



[ANGLES ON ARCHITECTURE]

Schindler's Bubeshko Apartments 2036-2046 Griffith Park Blvd.

By Karen Numme And Laura Massino Smith

The Bubeshko Apartments—at Griffith Park Boulevard near Lyric Avenue—have been in declining condition for a long time. Originally designed by Austrian-born architect Rudolf M. Schindler in the late 1930s, now due to the efforts of a pair of individuals, the apartments have been restored.

The unique angled siting of the structure is such that each apartment is partially supported by the one below

it in a stepped, or graduated fashion. Schindler was always keenly aware of siting and here he uses the angled format to get the most out of the lot.

Commissioned originally by Luby Bubeshko and now owned by Joe DeMarie and his wife Madeleine Brand, the apartments were once home to another Silver Lake architectural luminary: Gregory Ain.

Ain designed a number of single family homes in Silver

Lake and other areas, as well as the Avenel Housing (featured previously in this column) and his office, located on Hyperion Avenue.

On first look at the apartments, however, is an incongruity, not usually seen in Schindler's work, which is almost always devoid of ornamentation. The "rams heads" decoration, as they were envisioned, were created by sculptor Gordon Newell, probably best known for the obelisk at the Griffith Observatory. Newell was married to Luby Bubeshko's sister and knew Schindler, architect Richard Neutra and Ain. This decorative element



at the end of the terrace adds a new dimension to the building, which many have commented is reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright's textile block houses in Los Angeles.

In 2005, DeMarie and Brand bought the building and committed to the restoration of it. Nice to see that this important structure has been brought back to life and is now featured in a documentary of Schindler's work and in a new

book about the important buildings of the 20th century.

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