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## Actress Bullock Loses Out on Beach Triplex

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By Don Jergler,  
 Press-Telegram,  
 Long Beach, Calif.

Jun. 13--SUNSET BEACH -- A triplex here sold for nearly \$3.5 million on Saturday in an auction that drew out a group of nearly 70 affluent bidders, including actress Sandra Bullock.

Bullock put up the second-highest bid on the property but gave way to a Whittier couple who told auctioneers they plan to live in one unit and rent out the others.

Bullock stopped at \$3.1 million, just shy of the winning bid of \$3.2 million. An 8 percent commission for the auctioneer brought the total price to just under \$3.5 million.

Bullock and her husband, West Coast Choppers founder Jesse James, already have a home in Sunset Beach.

The property was sold in what's known as an "absolute" auction. That means the property would have been sold to the highest bidder regardless of price.

"The results were far beyond everybody's expectations," said Todd Wohl, vice president of Premiere Estates Auction Co.

The triplex at 16825 S. Pacific Ave., built in the 1970s, is in need of paint and repairs.

But the 3,100-square-foot structure is on a 30-by-90-foot lot that allows occupants to walk right out onto the beach. An upper and lower unit face the water, and the third unit sits over a two-car garage.

Neighboring properties have sold for between \$2.5 million and \$7.5 million in the last few months.

Attendees who wanted to qualify for a bidder's paddle were required to bring a \$100,000 cashier's check and a blank personal check and be prepared to plop down a 10 percent down payment.

Sunset Beach is a somewhat secluded, close-knit community of around 1,200. The beach doesn't get a lot of visitation because it's blocked by rows of houses, condominiums and businesses packed together on both sides of Pacific Coast Highway from Anderson Street to Warner Avenue. The town is about 400 feet wide and 6,000 feet long.

Wohl declined to release the names of the purchasers, but he did say they told him they planned "to live in it just the way it is."

Bullock's publicist did not return calls seeking comment.



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