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SOCA Recommendation to City Preservation Commission Aug 8, 11

BACKGROUND:

In 2009, the City's Preservation Office secured a CLG grant, with matching funds from the Capitol City Preservation Trust, to survey the Historic hollow sidewalks and raised streets of downtown Sacramento and in Old Sacramento. Page & Turnbull were contracted to complete this survey, but due to lack of funding were not able to complete it.

Last year SOCA stepped in to see this survey completed. We hired a consultant, Heather Downey, to complete the context statement. She is here tonite to give you a presentation of these efforts.

This survey and the context statement represents a unique cultural landscape in Sacramento. SOCA is committed to see this resource recognized as a significant part of its history through Landmark District status in the City Register of Historic Resources.

One of the benefits of this survey is the current underground tours in Old Sacramento. The Historic Old Sacramento Foundation, with some limited funding provided by the City Council, and with State Parks, have established these incredibly popular tours. In fact have extended the tours dates after their first season to acomódate the demand.

SOCA's RECOMMENDATION: The raised streets is a vital part of Sacramento's significant history. After you see this presentation, you will see the indomitable spirit of Sacramento's efforts to transform the city to a habitable area. Few other cities have made such efforts.

Our hope is that the Commission recommend this survey be forwarded to the City Council for designation. SOCA would like to see this district designated as a City Historic Landmark District.