

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - Colombo Market Arch]

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3 **Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**  
4 **the Colombo Market Arch constructed in 1894 and located at Sydney Walton Park on**  
5 **Front Street between Jackson Street and Pacific Avenue.**

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7 WHEREAS, The Colombo Market Arch (the arch) is the sole surviving element of the  
8 Colombo Market building constructed in 1894, and designed by architect Clinton Day; and

9 WHEREAS, The Colombo Market building was the catalyst and epicenter of San  
10 Francisco’s produce district of the state’s fruit, vegetable, and other agricultural products and  
11 incubator for many Italian businesses that grew to become regional and national leaders  
12 including A.P. Giannini of the Bank of Italy, later Bank of America, the Del Monte Corporation;  
13 and many specialty-food and import-export firms; and

14 WHEREAS, When the Redevelopment Agency under Justin Herman demolished the  
15 building and the produce district for building the Golden Gateway Center in the early 1960s,  
16 the arch was deliberately saved and incorporated as an entrance to the private Sydney  
17 Walton Park; it is a visual landmark, although there is no plaque or interpretive display; and

18 WHEREAS, While the area was called the produce district, the building at 626 Front  
19 Street, known as the Colombo Market, contained the market’s headquarters; and

20 WHEREAS, Originally founded in 1874 as a wood building, the Colombo Market is  
21 associated with immigrants from northern Italy who created a wholesale market for vegetables  
22 and related agricultural products, serving as a catalyst for the development of the state’s well-  
23 known fruit, vegetable, and other agricultural product deliveries; and

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1           WHEREAS, The Colombo Market Arch is a property of significance as a survivor of the  
2 1906 Earthquake and Fire, a significant event in the history of San Francisco, as well as the  
3 only remaining fragment from the produce district after it was demolished by the  
4 Redevelopment Agency in order to build the Golden Gateway; and

5           WHEREAS, The Colombo Market Arch fulfills the requirement for landmark designation  
6 as a property of significance with a person or group as it is associated with Italian immigrants  
7 during the 19th century who created a wholesale market for vegetables and related  
8 agricultural products serving San Francisco, the Bay Area and northern California; and

9           WHEREAS, The Colombo Market Arch is a property of significance for the notable  
10 work of the master architect, Clinton Day; and

11           WHEREAS, The Colombo Market Arch is a property of significance that is valued as a  
12 visual landmark and adds special character to San Francisco and its residents; now,  
13 therefore, be it

14           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
15 hereby initiates a separate landmark designation for the Colombo Arch, created in 1894, at its  
16 sole and current location at Sydney Walton Park on Front Street; and, be it

17           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
18 Francisco requests that the Planning Department prepare a Landmark Designation Report to  
19 submit to the Historic Preservation Commission for its consideration of the special historical,  
20 architectural, and aesthetic interest and value of the arch; and, be it

21           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
22 Francisco requests that the Historic Preservation Commission consider whether the arch  
23 warrants landmark designation and submit its recommendation to the Board according to  
24 Article 10 of the Planning Code.