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Wright House restoration is visionary coup for Phoenix

Regarding your front-page article headlined, "Does the David and Gladys Wright House belong in Arcadia?" The answer is a profound, "Yes."

Our community has few world-class cultural icons and Frank Lloyd Wright's work is one. This city is indeed fortunate to have a handful of original Wright buildings. As a former Arcadia resident and former director of Phoenix Art Museum, I vigorously support Zach Rawling's vision.

Our nation is populated with many special architectural house museums, several based on homes by Wright. From what I read, it is clear Rawling is carefully considering how to create a marvelous asset for Arcadia residents and all of Phoenix by meticulously preserving an architectural monument.

Additionally, he is investing to put the house back as close as possible to its original site plan concept while working to address parking and buffering the site from immediate neighbors. Bravo!

The Arcadia neighborhood embraced a similar challenge with the Shemer Art Center, which also began its life as a wonderful residence and is today used by many families to provide a quality cultural experience.

Change is part of an energetic city. As one invested in our cultural future, please join me in encouraging more quality visionaries like Zach Rawling.

— James K. Ballinger, *Phoenix*

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