



# SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY

June 24, 2019

## STATEMENT:

TO: Historic and Design Review Commission, City of San Antonio  
RE: Item A6: 202 N. St. Mary's – St. Mary's Catholic Church  
RIO District: RIO-2  
HDRC Case No.: 2019-330

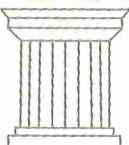
The San Antonio Conservation Society agrees with the Office of Historic Preservation that the Rectory building at 202 N. St. Mary's meets the criteria for designation as a landmark. This is a significant New Formalist design by Harvey P. Smith, Jr. We agree with the Office's first finding that every effort should be made to integrate the existing building into the new project, with particular focus on the St. Mary's Street façade. Secondly, we oppose any demolition of original Robert H.H. Hugman stonework along the River Walk. Certainly, the goals of the hotel development for its River Walk frontage can be achieved without losing intact elements of the 1939 design by Hugman. The Conservation Society is concerned about the number of original walls along the downtown River Walk that have been eliminated or altered within the last few years. Finally, we concur with the City that the riverside façade of the new project should complement, rather than detract from, the original design of the River Walk by reducing the amount of glass façade on the riverside levels.

Thank you.

SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Susan Beavin, President

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The Purpose of this Society is to preserve and to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, objects, places and customs, relating to the history of Texas, its natural beauty, and all that is admirably distinctive to our State; and by such physical and cultural preservation to keep the history of Texas legible and intact to educate the public, especially the youth of today and tomorrow, with knowledge of our inherited regional values.

