negative: Jones & Stokes  
View: Looking north east from house to studio  
CA\_LosAngelesCounty\_512GlenCourt6.tiff



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section Photos Page 15

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

Pike House – Pasadena  
Los Angeles County, California  
Barbara Lamprecht, Jones & Stokes  
March 24, 2008  
Negative: Jones & Stokes  
View: Looking south at living room  
CA\_LosAngelesCounty\_512GlenCourt7.tiff



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section Photos Page 16

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

Pike House – Pasadena  
Los Angeles County, California  
Barbara Lamprecht, Jones & Stokes  
March 24, 2008  
Negative: Jones & Stokes  
View: Interior detail of original kitchen cabinets.  
CA\_LosAngelesCounty\_512GlenCourt8.tiff



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet—Additional Documentation

*Pike, Robert and Barbara, House  
Los Angeles County, California*

Section Photos Page 17

*MPS: Cultural Resources of the Recent Past—City of Pasadena*

Pike House – Pasadena  
Los Angeles County, California  
Barbara Lamprecht, Jones & Stokes  
March 24, 2008  
Negative: Jones & Stokes  
View: Interior detail of living room.  
CA\_LosAngelesCounty\_512GlenCourt9.tiff

