



LANDMARK RESOLUTION RECOMMENDATION RESOLUTION NO. 1562

HEARING DATE: MAY 6, 2026

Record No.: 2026-002414DES
Project Address: 1556 Revere Avenue (Landmark No. 61: Sylvester House)
Zoning: RH-2 (Residential-House, Two Family)
40-X Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 5340/006
Cultural District: African American Arts & Cultural
Project Sponsor: SF Planning Department
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94124
Property Owner: Blacketer-Dodt Fmly Revocable Tr
1556 Revere Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94103
Staff Contact: Pilar LaValley (628-652-7372) pilar.lavalley@sfgov.org

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AMENDMENT OF LANDMARK DESIGNATION OF LANDMARK NO. 61, SYLVESTER HOUSE (1556 REVERE AVENUE), INCLUSIVE OF THE AWARD-WINNING RESTORATION OF THE LANDMARK BY FORMER OWNER LINDA BLACKETER, RENAMING THE LANDMARK AS BLACKETER-SYLVESTER HOUSE, ASSESSOR'S PARCEL BLOCK NO. 5340, LOT NO. 006, CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES AND STANDARDS OF ARTICLE 10 OF THE PLANNING CODE.

1. WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors initiated and then approved designation of Sylvester House, designated as Landmark #61, under Article 10 of the Planning Code, pursuant to Ordinance No. 124-74, passed by the Board on March 4, 1974 (BOS File No. 90743); and
2. WHEREAS, on February 24, 2026, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 070-26, introduced by Supervisor Walton, initiating landmark designation amendment of Landmark No. 61, Sylvester House, to rename the Landmark and recognize the restoration and stewardship by former owner Linda Blacketer as a San Francisco Landmark pursuant to Section 1004.1 of the Planning Code. On February 27, 2026, the Mayor signed the approved resolution. Said resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in Board File No. 260150.

3. WHEREAS, Department Staff, who meet the Secretary of Interior’s Professional Qualification Standards, prepared Executive Summary and Landmark Designation Fact Sheet for amended Landmark No. 61 for accuracy and conformance with the purposes and standards of Article 10; and
4. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of May 6, 2026, reviewed Department staff’s analysis of the amended architectural and historical significance of the Blacketer-Sylvester House (1556 Revere Avenue) pursuant to Article 10, and recommended amendment of Landmark Designation of Landmark No. 61 through this Resolution; and
5. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet for amended Landmark Designation of the Blacketer-Sylvester House is in the form prescribed by the Historic Preservation Commission and contains supporting historic, architectural, and/or cultural documentation; and
6. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the amended Landmark No. 61 is significant under Criterion A (Events/Social History) as a rare surviving example of a grand “farmhouse,” built pre-Gold Rush as the Sylvester family’s primary residence on their farm, which served the family business as wholesale butchers and cattle dealers, and representing the agricultural and ranching history of former “Butchertown” and southeastern San Francisco; and
7. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the amended Landmark No. 61 is significant under Criterion C (Architecture) is an exceptionally fine and unique variation of a Victorian-era Italianate villa with Gothic Revival detailing, constructed in 1865-1870 by prominent carpenter and home builder Stephen L. Piper; and
8. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds further that the amended Landmark No. 61 is significant under Criterion C (Architecture) as an impressive example of traditional artisan craftsmanship applied to the restoration and preservation of the landmark’s distinctive original exterior and interior features, all part of a dedicated and faithful multi-decade restoration guided by former owner Linda Blacketer (joined later by her husband), a public health nurse that purchased the severely deteriorated building in 1978; and
9. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds further that amendment of Landmark No. 61 to rename the Landmark as the Blacketer-Sylvester House and to recognize the restoration and stewardship of the architecturally and historically significant landmark by former owner Linda Blacketer is warranted; and
10. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the list of associated character-defining features for amended Landmark No. 61, identified in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet, prepared by Department staff, should be considered for preservation under the proposed landmark designation amendment as they relate to architectural and historical significance and retain historical integrity; and
11. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that amending Landmark No. 61, Sylvester House, to rename the Landmark as the Blacketer-Sylvester and recognize the restoration and stewardship of the landmark property by former owner Linda Blacketer, meets the eligibility requirements of Section 1004 of

the Planning Code and warrants consideration for Article 10 landmark designation amendment; and

12. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that Landmark No. 61, Blacketer-Sylvester House, meets one of the Historic Preservation Commission's four priority areas for designation: properties located in a geographically underrepresented area; and
13. WHEREAS, the proposed landmark designation amendment is consistent with the General Plan priority policies pursuant to Planning Code, Section 101.1 and furthers Priority Policy No. 7, which states that landmarks and historic buildings be preserved, and will serve the public necessity, convenience, and welfare pursuant to Planning Code, Section 302; and
14. WHEREAS, the Department has determined that landmark designation amendment is exempt from environmental review, pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15308 (Categorical Exemption Class Eight), as an action taken by a regulatory agency for the protection of the environment; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends to the Board of Supervisors approval of landmark designation amendment of Landmark No. 61, Sylvester House (1556 Revere Avenue), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 5340, Lot No. 006, to rename the Landmark as the Blacketer-Sylvester House and to recognize the restoration and stewardship of the landmark property by former owner Linda Blacketer, consistent with the purposes and standards of Article 10 of the Planning Code.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was **ADOPTED** by the Historic Preservation Commission at its meeting on May 6, 2026.



Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

- AYES: Cox, Tsern-Strang, Vergara, Foley, Matsuda
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Baldauf, Baroni
ADOPTED: May 6, 2026