Answering the Call to Build Equitable Housing

Racially Restrictive Covenants

Lexi P. Howard

What does "home" mean to you? What else?

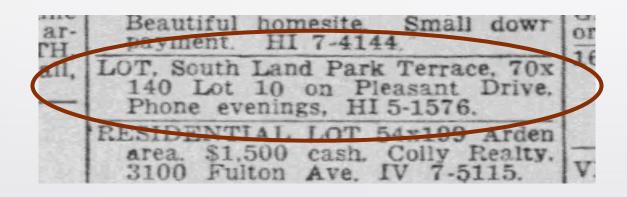


Racially Restrictive Covenants

Content warning:

The following slides contain historical examples of racially restrictive covenants (RRCs) and marketing and other information that was used to promote sales in residential neighborhoods that contained those RRCs.

This newspaper advertisement:



For a residential building lot with this restriction:

"No persons of any race other than the White or Caucasian race shall use or occupy any structure or any lot except that this provision shall not prevent occupancy by domestic servants of a different race domiciled with an owner or tenant."



in Sacramento



Homes built here will be the type and quality that will maintain the value of your investment.

MODEL HOME **OPEN FOR INSPECTION**

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 12-6

"MOSS OAKS". 4410 Moss Drive

SOUTH LAND PARK TERRACE

- 1. Rolling contours.
- 2. High elevation.
- 3. Highly restricted.
- 4. Architectural control.
 - 9. Sewers Paved Streets Gas, etc.

One of the most beautiful subdivisions in Sacramento. No two homes alike. No two lots alike. Only a few lots left Consult sale, Call MRS, DOHERTY, 2-2424

8. Rich soil.

5. Shopping center-schools.

6. Parks-Golf courses.

7. Children's playground.

SOUTH LAND PARK TERRACE HOMESITES

Quality lots, large in size assurance of investment protection, definite true values are to be had in beautiful South Land Park Terrace, The low terms, deep, rich soil, abundance of pure water, stores, transportation, all public utilities are available. If you are considering home sites, you definitely must see these before buying. Low down payments, all advantages of city property in a district which is fast becoming a part of the Land Park area. Come out and see what we have to offer. For advance information, call FRED LaTURNER, 4-2030.

thegrove Beauty School 403 California Fruit Bldg.



Your Dreams of anideal.close in HOMESITE

come true...

THESE FACTS SUNDAY

Tract

Highly Restricted Highest Elevation

* Close to Schools and Town

About Terms and Prices

You will be more than pleased with the reasonable pricing for such an exclusive district. CONVENIENT FINANCING

Come Out Tomorrow

Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&Rs) Here, from a subdivision in Fresno in 1947:

300

TOHERT TRACT

That we the undersigned, Rubert C: Richert and Willetta A. Richert, being the owners of that certain real property situated in the County of Fresno, State of California described as

Lots 1 to 28, inclusive, of Richert Tract, according to Map recorded November 5, 1947, in Book 13, Page 85, of Flats, in Records of said

do hereby create and establish a general peak for the enjoyment, development, use and occupancy of said real property by imposing upon said real property the following covenants, restrictions, limitations and conditions, to-wit:

1. No building other than single family residence and its appurtenant garage or garages, and other necessary and usual outbuildings including private stables and buildings to be occupied by employees and servants of residents upon said premises, shall

17. Each and all of the covenants, conditions or rest forth, all and singular, shall be considered and deemed to be veyences, aggreements, assignments, encumbrances and written made or executed by any person conveying or encumbering any or to said real property, or any lot or part thereof, and shall

effect as 10 embodied in and made a part of such deed, conveyances, agreements, ments, encumbrances and other written instruments.

18. If the parties hereto, or any of them, or their heirs, successors or assigns shall violate or attempt to violate any of the covenants, conditions or restrictions herein, it shall be lawfull for any other person or persons on any real property in said development or subdivision to prosecute or maintain any proceeding of law or in equity against the person or persons violating or attempting to violate any such coverant, and either to enjoin the violation thereof or to recover damages for such violation.

5. No animals or fowl, excepting for private domestic use, shall be kept or bred upon any property subject to these covenants.

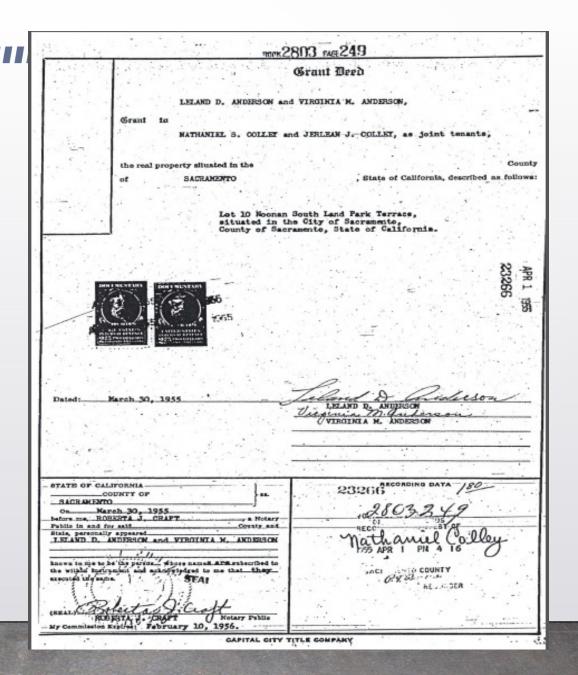
6. Each of these covenants, restrictions and conditions shall remain in full force and effect for a period of Twenty Five (25) years from and after November 5, 1947, and shall be automatically extended in full force and effect for successive periods of Ton (10) years each thereafter unless by a vote of the majority of the then owners of all of the lots in said Tract, cast after the end of the said Twenty Five (25) year period, it is agreed by a majority of such owners to the said tract, cast after the end of the said tracty Five (25) year period, it is agreed by a majority of such owners to the said tracty said covenants, restrictions or conflictors in whole or in part.

7 No part of said subdivision, nor any building thereon, shall be sold, con eved or leased, by Deed or otherwise, to any Negro, Chinese, Japanese, Hindu, Armenian, Malayan, Asiatic, or Native of the Turkish Empire, or any person not of the Caucasian race, or any descendent of any one or more of said persons,

8. Neither said real property nor any part thereof, nor any lot nor part thereof, shall be used or occupied in any manner whatsoever by any Negro, Chinese, Japanese, Hindu Amenian, Malayan, Asiatic or Native of the Turkish Empire, or any person not of the Caucasian Race, or any descendent of any one or more of said persons; provided, however, that such person may be employed as a servant by a resident upon such property.

Grant Deed, 1955.

No restriction in the deed, but the restriction is recorded in the documents affecting the entire subdivision.



Some Judicial and Legislative History . . .

Shelley v. Kraemer
In granting judicial enforcement of the restrictive agreements in these cases, the States have denied petitioners the equal protection of the laws and that, therefore, the action of the state courts cannot stand.... Because of the race or color of these petitioners they have been denied rights of ownership or occupancy enjoyed as a matter of course by other citizens of different race or color. (1948)

State and National Fair Housing Legislation Proposition 14, which was overwhelmingly supported by developers, real estate trade

associations, and others, was approved by California voters, amending the California Constitution to provide that "neither the State nor any subdivision or agency thereof shall deny, limit or abridge, directly or indirectly, the right of any person, who is willing or desires to sell, lease or rent any part or all of his real property, to decline to sell, lease or rent such property to such person or persons as he, in his absolute discretion, chooses. (1964)

Ming v. Horgan

Negroes have been and are turned away from original sales of most tract homes in the area despite an increase in the percentage of Negro population in the last few years and an increase in their rate of income as compared with members of the white race." (1958)

The federal Fair Housing Act finally prohibited racially restrictive covenants and racially discriminatory practices in the sale, purchase, and financing of real estate were finally prohibited. (1968)

Exclusionary practices, in context - and a few words about "de facto" and "de jure":

De facto exclusion and segregation – the result of private activities (by individuals acting on their own, private organizations, associations, and businesses, etc.), not the result of government actions.

De jure exclusion and segregation – the result of laws, regulations, policies, and practices <u>enacted</u>, <u>sponsored</u>, and <u>supported by the government</u> at one or more levels (federal, state, county, city governments and their agencies).

California – and the United States - today

California:

AB 1466, enacted in 2021.

Other states: Some have

enacted, some are considering, others not yet.

Uniform Law
Commission:
Drafting is
underway for
a "Model Act"
for states to
consider for
use.

