







Resource Name/Address: 900 I Street

Historic Name: Public Square

Common Name: Plaza Park

Assessor's Parcel Number: 006-0042-001

Zoning: C3

Description: The park occupies one square block facing the City Hall and bounded by 9th, 10th, I, and J Streets. The design layout essentially comprises two concentric circles of park and paving, intersected by four diagonal paths that extend from each corner, to the central fountain area. The fountain contains a decorative center form, springing from a round basin, and supported by stylized Moderne figures on a hexagonal base. The bronze statue of a man, mounted on a stone pedestal base, stands on the southern end of the axis, formed by the fountain, flagpole grouping, and City Hall Tower. The concentric pathway encircling the fountain contains fixed concrete tables with painted gameboards and benches, and metal braziers for warming fires to accommodate the elderly men the park attracts. Landscaping materials include lawn, shrubs, palm trees, magnolias, cypress, camellias, and elms. A small rectangular building on the west contains lavatories. The park was largely redesigned in the late 1960's. The park serves an important role dramatizing City Hall while providing open space to balance its dominating presence.

Resource Attributes: HP31

Resources Present: Building Structure Object Site District Element of District Other

Report Citation/Resources: Sacramento Guide Book. Sacramento Bee 1939

Sidewalk History-Pioneer Sites of Old Sacramento. Historic Landmarks Com. 1958



Date Constructed:

1849, Factual

Owner and Address:

City of Sacramento

915 I Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Recorded by:

Napoli/Todd Consultants; CHMD
Arch.; City Planning & Development
Dept.; Sacramento Heritage, Inc.;
1231 I St., Sacramento, 95814

Date Recorded:

7/94 - 8/96

Survey Type:

Intensive

Date of Photo: 5/94 **Roll and Frame:** 41/13/41/14

Resource Name: 900 I Street

Location: Unrestricted

County: Sacramento

USGS 7.5' Quad: Sacramento East

Date: 1967/1980 photo revised

Original Use: Park Present Use: Park

Architectural Style: N/A

Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)
Various redesigns

Moved? No Original Location:

Related Features: City Hall

Architect: Unknown Builder: Unknown

Significance: Theme _____ Area Central City

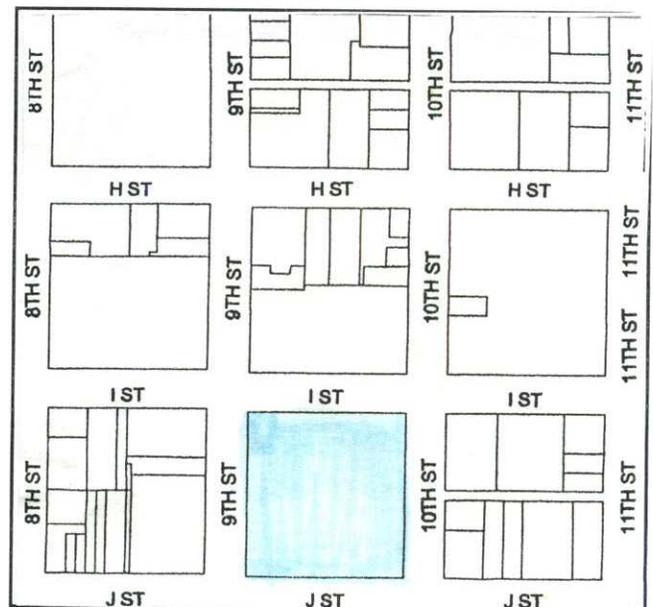
Period of Significance _____ Property Type Downtown, Social Applicable Criteria _____

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

Donated to the City for Public use by John Sutter, Jr. in 1849, Plaza Park, measuring two and one-half acres, is one of the oldest parks in Sacramento. Known as the Public Square in the city's early years, the park served as an important social center where livestock was sold and where the circus camped when it came to town. In 1856, ground was broken to build the State Capitol on the site, but the project was abandoned after the purchase agreement between the city and the state was proven unconstitutional. The statue was placed in the park in 1888 and commemorates A.J. Stevens who lived between 1833 and 1888 and was a master mechanic for the Southern Pacific Company. Replacing a park bandstand, the Coleman Memorial Fountain was erected in 1926. This fountain was the first important work of the prominent San Francisco sculptor, Ralph Stackpole. The park constitutes a major social and visual focal point for the downtown area, and an important setting for the city's major civic building.

Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP31

(This space reserved for official comments.)



All next sheet

Ser. No. 13-9, 41-13, 14-14

HABS _____ HAER _____ NR 3D SHL _____ Loc _____
UTM: A 10-631280-4275030
C _____ D _____

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: Plaza Park - on list: Fountain & statue
2. Historic name: Public Square
3. Street or rural address: I-J-9th-10th Streets 900 I
City Sacramento Zip n/a County Sacramento
4. Parcel number: n/a
5. Present Owner: City of Sacramento Address: 915 I Street
City Sacramento Zip 95814 Ownership is: Public Private _____
6. Present Use: park Original use: park

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: n/a
- 7b. Briefly describe the present *physical description* of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

The park occupies one square block facing the City Hall and bounded by 9th, 10th, I, and J Streets. The design layout essentially comprises two concentric circles of park and paving, intersected by four diagonal paths that extend from each corner, to the central fountain area. The fountain contains a decorative center form springing from a round basin, and supported by stylized Moderne figures on a hexagonal base. The bronze statue of a man, mounted on a stone pedestal base stands on the southern end of the axis, formed by the fountain, flagpole grouping, and City Hall Tower. The concentric pathway encircling the fountain contains fixed concrete tables with painted gameboards and benches, and metal braziers for warming fires to accommodate the elderly men the park attracts. Landscaping materials include lawn, shrubs, palm trees, magnolias, cypress, camelias, and elms. A small rectangular building on the west contains lavatories. The park was largely redesigned in the late 1960's. The park serves an important role dramatizing City Hall while providing open space to balance its dominating presence.



8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1849
9. Architect n/a
10. Builder n/a
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage _____ Depth _____
or approx. acreage 2 1/2
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
1980

NL

13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good X Fair ___ Deteriorated ___ No longer in existence ___
14. Alterations: various redesigns
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land ___ Scattered buildings ___ Densely built-up ___
Residential ___ Industrial ___ Commercial X Other: governmental
16. Threats to site: None known X Private development ___ Zoning ___ Vandalism ___
Public Works project ___ Other: ___
17. Is the structure: On its original site? X Moved? ___ Unknown? ___
18. Related features: City Hall

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

Donated to the City for public use by John Sutter, Jr. in 1849, Plaza Park, measuring two and one-half acres, is one of the oldest parks in Sacramento. Known as the Public Square in the city's early years, the park served as an important social center where livestock was sold and where the circus camped when it came to town. In 1856 ground was broken to build the State Capitol on the site but the project was abandoned after the purchase agreement between the city and state was proven unconstitutional. The statue was placed in the park in 1888 and commemorates A.J. Stevens who lived between 1833 and 1888 and was a master mechanic for the Southern Pacific Company. Replacing a park bandstand, the Coleman Memorial Fountain was erected in 1926. This fountain was the first important work of the prominent San Francisco sculptor, Ralph Stackpole.

The park constitutes a major social and visual focal point for the downtown area, and an important setting for the city's major civic building.

20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)

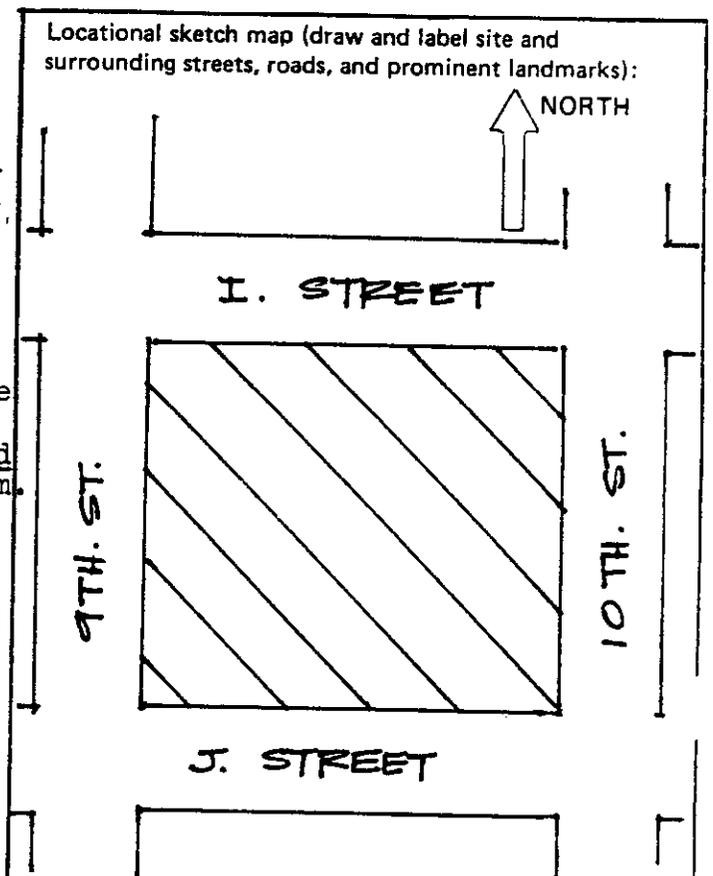
Architecture ___ Arts & Leisure 1
Economic/Industrial ___ Exploration/Settlement ___
Government 2 Military ___
Religion ___ Social/Education ___

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

Sacramento Guide Book. Sacramento Bee
1939

Sidewalk History-Pioneer Sites of Old
Sacramento. Historic Landmarks Com.
1958

22. Date form prepared 1981
By (name) HEC
Organization S.C.P.L.D.
Address: 915 I Street
City Sacramento Zip 95814
Phone: 449-5381



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Attachment D





CIP CONCERTS IN THE PARK

RECYCLE