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Leigh Ivey  
Communications Assistant  
National Trust for Historic Preservation.  
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036

Recommendation for America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places: Hogan's Pavilion, Cherokee Park, Louisville, KY

Dear Ms. Ivey:

I have been asked to comment on Hogan's Pavilion located in Louisville (KY)'s Cherokee Park and its proposed demolition. The idea of getting rid of it is very sad, indeed I would say ridiculous. I would urge you to place it on the National Trust's most endangered list for 2011 and also to put an article about it in Preservation News.

I saw the pavilion a few years ago when I was in Louisville giving a lecture. It is an important example of modern design from the 1960s. The architect of the pavilion, E.J.Schickli was a leading Louisville area modernist; he was picking up on a certain trend in design of those years as perhaps best exemplified by Philip Johnson's roofless church in New Harmony, Indiana, and also some of the work of Frank Lloyd Wright. Although one can see sources for it, the design that Schickli produced is original and very successful. The pavilion served a number purposes over the years as a meeting place, and a location for ceremonies and activities. Unfortunately the park authorities have not maintained it. Now they are claiming that it should be removed in order to return the park to its 1892 appearance. While fine and good, they certainly are not going to take out all the other structures, statues and roads that have been added. The park has evolved and Hogan's Pavilion is part of its history.

This vision of the American past as a sanitized place in which nothing ever changes is not very smart, especially when you have such an outstanding design as Hogan's Pavilion. Other letter writers will weigh in concerning the

Secretary of the Interior's standards and other reasons for saving it, with which I concur. In the end this is a masterpiece of design that should be saved. Please list it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Guy Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "W".

Richard Guy Wilson,  
Commonwealth Professor  
Architectural History  
University of Virginia