

[Initiating Landmark Designation Amendment - Sylvester House (1556 Revere Street)]

Resolution initiating an amendment to the landmark designation of 1556 Revere Street (aka Sylvester House), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 5340, Lot No. 006, under Article 10 of the Planning Code.

WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by Resolution initiate a historic landmark designation; and

WHEREAS, Planning Code, Section 1004.2(b), requires the Historic Preservation Commission to respond to historic landmark designation initiations from the Board within 90 days, but that the Board of Supervisors may, by Resolution, extend the time within which the Historic Preservation Commission is to render its decision; and

WHEREAS, Sylvester House was 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

WHEREAS, Sylvester House, built in the Italianate architectural style between 1865 and 1870, is an exceptionally fine and unique variation of the Italianate architectural style with Gothic details; and

WHEREAS, The two-story, four square, wood frame structure sits high on a tall, raised basement that was partially built over the foundation of a former barn when the building was moved in 1913; and

WHEREAS, The building's main features include an expansive first floor porch, prominent upper story fenestration, and a projecting roof cornice. The front porch spans the entire façade with its roof covering the first-floor windows and central front entrance. The porch is capped by a dentilated cornice supported by six wood Corinthian columns and

1 enclosed by a low balustrade of turned wood spindles that extends along a wide, centered
2 staircase to front walkway; and

3 WHEREAS, A large archway frames the paneled double door entry and overhead
4 fanlight with framing finished in Gothic detailing; and

5 WHEREAS, Fenestration is regular with double-hung arched windows framed with
6 Gothic detailing, including fluted pilasters, projecting curvilinear pediments, consoles, and
7 ornamental keystones; and

8 WHEREAS, There is a decorated, deeply projecting roof cornice; and

9 WHEREAS, Sylvester House was built by Stephen L. Piper, a prominent carpenter and
10 housing builder in the southern portion of San Francisco, now known as Bayview, formerly
11 known as Butchertown; and

12 WHEREAS, The house was built for Daniel Sylvester, his wife Maria, and their eight
13 children. The home served as the 'farmhouse' for a cattle ranch that included the mansion and
14 several stables and other out-buildings, serving the Sylvester's business as wholesale
15 butchers and cattle dealers in the surrounding Butchertown neighborhood. The Sylvester
16 family occupied the house until 1901; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1978, Linda Blacketer found and purchased, along with her husband,
18 Dan Dodt, the abandoned and dilapidated Sylvester Houses with the intent to restore the
19 house to its original conditions - not just to modernize its interior behind a historic façade - to
20 achieve a historically relevant showplace; and

21 WHEREAS, The four-decades-long, dedicated and faithful restoration included
22 upgrades or replacement of all systems, significant decorative enhancements, with added
23 furnishing and art collections; and

24 WHEREAS, Members of Artistic License, a guild of artisans, based in San Francisco,
25 along with other highly talented individuals, assisted in the restoration; and

1 WHEREAS, The restored architectural gem as seen today is a testament to the vision
2 and creative spirit of her former owner, Linda Blacketer, who was recognized by San
3 Francisco Beautiful with the Robert C. Frieze Preservation Award in 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, Sylvester House is a rare example of a continually inhabited, single family
5 dwelling in San Francisco, and remains a masterpiece of vision, construction and preservation
6 efforts in the City and is as an important landmark of the Bayview neighborhood; and, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby initiates an amendment to the
8 landmark designation under Planning Code, Section 1004.1 of Sylvester House, located at
9 1556 Revere Street (Assessor's Block/Lot 5340/006); and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors requests that the Planning
11 Department prepare a landmark designation report to submit to the Historic Preservation
12 Commission for its consideration of the full historical, architectural, aesthetic, and cultural
13 interest and value, including but not limited to the restoration and preservation efforts
14 undertaken by Linda Blacketer, of Sylvester House; and, be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors requests that the Historic
16 Preservation Commission consider what amendments to the landmark designation are
17 warranted to capture the property's full historical significance, and submit its recommendation
18 to the Board of Supervisors, according to Article 10 of the Planning Code.

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City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 260150

Date Passed: February 24, 2026

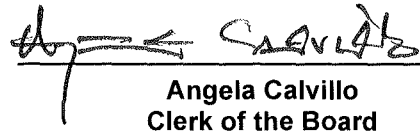
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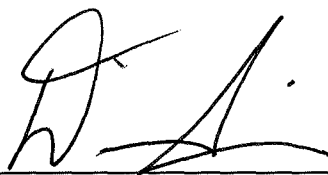
February 24, 2026 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Chen, Dorsey, Fielder, Mahmood, Mandelman, Melgar, Sauter, Sherrill, Walton and Wong

File No. 260150

I hereby certify that the foregoing
Resolution was ADOPTED on 2/24/2026 by
the Board of Supervisors of the City and
County of San Francisco.


Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board


Daniel Lurie
Mayor

2 / 27 / 26
Date Approved