



LANDMARK DESIGNATION RECOMMENDATION EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HEARING DATE: May 19, 2021

Record No.: 2021-001853DES
Project Address: 396-398 12th Street (San Francisco Eagle Bar)
Zoning: WMUG WESTERN SOMA MIXED-USE GENERAL
55-X Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 3522/014
Project Sponsor: Planning Department
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103
Property Owner: John Nikitopoulos
P.O. Box 73
Boonville, CA 95415
Staff Contact: Alex Westhoff 628-652-7314
Alex.Westhoff@sfgov.org

Recommendation: Recommend Landmark Designation to the Board of Supervisors

Property Description

The subject site lies on an approximately 5,153 square feet, irregularly-shaped rectangular lot at the corner of 12th and Harrison Streets with approximately 79.5 feet of street frontage along 12th Street, and 60.5 feet along Harrison Street. The property includes both indoor and outdoor components including the main corner building with indoor bar, stage, DJ booth, and an indoor/outdoor bar, and a spacious patio with stage; and a rear building with an enclosed bar, walk-in cooler, and storage.

Exterior

The building is comprised of multiple structures with varying roof forms. The corner one-story building with gabled roof, which houses the front indoor bar space includes a northeast facing primary elevation roughly 22 feet in length with three structural bays (12th Street elevation). The wood-framed building has no discernable architectural style and includes scored stucco cladding along the front façade. Front façade fenestration includes a segmented arched opening with a recessed primary entryway, solid double entry doors with a glazed transom, and a scored concrete step. Additional building fenestration to the right of the entryway consists of

two slightly recessed fixed plate-glass wood-sash windows with arched stucco surrounds. The primary façade terminates in a cornice and a false front parapet that features a cartouche.

The flat roofed portion of the building along 12th Street encloses the indoor/outdoor bar and is roughly 14.5 feet in length. This part of the building is fronted by a solid wooden fence with vertical planks. Fenestration is minimal, with the exception of a recessed egress door which serves to access the indoor/outdoor bar. The fence further extends approximately 43 more feet to enclose the rear patio. A set of recessed double doors lies midway along this portion of the fence, providing access to the patio.

Along the secondary Harrison Street elevation, the main portion of the building extends nearly 47 feet and is clad in channel drop wood siding. The secondary façade is free from fenestration. The asphalt-shingled front-facing gable roof, can be viewed from the side, which extends the depth of this portion of the building. The remainder of the side facade is clad with the same siding material, though flat-roofed and projects slightly south of the rest of the building.

Interior

Once inside the building at the primary bar space, to the left is a bar with three serving stations, extending about nine feet from the south wall. The remainder of this portion of the building is generally left open for socializing and watching performances. A vaulted ceiling defines this portion of the building. To the rear is the indoor stage, elevated a few feet above the ground, and measuring approximately 340 square feet. To the right of the stage is an enclosed wood-framed DJ booth with chain-link metal fencing material beginning midway up the booth's exterior on the south and east sides for viewing the stage and crowd. Additionally, smaller partitioned rooms within the main building include an ADA-accessible restroom, office, and utility room.

The northeastern portion of the main building includes the indoor/outdoor bar. The bar includes two serving stations, one which can be accessed from the inside, and the other from the outside via the patio. Above the outdoor portion are wooden fold-up panels which create an awning when open.

Patio

The outdoor open-air concrete patio is nearly 1,400 square feet, not including the stage, and largely kept open for socializing. A tall wooden gazebo roughly 10 x 25 feet is situated on the southern portion of the patio which provides relief from the sun, and includes wooden panels installed partway up along its posts for holding drinks. An additional shade structure is draped between the gazebo and the main building. A porcelain trough functions as a shared urinal, and is around 6 feet long, attached to the southern wall and filling much of the small room it is located in which opens onto the patio. At the eastern edge of the patio, just south of the recessed doorway is a tall metal flagpole with the Leather flag. The stage, elevated a few feet above grade, is roughly 450 square feet and located in the northeastern corner of the patio. A wooden bench lines the northern portion of the stage, to provide seating when the stage is not being used for an event.

Rear Building

An additional one-story building is sited at the lot's northwest corner. The building includes two rooms, with the northernmost room used for storage. The other room includes the third bar, open to the patio, with 3-4 serving stations and a walk-in cooler. In front of the bar is an open area which has been used as a meeting space by a variety of community groups who utilize the venue.

Project Description

The Historic Preservation Commission is requested to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding Landmark designation of the San Francisco Eagle Bar (396-398 12th Street). The pending Landmark designation was initiated by the Board of Supervisors.

On December 15, 2020, Supervisor Haney introduced a proposed Resolution under Board of Supervisors (hereinafter "Board") File No. 201400 to initiate the Landmark designation process for the San Francisco Eagle Bar, 396-398 12th Street. At the Land Use Committee of the Board hearing on January 25, 2021, the committee voted unanimously to Recommend to the full Board approval of the Resolution to initiate Landmark Designation. On February 2, 2021, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Resolution, and on February 12, 2021, Resolution No. 041-21 became effective.

Compliance With Planning Code

Article 10 of the Planning Code.

The executive summary and analysis under review was prepared by Department preservation staff, who meet the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications. The Department has determined that the subject property meets the requirements for eligibility as an individual landmark pursuant to Article 10 of the Planning Code. The justification for its inclusion is explained in detail in the attached Landmark Designation Fact Sheet, and briefly in this Executive Summary.

Significance: The San Francisco Eagle Bar is significant for its association with San Francisco's South of Market (SoMa) Leather and LGBTQ communities, including its use as a de-facto community center for 40 years, and the venue's extensive fundraising efforts which have raised millions of dollars for AIDS related and other charities. The period of significance is 1981 – 2020.

The 2016 *Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco*, written by Donna J. Graves and Shayne E. Watson for the San Francisco Planning Department provided a detailed historical context of SoMa's Leather and LGBTQ communities. This context statement was used as a basis to assess the Eagle's significance, particularly as it related to broader trends and events pertinent to Leather/LGBTQ history both locally and nationally/globally. To further augment this context Planning Department staff conducted primary research, including oral history interviews with long-term community members, as well as additional secondary research. This research further uncovered additional facets of the Eagle's significance from those who experienced it, including the identification of historically important people associated with the venue.

Underrepresented Landmark Types: The proposed landmark designation addresses two previously identified underrepresented landmark types: property that is small-scale and properties associated with underrepresented racial/ethnic/social groups. In addition, this is the first LGBTQ-oriented Landmark in the SoMa neighborhood.

To date, only four of San Francisco's designated Landmarks are recognized for their association with LGBTQ history. These Landmarks are:

- Landmark No. 227: Castro Camera Shop and Harvey Milk Residence (573-575 Castro Street)
- Landmark No. 241: Jose Theater/NAMES Project Building (2362 Market Street)
- Landmark No. 264: Twin Peaks Tavern (401 Castro Street), and
- Landmark No. 287: Paper Doll (524 Union Street), and
- Two Landmarks in progress: Japanese YWCA (1830 Sutter Street) and Lyon-Martin House (651 Duncan Street).

Other Landmarks, such as San Francisco City Hall (Landmark No. 21) and San Francisco Women's Building (Landmark No. 178), have significant historical associations with LGBTQ history, but have not been recognized for that history.

Integrity: The Eagle maintains a high level of integrity. See Page 3 of attached Landmark Designation Fact Sheet for further analysis.

Character-Defining Features: Exterior and interior character-defining features of the Eagle are identified in the attached Landmark Designation Fact Sheet on Page 4.

Boundaries of the Landmark: The proposed Landmark encompasses 396-398 12th Street (Assessor's Block No. 3522, Lot 014).

General Plan.

The Urban Design Element of the San Francisco General Plan contains the following relevant objectives and policies:

OBJECTIVE 2

CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES THAT PROVIDE A SENSE OF NATURE, CONTINUITY WITH THE PAST, AND FREEDOM FROM OVERCROWDING.

Policy 4

Preserve notable landmarks and areas of historic, architectural or aesthetic value, and promote the preservation of other buildings and features that provide continuity with past development.

Designating significant historic resources as local landmarks will further continuity with the past because the buildings will be preserved for the benefit of future generations.

Planning Code Section 101.1 – Eight Priority Policies establishes and requires review of permits for consistency with said policies. On balance, the proposed designation is consistent with the priority policies, and furthers Policy Number 7, which states that landmarks and historic buildings be preserved.

Landmark Designation Procedures

Action by Historic Preservation Commission.

The Historic Preservation Commission on February 4, 2009, by Resolution No. 001, adopted the National Register Criteria as its methodology for recommending landmark designation of historic resources. Under the National Register Criteria, the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, materials, workmanship, and association, and that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or properties that have yielded, or may likely yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Article 10 of the Planning Code.

Section 1004 of the Planning Code authorizes the landmark designation of an individual structure or other feature or an integrated group of structures and features on a single lot or site, having special character or special historical, architectural or aesthetic interest or value, as a landmark. Section 1004.1 also outlines that landmark designation may be initiated by the Board of Supervisors or the Historic Preservation Commission and the initiation shall include findings in support. Section 1004.2 states that once initiated, the proposed designation is referred to the Historic Preservation Commission for a report and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to approve, disapprove or modify the proposal.

Pursuant to Section 1004.3 of the Planning Code, if the Historic Preservation Commission approves the designation, a copy of the resolution of approval is transmitted to the Board of Supervisors and without referral to the Planning Commission. The Board of Supervisors shall hold a public hearing on the designation and may approve, modify or disapprove the designation.

In the case of the initiation of a historic district, the Historic Preservation Commission shall refer its recommendation to the Planning Commission pursuant to Section 1004.2(c). The Planning Commission shall have 45 days to provide review and comment on the proposed designation and address the consistency of the proposed designation with the General Plan, Section 101.1 priority policies, the City's Regional Housing Needs Allocation, and the Sustainable Communities Strategy for the Bay Area. These comments shall be sent to the Board of Supervisors in the form of a resolution.

Section 1004(b) requires that the designating ordinance approved by the Board of Supervisors shall include the location and boundaries of the landmark site, a description of the characteristics of the landmark which justify its designation, and a description of the particular features that should be preserved.

If the Historic Preservation Commission approves the proposed designation recommendation, a copy of the resolution of approval is transmitted to the Board of Supervisors, which holds a public hearing on the designation and may approve, modify or disapprove the designation (Section 1004.4). If the Historic Preservation Commission disapproves the proposed designation, such action shall be final, except upon the filing of a valid appeal to the Board of Supervisors within 30 days (Section 1004.5).

Public/Neighborhood Input

Staff have spoken regularly with SoMa LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District Board members who have expressed support for the designation. One additional letter of support was provided to Planning Department staff by a long-term patron of the Eagle. Additionally, the business owner circulated an online petition for the Historic Preservation Commission to designate the Eagle as a historical site. This petition was circulated through the venue's website, social media channels, and other means. Over 1,500 digital signatures were gathered in support of the historical designation, include signatures from long term patrons and community members.

Issues & Other Considerations

- Interior and Outdoor Patio Character-Defining Features: Inclusion of both the interior spaces and the outdoor patio is warranted as events related to the Eagle's historical and cultural significance have taken place within these spaces. The patio is believed to be one of the largest outdoor patios in the City of San Francisco. Since the early 1980's the outdoor patio as well as the indoor bar space with stage has enabled the venue to host a huge spectrum of parties, fundraisers, contests, live shows, art exhibits, political organizing, and more. The outdoor patio has enabled a larger capacity, while bolstering the venue's popularity thus lending to the success of Sunday Beer Busts and other events which have raised millions of dollars for AIDS-related and other charitable causes.
- Property owner input: Pursuant to Article 10, Section 1004.2 of the Planning Code, the City must provide written notice to the property owner 10 days prior to the second hearing, during which the HPC considers whether to recommend landmark designation to the Board of Supervisors.

The Assessor's Summary identifies John Nikitopoulos as the property owner. Pursuant to discussion with Planning Department Staff, however, the business owner mentioned that Mr. Nikitopoulos had passed away a few years ago and the Estate of John Nikitopoulos is the current owner, which is being represented by attorney Myrna Oglesby. Planning Department staff emailed the hearing notice to Myrna Oglesby on April 22, 2021. Additionally, the hearing notice was mailed to both Myrna Oglesby and John Nikitopoulos on April 29, 2021 for the hearing schedule for May 19, 2021.

- Business owner input: Throughout the development of this Landmark Designation, Department staff has worked closely with the current business owner Lex Montiel.

Environmental Review Status

The Planning Department has determined that actions by regulatory agencies for protection of the environment (specifically in this case, landmark designation) are exempt from environmental review, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 (Class Eight - Categorical).

Basis for Recommendation

The Department recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors landmark designation of the San Francisco Eagle Bar for its significant long-term association with SoMa's Leather

and LGBTQ communities, including its use as a venue to raise millions of dollars for AIDS-related and other charitable causes.

ATTACHMENTS

- Draft Resolution Recommending Landmark Designation
- Exhibit A – Landmark Designation Fact Sheet
- Exhibit B - Maps and Context Images
- Exhibit C – Draft Landmark Designation Ordinance
- Exhibit D – Landmark Initiation - Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 041-21
- Exhibit E – Board of Supervisors February 2, 2021 Initiation Hearing Packet



LANDMARK RESOLUTION RECOMMENDATION DRAFT RESOLUTION NO. XXX

HEARING DATE: May 19, 2021

Record No.: 2021-001853DES
Project Address: 396-398 12th Street (San Francisco Eagle Bar)
Zoning: WMUG WESTERN SOMA MIXED-USE GENERAL
55-X Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 3522/014
Project Sponsor: Planning Department
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103
Property Owner: John Nikitopoulos
P.O. Box 73
Boonville, CA 95415
Staff Contact: Alex Westhoff 628-652-7314
Alex.Westhoff@sfgov.org

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS LANDMARK DESIGNATION OF THE SAN FRANCISCO EAGLE BAR, ASSESSOR'S PARCEL BLOCK NO. 3522, LOT NO. 014, AS LANDMARK NO. XXX CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES AND STANDARDS OF ARTICLE 10

1. WHEREAS, on December 15, 2020, Supervisor Haney introduced a proposed Resolution under Board of Supervisors (hereinafter "Board") File No. 201400 to initiate the Landmark designation process for the San Francisco Eagle Bar, 396-398 12th Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014; and
2. WHEREAS, on January 25, 2021, the Board of Supervisors at its Land Use and Transportation Committee meeting recommended unanimously to Recommend to the full Board approval of the Resolution to initiate Landmark Designation (Board File No. 201400); and
3. WHEREAS, on February 2, 2021, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Resolution to initiate Landmark Designation, and on February 12, 2021, Resolution No. 041-21 became effective (Board File No. 201400); and
4. WHEREAS, Department Staff, who meet the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualification Standards, prepared the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet for the San Francisco Eagle Bar, which was reviewed for

accuracy and conformance with the purposes and standards of Article 10; and

5. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of May 19, 2021, reviewed Department staff's analysis of the San Francisco Eagle Bar historical significance pursuant to Article 10 as part of the Landmark Designation Executive Summary dated May 19, 2021, and recommended Landmark designation through this Resolution; and
6. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the nomination of the San Francisco Eagle Bar as a Landmark is in the form prescribed by the Historic Preservation Commission and contains supporting historic, architectural, and/or cultural documentation; and
7. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the San Francisco Eagle Bar is eligible for local designation for association with San Francisco's South of Market LGBTQ and Leather communities; and
8. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the designation of the San Francisco Eagle Bar is also proper given its significance as a venue which has raised millions of dollars for AIDS-related and other charities over the course of several decades, as well as serving as a de facto community center used by a variety of Leather/LGBTQ social, cultural and political organizations and individuals; and
9. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the San Francisco Eagle Bar meet two of the Historic Preservation Commission's four priority areas for designation: buildings that represent smaller-scale commercial site, and properties with strong cultural or ethnic associations; and
10. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the San Francisco Eagle Bar meet the eligibility requirements of Section 1004 of the Planning Code and warrants consideration for Article 10 landmark designation; and
11. WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission finds that the boundaries and the list of character-defining features, as identified in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet, should be considered for preservation under the proposed landmark designation as they relate to the San Francisco Eagle Bar historical significance and retain historical integrity; and
12. WHEREAS, the proposed designation 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
13. WHEREAS, the Department has determined that landmark designation is exempt from environmental review, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 (Class Eight - Categorical); and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends to the Board of Supervisors approval of landmark designation of the San Francisco Eagle Bar, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014 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 19, 2021.

Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

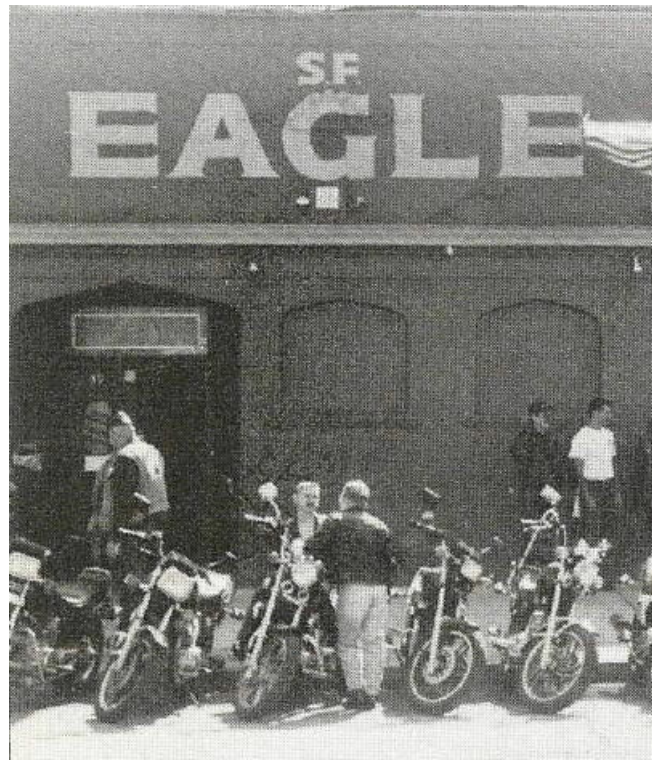
AYES:

NOES:

ADOPTED: May 19, 2021



ARTICLE 10 LANDMARK DESIGNATION FACT SHEET



Historic Name:	San Francisco Eagle Bar (San Francisco Eagle, Eagle Tavern)
Address:	396-398 12 th Street
Block/ Lot(s):	3522/014
Parcel Area:	5,153 sq ft
Zoning:	WMUG (WSOMA Mixed Use-General) / 55-X Height and Bulk District
Year Built:	1906
Architect:	Unknown

<p>Prior Historic Studies/Other Designations:</p>	<p>Small Business Commission <i>San Francisco Eagle Bar, Legacy Business Registration (April 24, 2017)</i></p> <p>San Francisco Board of Supervisors - <i>Establishment of the LGBTQ and Leather Cultural District (2018)</i> <i>Note: This resolution established the LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District, mentioning the Eagle as an asset within the District. The District's boundaries were identified as: south side of Howard Street between 7th Street and Highway 101, to the west side of 7th Street between Howard Street and Harrison Street to Interstate 80 between 7th Street and Division Street, to Highway 101 between Interstate 80 and Howard Street; as well as the south side of Harrison Street from 7th Street to 5th Street, the west side of 5th Street from Harrison Street to Bryant Street and the north side of Bryant Street from 5th Street to 6th Street and the west side of 6th Street from Bryant Street to Harrison Street.</i></p> <p>Page and Turnbull – <i>Western SOMA Light Industrial & Residential Historic District (2009)</i> <i>Note: This survey identified the Eagle as a contributor to a National Register Eligible District.</i></p> <p>Watson Heritage Consulting - <i>Historic Resources Evaluation, 280-282 7th Street, San Francisco (July 20, 2017)</i> <i>Note: This Historic Resources Evaluation included the identification of the Eagle as a contributor to a CEQA eligible LGBTQ Historic District. This discontinuous district includes contributing properties primarily bounded by: 4th Street to the east, 12th Street to the west, Bryant Street to the south, and Mission Street to the north. The Department concurred with the determination of the District. The foundation of this HRE is the Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco (2016), Donna J. Graves & Shayne E. Watson.</i></p>
<p>Prior HPC Actions:</p>	<p>Legacy Business Registry Recommendation to Small Business Commission (April 5, 2017)</p>
<p>Significance Criteria:</p>	<p><i>Events:</i> Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.</p> <p><i>Persons:</i> Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.</p>
<p>Period of Significance:</p>	<p>1981-2020</p>

<p>Statement of Significance:</p>	<p>The San Francisco Eagle Bar is significant for its association with San Francisco’s South of Market (SoMa) Leather and LGBTQ communities. The Eagle has associations with four of the subthemes outlined in the <i>Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco</i>, as follows: Evolution of LGBTQ Enclaves and Development of New Neighborhoods (1960s to 1980s), Gay Liberation, Pride, and Politics (1960s to 1990s), Building LGBTQ Communities (1960s to 1990s), and San Francisco and the AIDS Epidemic (1981 to 1990s). Further significance also lies in the Eagle’s association with the following four people: Marcus Hernandez, Alan Selby, Terry Thompson, and Robert Uyvari. The Eagle has served as a long-term SoMa Leather and LGBTQ social space, functioning as a de-facto community center. In addition to its use as a bar, the venue has been used for a wide array of activities including fundraisers, leather contests, live music and comedy performances, art exhibits, political organizing and activism, and a meeting space for a huge array of community groups. Its significance is further underscored by its forty-year tenure, making it the longest running SoMa Leather/LGBTQ bar. Opening just before the onset of the AIDS epidemic, the venue’s extensive AIDS fundraising efforts have collectively raised millions of dollars through signature events including the annual Bare Chest Calendar and Sunday Beer Busts.</p>
<p>Assessment of Integrity:</p>	<p>The seven aspects of integrity as defined by the National Park Service (NPS) and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are location, design, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling, and association.¹</p> <p>The Eagle has occupied the subject property from 1981-present and retains a high degree of integrity to convey its cultural significance. The property retains a high degree of integrity of location, association, setting, materials, and feeling. The property also retains integrity of design and workmanship, however, these physical aspects of integrity are less important to conveying cultural significance.</p> <p>Overall, the Department has determined that the Eagle retains integrity to convey historical and cultural significance, as the venue has served as the location of countless SoMa Leather and LGBTQ community events including charitable fundraisers, leather contests, live music and comedy, art exhibits, and much more. Few exterior changes have been made to the building over the course of its use as the Eagle. It has remained in the same SoMa location on the corner of 12th and Harrison Streets since its establishment. While there have been some interior expansions, they are not street visible, and the building’s general form, massing, and height have remained unchanged. Exterior features including wood framing, front façade stucco, gabled roof, and false front parapet appear to match historic 1980’s photographs of the venue. Furthermore, doors and windows along the minimally fenestrated façade appear to be in the same locations as they historically were based upon this photographic documentation. The outdoor patio, which the venue expanded to include just a few years after it began operating, retains its open-air feeling. Dimension and materials of the solid front property line fence which encloses the patio also match 1980’s photographic documentation.</p>

<p>Character-Defining Features:</p>	<p><i>Exterior:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Site comprised of building (consisting of the primary bar space within the gable-roofed portion, indoor stage within the rear flat-roofed portion, and the side bar within the side flat-roofed portion) with primary elevation at 12th Street and secondary elevation at Harrison Street, and open side yard allowing for outdoor patio• Single-story massing of building• Secondary elevation (on Harrison Street) clad in channel drop wood siding• Primary elevation (on 12th Street) clad in stucco• Minimal fenestration at visible façades on Harrison Street and 12th Street• Roof-form on primary bar space of building, defined by front-facing gable roof terminating in false front parapet with cartouche detailing• Recessed entryway at 12th Street elevation with segmented arched opening, solid double doors and glazed transom• Two segmented arched window openings with glazed infill at 12th Street elevation• Solid front property-line fence extending from the building (fronting the indoor/outdoor bar area) to enclose the patio (12th Street elevation)• Large outdoor patio, located at side yard, with enclosed rear bar (3-4 serving stations) and outdoor stage, and tall metal flagpole with Leather flag• Indoor/outdoor restroom, defined by an original porcelain trough (shared urinal) attached to exterior wall of main building and opening onto outdoor patio <p><i>Interior:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Indoor performance stage with adjacent DJ booth located to the rear of the primary bar space• Vaulted wood ceiling at the open-volume interior primary bar space• Indoor bar, with three serving stations, located within primary bar space• Indoor/outdoor bar, with two serving stations, located within the side flat-roofed portion of the building which opens onto the patio, with unique fold-up panels above bar, which form an awning when open to the patio
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¹ “How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation,” *National Register Bulletin*, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1995, p. 44.

Statement of Significance Summary

For forty years, the San Francisco Eagle Bar (Eagle), located at 396-398 12th Street, has served as a cornerstone for San Francisco's South of Market (SoMa) Leather and LGBTQ communities. According to Bay Area Reporter archival research, the news first broke in 1980 that San Francisco would have its own Eagle Bar, joining other U.S. cities of New York, Boston, L.A., and Washington D.C. The venue opened in its current location on April 8th, 1981, with a May 12-14 grand opening celebration. As one of the few SoMa Leather bars with an outdoor patio, the venue has been a prominent SoMa Leather and LGBTQ gathering space, serving as a home to a wide array of parties, fundraisers, contests, live shows, art exhibits, political organizing, and more. A variety of well-known non-profit organizations, activists, political leaders, artists, DJs, musicians and more have utilized the space, collectively contributing to the Eagle's identity as an unparalleled cultural hub of SoMa's internationally known Leather/LGBTQ scene.²

Sociologist and Leather historian Gayle Rubin defines "Leather" as a "distinctive subgroup of male homosexuals... organized around sexual activities and erotic semiotics that distinguish it from the larger gay male population."³ Masculine men, especially motorcyclists who wore leather "began to carve out alternative gay social spaces." Gay motorcycle clubs, including the Warlocks and California Motor Club were formed in San Francisco in the 1960s, along with some of SoMa's early Leather bars opening around this time period.⁴

Throughout its 40-year history, the Eagle has been under three different ownerships⁵:

- 1981 - 1998 - Bob Damron, author of the Damron Gay Guide, and Jay Levine were business partners and the first owners. The venue's original name was the San Francisco Eagle. The original space did not include the outdoor patio, and the interior included a main room with a horseshoe shaped bar. The bar opened before the onset of AIDS and was generally packed every night. While Damron passed away in 1989, Levine continued to run the bar until 1998
- 1998 - 2011 – John Gardiner and Joe Banks were partners who purchased the bar from Levine. Upon acquisition, a stipulation was that "Eagle" must remain in the name, and hence the bar became the Eagle Tavern. Along with new ownership, came some changes to long-running events, though new events were introduced, and signature Beer Busts continued. The couple now owns the Hole in the Wall Saloon on Folsom Street between 9th and 10th Streets, a location to where they transferred a great deal of the Eagle's interior décor, including light fixtures and artwork. The Eagle Tavern officially closed on May 31, 2011.⁶
- 2013 - present – Alex (Lex) Montiel and Mike Leon reopened the bar as the SF Eagle after having purchased the bar the year prior. Prior to reopening, the couple brought the structure up to building code with changes including structural and electrical upgrades, the removal of the horseshoe bar, an

² Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, "A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle," 1980-2005.

³ Gayle Rubin, "The Miracle Mile," in James Brook, Chris Carlsson and Nancy J Peters, eds., *Reclaiming San Francisco* (San Francisco California: City Lights Books), 1998, 253.

⁴ Donna J. Graves and Shayne E. Watson, *Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco*, March 2016, page 248.

⁵ Gary Kenyon, personal interview with Alex Westhoff, March 22, 2021.

⁶ Gary Kenyon, *SF Eagle History*, 2014, page 14.

ADA-accessible bathroom, an ADA-accessible entrance, and roof replacement. The new owners committed to continuing many of the venue's long-running fundraisers, while also introducing new events.⁷

The period of significance (POS) is 1981 to 2020. The start of this period, 1981, is the year the Eagle opened. The Eagle's long-term tenure is cited as a contributing factor to its cultural significance, and thus a contemporary year (2020) was identified as the POS end date. Many other SoMa Leather/LGBTQ bars existed for much shorter periods, with few even reaching 10-12 years, compared to the Eagle's 40-year tenure.⁸ The Eagle has demonstrated enormous resiliency as the venue has persevered through the AIDS epidemic, changes in ownership, and continued community displacement resulting from rapid development throughout the SoMa neighborhood. Many of the Eagle's recurring events which began in the 1980s and contribute to its significance have continued through contemporary times.

The year 2020 was identified as the POS end date as it represents a break, albeit anticipated to be temporary, in the Eagle's operations due to the beginning of the global Covid-19 pandemic. On March 15, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom ordered bars and nightclubs statewide to close their doors as a precautionary means to reduce spread of the coronavirus. This had devastating economic and cultural impacts, leading many long-running small businesses throughout San Francisco to close permanently. While the Eagle has remained closed for business, the closure is only temporary. Per conversation with Eagle owner Lex Montiel, the venue does plan to reopen once the Covid-19 pandemic has ended.⁹

Significance Criteria

The Eagle is eligible for designation as a San Francisco Landmark for association with significant historic events (Criterion 1) and people (Criterion 2).

The *Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco* was adopted by the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission in 2016. This 400+ page document includes subthemes outlining events and trends associated with the development of San Francisco's LGBTQ communities. The Eagle's historical and cultural significance is strongly related to the following four subthemes:

- **Evolution of LGBTQ Enclaves and Development of New Neighborhoods (1960s to 1980s)**
Social, political, and cultural changes associated with LGBTQ migration, organizing and activism in San Francisco from the 1960s through the 1980s led to the emergence of new queer neighborhoods and changes to existing enclaves.
- **Gay Liberation, Pride, and Politics (1960s to 1990s)**
Conceptualizing gay rights, and organizing for them, evolved and became more complex in the 1960s to the 1980s. Homophile activists had worked on the premise that rights would be gained by arguing that sexual behavior was a private matter and only one small part of their identity; in all other ways they were the same as straight people—and should therefore be equal to them.

⁷ Lex Montiel, personal interview with Alex Westhoff, March 10, 2021.

⁸ Bob Goldfarb, personal interview with Alex Westhoff, March 12, 2021.

⁹ Montiel interview.

- **Building LGBTQ Communities (1960s to 1990s)**

Advances in gay liberation helped further the growth of LGBTQ communities, including both the associated physical spaces, as well as events and traditions that shaped them. The growing spectrum of activities and institutions, from sports, visual arts, music, film, literature, education, religion, sex-based, and more were reflective of San Francisco's diverse and expanding LGBTQ communities.

- **San Francisco and the AIDS Epidemic (1981 to 1990s)**

The AIDS epidemic is among the most significant events to shape the LGBTQ history of the 20th and 21st centuries. The social, psychological, and financial costs are stunning, and the epidemic has wrought enormous changes in medical research, healthcare delivery, and gay culture. By killing a significant number of gay and bisexual men and transgender women, the disease underscored major issues associated with homophobia and discrimination, medical research, and the provision of healthcare in the U.S. It also brought to the fore the ability of communities to rally in the face of discrimination and death. The San Francisco model of HIV/AIDS care, which utilized medical facilities and community-based organizations to mobilize compassionate and respectful treatment, became a global standard.

The Eagle is also significant under Criterion 2 for its association with the following people:

- **Marcus Hernandez**

Commonly known as "Mr. Marcus", Hernandez was a well-known Leather personality with a long-running Bay Area Reporter Leather column. He contributed to the success of early recurring fundraising events which the Eagle became known for, including MCing the Bare Chest Calendar contest throughout the entirety of its time at the Eagle, as well as at its subsequent home at the Powerhouse. He was also an avid Leather photographer, and judged Leather contests worldwide.

- **Alan Selby**

Also known as "Daddy Alan" and "The Mayor of Folsom Street", Selby founded Mr. S Leather, an iconic SoMa leather retailer and manufacturer, which operated a store out of the Eagle for many years. Selby's events at the Eagle included "Leather Daddy" and "Leather Daddy's Boy" contests, which continued well into the late 2000s. Selby was also an incredibly dedicated AIDS activist. In addition to volunteering his time to a variety of AIDS-related organizations, many of his events served as charitable fundraisers.

- **Terry Thompson**

Manager of the Eagle circa 1984-1994, Thompson is widely credited as the driving force behind many of the venue's long-running fundraising events, which collectively have raised millions of dollars for AIDS-related, and other charities. Thompson established the Bare Chest Calendar as a charitable fundraiser, developed the Sunday Beer Busts, organized a few street fairs, and hosted several other regular events.

- **Robert Uyvari**

Homoerotic artist of the 1970s-80s, Uyvari split his time between San Francisco and his home state of Wisconsin. His pieces were amongst the first displayed at the Eagle and he designed the early Eagle poster which was distributed internationally. Additionally he did cover art for the Places of Interest Map Guide Book, designed posters from several other venues, and oversaw the design of early gay bars in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Criterion 1 - Events

More details on the Eagle's significance in relationship to the four identified subthemes is described below:

- **Evolution of LGBTQ Enclaves and Development of New Neighborhoods (1960s to 1980s)**

SoMa's Leather community has been credited with influencing the Leather culture globally, with the Eagle long-serving as an anchor to this scene. The SoMa neighborhood has a robust Leather history which can be traced back to the 1960s. During this time the neighborhood was characterized by a mix of large industrial sites, junkyards and vacant buildings.¹⁰ The post-World War II SoMa Demographic was largely single male workers of various ethnicities with blue-collar jobs. Based on SoMa's largely low income demographic, the neighborhood was targeted by the City's Redevelopment Agency, whose efforts included eminent domain, demolition of dozens of residential hotels, and evictions.¹¹ During this transitional period, the burgeoning Leather community took foothold in the neighborhood, taking advantage of the cheap rents and nocturnal privacy which was SoMa offered.¹²

Leather culture began as a statement against effeminate stereotypes often associated with male homosexuals. While its origins can be traced back nationally about two decades prior, there wasn't much of a scene in San Francisco until the 1960s. Though a small handful of bars catering to the leather community, as well as gay motorcycle clubs, existed in the city prior, the Tool Box (non-extant) at 399 Fourth Street at Harrison opened in 1962, and is generally credited as SoMa's first Leather bar.¹³ Other gay bars, concentrated along a three-block strip of Folsom Street including Febe's, the Stud, and the Ramrod (all non-extant) opened during the 1960s thus furthering the neighborhood as a LGBTQ/Leather enclave. The proliferation of leather bars continued through the late 1970s, expanding to surrounding streets, and thus further defining SoMa's robust Leather community.¹⁴ Beyond bars, a variety of other assets catering to the growing SoMa Leather/LGBTQ community including publishing organizations, restaurants, nightlife venues, homophile organizations, bath houses, and more grew and flourished.¹⁵ SoMa expanded quickly as a sexual center for gay men and acquired new nicknames such as The Miracle Mile and Valley of the Kings. In 1970, there were nearly twenty gay bars and bathhouses, Leather and non-Leather, in the neighborhood; by 1980, the introduction of discos and the expansion of gay bars and bathhouses brought the total close to forty.¹⁶

However, a variety of factors led the number of SoMa's LGBTQ associated businesses to significantly plummet. In the 1970's redevelopment and demolition led to many of the neighborhood's bars and sex clubs to relocate.¹⁷ The onset of AIDS in the 1980s led to further closure of bathhouses and sex clubs, as such venues were targeted out of fear and panic surrounding the spreading of AIDS.¹⁸

¹⁰ Graves and Watson, *SF LGBTQ context statement*, 164.

¹¹ Page and Turnbull, Inc., *South of Market Area, Historic Context Statement*, June 2009, page 5.

¹² Rubin, "The Miracle Mile," 251.

¹³ Graves and Watson, *SF LGBTQ context statement*, page 248.

¹⁴ Western SOMA Citizens Planning Taskforce. *Recognizing, Protecting and Memorializing South of Market LGBTQ Social Heritage Neighborhood Resources*, 2011, pages 3-4.

¹⁵ Shayne E. Watson, *Historic Resources Evaluation, 280-282 7th Street*, July 2017, 49.

¹⁶ Graves and Watson, *SF LGBTQ Context Statement*, page 165.

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Ibid.

The Eagle is the longest running extant SoMa Leather/LGBTQ venue. While other Leather bars existed prior, very few lasted more than 11-12 years, only a fraction of the time in comparison to the Eagle's 40 years of existence.¹⁹ Also notable as a long running extant SoMa venue is the Powerhouse (1347 Folsom Street), which opened in 1985, though other LGBTQ/Leather bars existed at its site dating back to 1971.²⁰ Additionally, the Lone Star Saloon (1354 Harrison St.) opened in 1989, seven years after the Eagle, and remains open.²¹ In summary the Eagle is the longest operating extant SoMa Leather/LGBTQ space, even pre-dating most of the Castro's LGBTQ bars.²²

The Eagle's rise to prominence can be partially credited to the closings of other SoMa bars which anchored the scene in the 1980s. Particularly notable was Febe's, which closed in 1986. Motorcycle clubs which were strongly associated with gay male Leather culture, frequently utilized Febe's and other contemporary bars such as the Ramrod (which also closed in 1986). The closing of these establishments led to a steady stream of regulars looking to patronize other venues, many of whom migrated to the Eagle.²³ Along with the clubs came their traditions. Motorcycle club members would park their bikes



Above: Venue artwork. Once affixed to the back of the indoor stage, the piece remains at the patio bar.

Image Source: Planning Department Staff, 2021

Below: 1988 Bike Blessings on 12th Street in front of the Eagle.

Photo Credit: Mr. Marcus.

¹⁹ Goldfarb interview.

²⁰ Watson, *Historic Resources Evaluation, 280-282 7th Street*, page 58.

²¹ Cal Callahan, personal interview with Alex Westhoff, March 11, 2021.

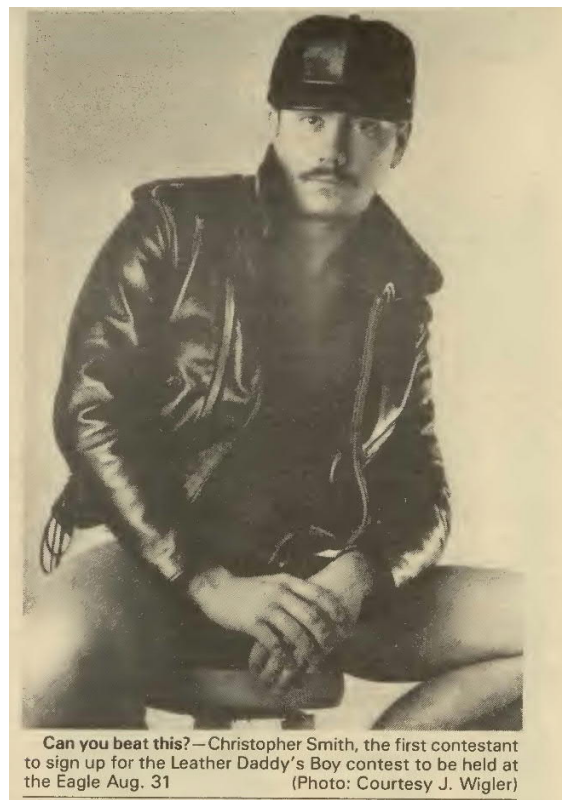
²² Early extant Castro Bars include The Mint (1968), Twin Peaks Tavern (1973), Moby Dick (1979), The Pilsner Inn (1980), Midnight Sun (1981). (<http://www.sfgayhistory.com/neighborhoods/castro/castro-gay-bars/>. Accessed May 9, 2021).

²³ Gayle Rubin, personal interview with Alex Westhoff, March 26, 2021.

outside on 12th Street for recurring “bike blessings”, some of which were undertaken by priests.²⁴ Similarly “bike christenings” included new bikes being named with a bottle of champagne broken over the bike, and in some cases a ride through the patio and main bar.²⁵ The Eagle further branded itself as a Motorcycle Club venue through the collection of Motorcycle Club insignia, badges, pins and patches which were framed and displayed on the wall of the back bar. An additional row of framed patches was also mounted above the passage between the patio and the indoor bar. These collections remained through Gardiner and Bank’s ownership of the venue, though have since been removed.²⁶

Pursuant to a building permit history search, expansion to include the patio commenced in 1983, just two years after the Eagle opened. The patio is believed to be one of the largest outdoor patios in San Francisco²⁷, serving as a social space for a countless number of events that have contributed to the Eagle’s important role as a de-facto SoMa LGBTQ/Leather community center. The patio is open air, yet enclosed on all sides, including by a solid wooden fence along the eastern property line. The patio space has offered privacy from the outside world, while helping to create an ambience that has lended to popularity of Eagle, attracting both regular patrons and international tourists. The sheer capacity of the patio has helped support large fundraising events, such as the long-running Sunday Beer Busts, which have raised millions of dollars over the course of decades for charities related to AIDS and other causes. The trough urinal, accessible from the patio was also built around the same time, further contributing to the unique character of the Eagle as a gay venue.²⁸ The patio has also long provided a space for Cigar Clubs to gather, something that few other San Francisco venues offer.²⁹

Since its early days, the Eagle has been known for its leather contests. Daddy Alan Selby, founder of Mr. S Leather, an important manufacturer and retailer of leather products, started the “Leather Daddy” and “Leather Daddy’s Boy” contests, which continued well into the late 2000s. In 1982, Chris Winkler was selected as the first Mr. SF Eagle; and became the first International Mr. Leather runner up.³⁰ The Mr. San



Can you beat this?—Christopher Smith, the first contestant to sign up for the Leather Daddy’s Boy contest to be held at the Eagle Aug. 31 (Photo: Courtesy J. Wigler)

1986 Leather Daddy Boy Contestant. Image Source: Bay Area Reporter August 21, 1986.

²⁴ Kenyon Interview.

²⁵ Gary Kenyon, *SF Eagle History*, page 11.

²⁶ Rubin Interview.

²⁷ Leon, Mike and Lex Montiel, *Legacy Business Registry (The Eagle) Application – Historical Narrative*. April 5, 2017, page 6.

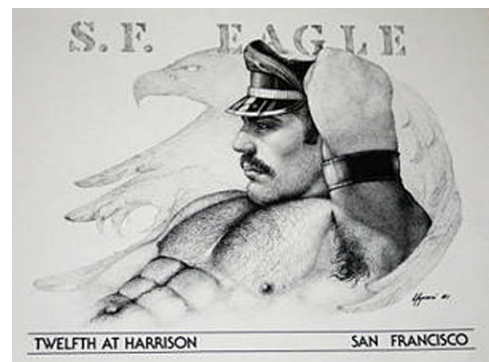
²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Montiel Interview.

³⁰ Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, “A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle,” 1980-2005.

Francisco Leather contest was also held on the bar's patio³¹In 1992, Lenny Broberg, (title holder of both Mr. Eagle Leather and Mr. SF Leather) became the first Mr. Eagle to win the International Mr. Leather title.³² Another long-running charitable event dating back to the Eagle's early days is the *Golden Dildeaux Awards*, a contest consisting of hysterical X-rated comedy.³³ Albeit being digital the last two years, the Golden Dildeaux Awards remain held at the Eagle most years as fundraising endeavors.³⁴

From drawing, paintings, and photography, visual arts have played a critical role in further defining and branding the Leather aesthetic. Since its early days the Eagle has showcased work by prominent artists within the scene. During its opening year, 1981, the venue held its first art exhibit spotlighting the work of internationally recognized gay lifestyle artist Robert Uyvari. In 1982 well known leather-themed photographer Jim Wigler held his first exhibition at the venue and the Eagle continued to showcase his work afterwards.³⁵ Charcoal artist Fred Linde's work was displayed in 1982, homoerotic drawer Clark Kummel's work in 1983, and Dick Wheeler (oil) and Ed Burns (graphite) in 1984. In 1985 Tom of Finland, arguably the most renowned homoerotic artist of the 1980's attended a SF AIDS fundraiser where his work was displayed, signed and auctioned.³⁶ Tom of Finland also returned in 1988 for a leather auction and Beer Bust benefitting the Tom of Finland Foundation, which included a display of his work and book signing.³⁷ Throughout the remainder of the decade other featured artists included Leather-culture photographer Bill Bowers (1987), Bay Area Reporter cartoonist Fran Frisch (1989) and another exhibit



Above: 1981 Poster by Robert Uyvari.
Image Credit : The Gay Highwaymen.

Below: Clark Kummel's artwork displayed to kick off the Eagle's second Anniversary Week. Image Credit : The Bay Area Reporter, April 7, 1983.

³¹ Leon, Mike and Lex Montiel, *Legacy Business Registry (The Eagle) Application – Historical Narrative*, page 3.

³² Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, "A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle," 1980-2005.

³³ Gary Kenyon, *SF Eagle History*, page 9.

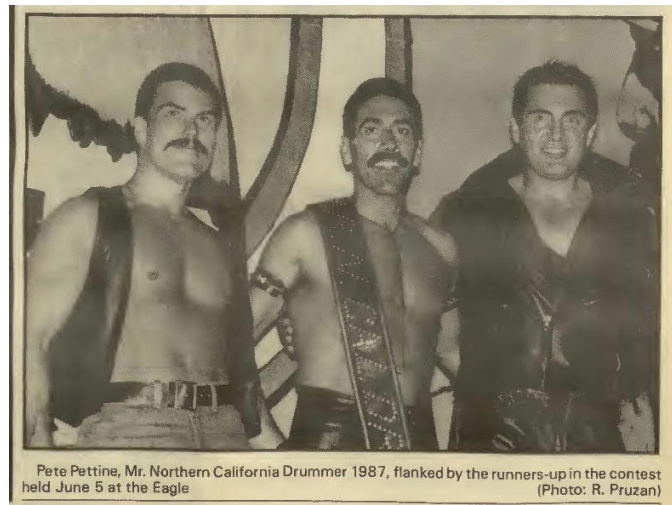
³⁴ Callahan Interview.

³⁵ Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, "A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle," 1980-2005.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Ibid.

of Jim Wigler's photography (1989).³⁸ According to Gayle Rubin, other U.S. Cities, including New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, had larger Leather scenes, though generally more dispersed compared to San Francisco's scene. The City's unique concentration of Leather institutions, and highly visible street presence led to its notoriety. Additionally, the global attention which San Francisco's Leather scene gained can be partially credited to Drummer Magazine, which moved from Los Angeles to San Francisco in 1977. Drummer, with an international readership, featured local people, bars, and dungeons, including the Eagle. Thus, through being featured in Drummer magazine, the Eagle and the rest of the SoMa Leather scene were put in the international spotlight. In addition to publishing the magazine, Drummer hosted the Mr. Drummer contest. At least two Mr. Northern California Drummer contests were held on 12th Street in front of the bar.³⁹



1987 Mr. Northern California Drummer Contest at the Eagle.
Image Credit : The Bay Area Reporter, June 11, 1987.

Annual street festivals have long celebrated the neighborhood's rich Leather heritage while attracting thousands of visitors. Folsom Street Fair began in 1984 originally as a political statement against redevelopment, providing a collective voice amongst SoMa's diverse residents.⁴⁰ While not originally a Leather event, the neighborhood's robust Leather community had a strong early presence, and subsequently helped grow the Fair into one of the world's best known events celebrating BDSM and Leather Culture. In 1985 Eagle employee and International Mr. Leather 1985 Patrick Toner began the Up Your Alley Fair, sometimes called Dore Alley Fair, specifically as a charity benefitting AIDS organizations.⁴¹ Originally located on Ringold Alley, this fair was moved to Dore Alley between Harrison and Folsom Streets in 1987.⁴² Both festivals are now run by the same non-profit organization, Folsom Street Events.

While not located on Folsom Street, the Eagle has long served as a venue for Folsom Street Fair related events. Kicking off Leather Week, the week preceding the Folsom Street Fair, is the Leather Walk, a charity event. As a fundraiser for the AIDS Emergency Relief Fund (AEF), the Leather Walk was founded in 1992 by Art Tomaszewski, former AEF Board President, Bare Chest Calendar Man and former Mr. Headquarters Leather. The Eagle serves as the terminus for the walk which begins in the Castro and ends at the Eagle for the raising of the Leather flag and Beer Bust. At its peak years, the Leather Walk raised

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ Gary Kenyon, SF Eagle History, page 9.

⁴⁰ Rubin, "The Miracle Mile," 268.

⁴¹ Peter Fiske, personal interview with Alex Westhoff, March 30, 2021.

⁴² Rubin, "The Miracle Mile," 268.

around \$20,000 for AEF.⁴³ Throughout the remainder of Leather Week, the Eagle generally hosts evening events not directly associated with the Fair, but taking place because of the Fair. Naturally the Eagle has been a popular venue for Fair participants, generally with a long line outside for those who want to continue the celebration as the fair is ending.⁴⁴ The Eagle also frequently serves as the venue for the Folsom Street Fair check beneficiaries' presentation, a celebratory post-Folsom Street Fair Event taking place on the Eagle's outdoor stage patio, with charity organizations receiving the checks from donations raised by the Fair.⁴⁵



Leather Walk 2002. Photo Credit: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.

- **Gay Liberation, Pride, and Politics (1960s to 1990s)**

San Francisco, as a LGBT mecca, has long been a hotspot for activism to advance gay liberation, often receiving national and global attention. Bars and nightlife establishments have played important roles not just as social hubs, but as community organizing spaces to build awareness and support for political activities which have advanced LGBTQ equality. The Eagle's prime SoMa location, its gracious indoor and outdoor spaces with stages to support large crowds, and engaged/involved staff have all contributed to its use as a community organizing space. Politicians were known to campaign at the Eagle's popular events, such as Sunday Beer Busts, in order to gain support amongst gay voters.⁴⁶ Notable events with political associations that have occurred at the Eagle have included:

- 1983 - Beer Bust to raise funds for the documentary "Out of Order: the Times of Harvey Milk," which later becomes "The Times of Harvey Milk" which won an Academy Award for Best Documentary in 1985.⁴⁷
- 1984 – The Eagle's owner signed a joint statement in CA Superior Court in regards to the lawsuit challenging the closure of the bath houses: "The city's action is not only unwarranted, and unlikely to reduce the risk or the spread of AIDS, but will establish a dangerous precedent for government's authority to regulate the constitutionally-protected activities of all citizens."⁴⁸
- 1986 - The Eagle hosts a fundraiser for Pat Norman, the first African-American lesbian to run for San

⁴³ GayTravel4U, "San Francisco Leather Walk 2021," Accessed April 8, 2021 via <https://www.gaytravel4u.com/event/san-francisco-leather-walk/>.

⁴⁴ Callahan Interview.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Fiske Interview.

⁴⁷ Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, "A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle," 1980-2005.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

Francisco Board of Supervisors, raising \$1,500.⁴⁹

- o 1987 - The Eagle hosted a fundraiser for Harry Britt's congressional campaign. Britt was an openly gay politician, first appointed to the Board of Supervisors in 1979 succeeding Harvey Milk, and continued through much of the 1980s. He initially introduced domestic partnership legislation in 1982 (vetoed by Mayor Feinstein), though similar legislation was passed in 1989 under Britt's leadership which was signed by Mayor Art Agnos.
- o 1989 - Local S and M group hosts a Flog-a-Thon at the Eagle to support Harvey Gantt's United States Senate Campaign. Gantt was running against anti-gay Senator Jessie Helm.⁵⁰

The Eagle has also had a presence at San Francisco's Gay Pride Parade since the 1980s with manager Terry Thompson's romantic partner Stephen Blair designing the venue's parade floats. Bar employees and patrons, as well as visiting Leather title holders would ride in the floats.⁵¹ Additionally the San Francisco Leather Pride Contingent, dating to at least 1999, has held organizing meetings at the Eagle since 2010. This contingent has served as the locus of Leather in the Pride Parade, bringing together various Leather groups to march together under a single entity. Included in their Pride Parade planning efforts is the selection of Leather Marshalls, also taking place on the Eagle Patio. Also included in this contingent is the San Francisco Chapter of Breeches and Leather Uniform Fanclub (BLUF), a group of Leathermen who strictly meet in full leather, and also use the Eagle for their meetings.⁵² The SF Pride Committee has also utilized the venue for the meeting space, to discuss how to make the Pride Parade more welcoming to the Leather, kink, sex, and bear communities.⁵³

The Eagle has also provided a venue for "Non-Violence Trainings" which have been required for participants affiliated with the Eagle's presence at public events such as SF Pride, as well as 2009 Proposition 8 protests. These trainings have included 100-150 people.⁵⁴

- **Building LGBTQ Communities (1960s to 1990s)**

While the Castro is often recognized as San Francisco's most iconic and internationally renowned gay neighborhood, SoMa has attracted and continues to retain an assemblage of gay social spaces often appealing to a slightly different demographic. While there is certainly crossover between the two neighborhoods, SoMa gay bars have often served a slightly older clientele offering more alternative and edgier nightlife options to what the Castro has generally provided.

The Eagle has served as home to a long list of different types of activities including live music, dance parties, comedy performances, fundraisers, political activism, community group meetings, art exhibitions, anniversary parties, weddings (once same-sex marriages were legalized), memorial services, and more. While gentrification has displaced many of SoMa's LGBTQ community who formerly worked and/or resided in the neighborhood, the Eagle continues to serve as a meeting space for the Leather and

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ Rubin Interview.

⁵¹ Gary Kenyon, SF Eagle History, page 10.

⁵² Goldfarb Interview.

⁵³ Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, "A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle," 1980-2005.

⁵⁴ Fiske Interview.

Leather adjacent community.⁵⁵ Due to the large diversity of activities taking place at the venue, the Eagle has served as a de-facto community center, well beyond the traditional role of a bar as social space simply to serve alcoholic beverages.

Sporting

Throughout its history, the Eagle has sponsored numerous sporting-related events. In 1986, the Eagle's SF Gay Softball League was formed with bartenders, barbacks, and supporters. The next year the Eagle Softball team hosted all of the contestants for the International Ms. Leather competition for a fundraising Beer Bust. In 1986, the venue welcomed all of the athletes from the Gay Games after the closing ceremony. In 1993 a gathering of athletes participating in the 13th Annual Gay Open occurred at the venue, hosted in San Francisco by the Gay Tennis Federation. This is followed the next week by an Athletes Reception for the Second Annual Memorial Day Weekend Sports Festival. In 1994 at the San Francisco Gay Softball League end of year celebration, the Eagle won the True Spirit Awards.⁵⁶



Team photo of the Eagle Team in 1988.
Photo Credit: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.

Music

As a cornerstone of SoMa's LGBTQ community, the Eagle has long been a hub of activities which have helped to shape and define San Francisco's diverse queer culture. Many, though not all, of the events have been aligned with the Eagle's tradition of being a fundraising hub for various social causes. However, despite the Eagle's robust Leather and LGBTQ affiliation not all of the Eagle's events have been Leather-associated, nor have all of them been exclusively Queer. In 1999, when John Gardiner and Joe Banks took ownership of the Eagle certain changes were made to some of the long-standing weeknight events. This included beginning Thursday Night Live (TNL), a weekly live music night. TNL took the place of the weekly Bare Chest Calendar events, which then moved to the Powerhouse where it has remained.⁵⁷ The Eagle, relatively small for a music venue, offered an intimate and affordable space for more underground bands to perform. Often classified as "rock and roll", many of the bands who performed were not gay, and were generally outside of disco and electronic dance music genres which were more commonly featured at gay bars. The Eagle's shows were not well advertised, and beyond word-of-mouth, promotion was generally limited to streetlamp fliers around SoMa.⁵⁸ Regular TNL

⁵⁵ Callahan Interview.

⁵⁶ Ibid.

⁵⁷ Larry Rich, personal interview with Alex Westhoff, March 19, 2021.

⁵⁸ John Ginoli, personal interview with Alex Westhoff, March 17, 2021.

clientele was mixed, and included both gays who attended other Eagle events, as well as straight patrons who appreciated the music and didn't mind being in a gay venue.⁵⁹ Notable bands included the San Francisco-based Pansy Division, who rose to prominence within the homocore/queercore genre, and performed at the Eagle at least ten times. While Pansy Division had existed prior, the Eagle was an ideal setting for their performances, given it was a gay venue although with a more alternative brand and clientele.⁶⁰



Other well-known musicians have utilized the space, for live music or DJ gigs, from a variety of genres including rock, punk, industrial, electro and more. This includes Grant Hart (Hüsker Dü), Gary Floyd (the Dicks), Don Baird⁶¹, Book of Love, My Life with the Thrill Kill Kult, Casey Spooner (Fischer Spooner), Jake Shears (Scissor Sisters), Jello Biafra (Dead Kennedys), Douglas McCarthy (Nitzer Ebb), Al Jourgensen (Ministry), and others⁶².



Stage Performances

The Eagle has also served as a stand-up comedy venue with Wednesday nights as stand-up comedy nights for sometime.⁶³ Well known comedians who have performed there include Tom Ammiano (before he was a State

Above: Pansy Division performing at the Eagle, 2002. Jon Ginoli (singer, right), Chris Freeman (bassist, left) Photo Credit: Unknown.

Below: TNL crowd watching Pansy Division, 2006. Upon closing the Eagle in 2011, then owners Gardiner and Banks moved some of the quirky interior lighting features and artwork to adorn the interior of the Hole in the Wall where they took ownership of. Photo Credit: Unknown.

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² SF Eagle Staff, *SF Eagle Entertainment Roster*, 2021.

⁶³ Montiel Interview.

Senator)⁶⁴, lesbian comedian Karen Ripley for the first time in 1985⁶⁵, and Margaret Cho. In 1989 The Eagle hosted a Connie Francis look alike competition with guest judge Connie Francis. The fundraiser raised \$5,000 for Project Open Hand.⁶⁶ Other performances have included the First Annual San Francisco Drag King Competition in 1994.⁶⁷ Held by Mr. Nancy Kravitz and Katherine Murty, the event was MC'd by Elvis Herselvis with judges including Club Confidential hosts Stafford and Jordy Jones.⁶⁸ The Eagle has also hosted benefits for the SF AIDS Foundation which have included appearances by Comedians Danny Williams and Monica Palacios.

Community Event Space

Countless groups have used the Eagle as a meeting space. The Eagle has helped foster inclusivity within the LGBTQ community, serving as a meeting spot for groups beyond organizations dominated by white gay men. Dykes on Bikes, San Francisco's lesbian motorcycle club has used the space as a meeting venue. More recently, Onyx, a West Coast based BIPOC Leather organization also started meeting at the Eagle. Furthermore, the Young Leatherman's Discussion Group hosts monthly educated workshops and discussions targeting a 40- year-old-and-under demographic, thus serving to help stabilize a younger Leather community contingent, highlighting the importance of educating new generations to continue the cultural traditions.⁶⁹ Additionally, the initial meetings for the recently established SoMa LEATHER and LGBTQ Cultural District were held at the venue.⁷⁰

- **San Francisco and the AIDS Epidemic (1981 to 1990s)**

The AIDS epidemic represents a watershed period of evolution within San Francisco's LGBTQ community. During the height of the AIDS crisis, between 1981 and 1998, 22 Eagle employees as well as countless family and friends were lost to the disease.⁷¹ The lack of Federal response to AIDS made the importance of grass roots organizing critical, and the Eagle served as an epicenter for AIDS related activism, with ongoing fundraising events continuing until today.⁷² Through its weekly Beer Busts and other fundraising events, the venue's efforts have raised millions of dollars for charities including AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF), Godfather Service Fund, PAWS, Positive Resource Center (PRC), SF Aids Foundation, SF Pride, SF Leather Alliance, and many others.⁷³ Beginning in the 1980s and continuing through today, the venue has hosted over 2,000 Beer Busts and fundraisers.⁷⁴ In addition to fundraising and activism, the Eagle also served as a venue for AIDS victims' memorial services, in some cases including the victims' ashes being scattered onsite.⁷⁵

⁶⁴ Kenyon Interview.

⁶⁵ Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, "A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle," 1980-2005.

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ Susan Stryker and Jim Van Buskirk, *Gay by the Bay* (San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1996), 124.

⁶⁸ "San Francisco Drag King Contest," Accessed February 12, 2021 via <http://www.sfdragkingcontest.com/aboutus.php>.

⁶⁹ Ibid.

⁷⁰ Goldfarb Interview.

⁷¹ Leon, Mike and Lex Montiel, *Legacy Business Registry (The Eagle) Application – Historical Narrative*, page 2.

⁷² Callahan Interview.

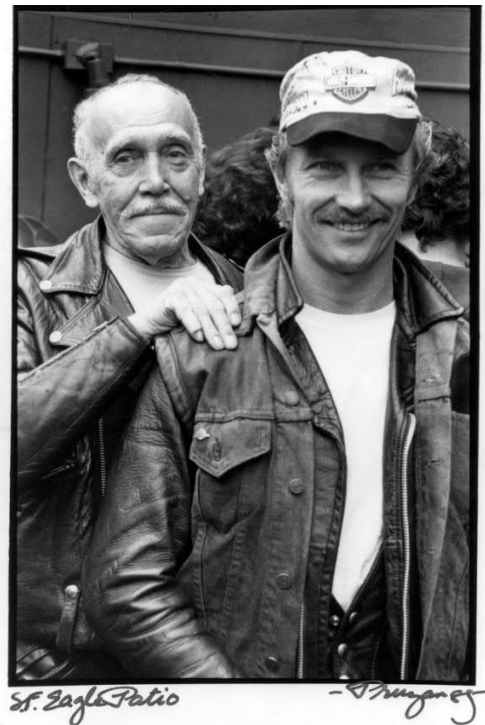
⁷³ Fiske Interview.

⁷⁴ Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, "A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle," 1980-2005.

⁷⁵ Ibid.

Previous bar manager Terry Thompson is credited for spearheading numerous fundraising events to help the rapidly growing number of AIDS patients. Terry created events that became classic fund-raisers in the SoMa bar scene including Halloween's "Leather and Feathers" costume contest the immensely popular Sunday fund-raising Beer Busts, and numerous others.⁷⁶ In 1985, Thompson reported "We have raised over \$100,000 at the Eagle for AIDS in the past few years and it has been raised because there has been no federal funding."⁷⁷ During the first 11 years of fundraising, over \$5 million for AIDS charities were raised.⁷⁸ AEF, originally known as the AIDS Fund and S.F. AIDS Fund, founded by Rick Booth and others, was a major beneficiary of many of the Eagle's events.⁷⁹ AEF provided financial assistance to people living with HIV and AIDS. AEF later merged with the PRC, which provided additional services largely for people living with HIV and AIDS. Thompson also did two AIDS fundraising street fairs, one in 1987 and one in 1988, both on 12th Street between Harrison Street and Bernice Alley.⁸⁰

Rita Rockett, a bar patron, was a good friend of staff member Dennis Yount, one of San Francisco's first AIDS victims. Upon visiting Dennis in the hospital Rita had the idea to host brunches at San Francisco General Hospital Ward 5A and 5B, the early 1980s AIDS wards, to boost patient morale.⁸¹ The parties grew into "Rita's Sunday Brunches" and to help support these brunches, Rita would host Beer Bust fundraisers on the Eagle's patio which continued through the early 1990s.⁸² Sunday Beer Busts remain as arguably the Eagle's best known recurring events, often raising thousands of dollars in just a few hours for charitable causes. While causes have largely been HIV/AIDS, other causes have included breast cancer, homelessness, and suicide prevention.⁸³



Above: Renowned homoerotic artist Tom of Finland (left) & co-founder of Tom of Finland Co. Durk Dehner (right) on Eagle Patio at 1985 fundraiser.

Photo Credit: Robert Pruzan.

Below: 1985 Leather and Feather Contest. Image Source: Bay Area Reporter November 7, 1985.

⁷⁶ Gary Kenyon, SF Eagle History, page 6.

⁷⁷ Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, "A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle," 1980-2005.

⁷⁸ Leon, Mike and Lex Montiel, *Legacy Business Registry (The Eagle) Application – Historical Narrative*, page 18.

⁷⁹ Callahan Interview.

⁸⁰ Gary Kenyon, SF Eagle History, pages 6-7.

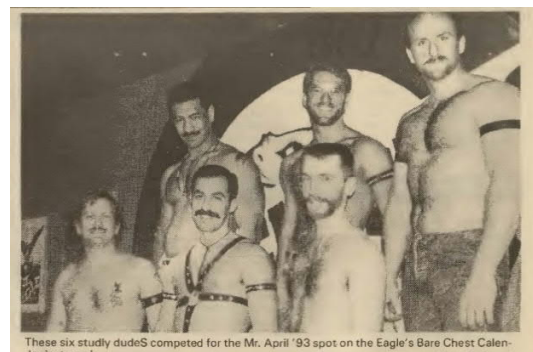
⁸¹ Kenyon Interview.

⁸² Leon, Mike and Lex Montiel, *Legacy Business Registry (The Eagle) Application – Historical Narrative*, page 3.

⁸³ Callahan Interview.

The Bare Chest Calendar (BCC) is a well-known San Francisco-based annual AIDS charity fundraising effort, and has a strong association with the Eagle. The BCC began at the Arena (399 9th St.) as a promotional effort for one year until the venue closed. Thompson, then an Arena staff member, moved to manage the Eagle in 1985, taking the BCC along with him and developing it into a fundraiser for AEF. Contestants were required to compete in a weekly contest to be featured on the calendar. Contestants also participated in Dinner Date Auctions as an additional fundraiser, taking place at Sunday Beer Busts.⁸⁴ The BCC remained at the Eagle through 1999 until Gardiner and Banks took ownership of the venue, and began TNL in place. The BCC then moved to the Powerhouse, where Mr. Marcus continued to serve as MC until 2000.⁸⁵ However, the Eagle continued to support the BCC in other ways, including Beer Bust fundraisers. Over the BCC's lifetime it has raised approximately \$3 Million for HIV/AIDS charities, with recent years exceeding \$200,000 of fundraising annually.⁸⁶

In observance of World's AIDS Day, on December 1, 2015, the National AIDS Memorial Grove awarded the entire San Francisco Leather community with the Thom Weyand Unsung Hero Award, for their response to HIV and AIDS. This award credited the community with their early and meaningful response to AIDS, establishing charitable organizations to help cover the victims living expenses, provide legal aid, and more.⁸⁷ The Eagle organized busses to take several hundred people to the Grove to celebrate the award. John B. Cunningham, the Executive Director of the Grove is quoted as⁸⁸:



Above: 1985 Godfather's Day Beer Bust and Auction flier. Image Credit: Univ. of Southern California Libraries.

Below: April 1993 Bare Chest Calendar Contestants. Image Source: Bay Area Reporter, February 13, 1992.

⁸⁴ Goldfarb Interview.

⁸⁵ Ibid.

⁸⁶ Rich Interview.

⁸⁷ Cision Distribution, "Surviving Voices: Enduring Stories Of Hope." Accessed April 5, 2021 via <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/surviving-voices-enduring-stories-of-hope-300186668.html>.

⁸⁸ Race Bannon, "Unsung Heroes: Leather Community Acknowledged on World AIDS Day". *Bay Area Reporter*, December 13, 2015.

"We were so honored to recognize the San Francisco leather community with the 2015 Thom Weyand Unsung Hero award. The Grove's mission is to ensure the lives of people who have died from AIDS are not forgotten and the story is known by future generations. The story of the leather community's response from day one in the face of such profound loss has been one of action, compassion and love, and will forever be a lesson for those who follow. The National AIDS Memorial strives to reach all who seek to heal and to be heard, and on World AIDS Day hundreds saw and listened to their story. On behalf of the National AIDS Memorial, congratulations and thank you for being a beacon of hope."

- **Recent Events (2000s to present)**

More recent events have also been identified as integral to the Eagle's unique cultural legacy. In 2013, after a decision was made to no longer display a Leather flag at the Castro MUNI station, a large metal flag pole with the Leather flag was installed at the patio.⁸⁹ More recently, the development of the world's first Leather-themed outdoor public plaza, the Eagle Plaza began. In conjunction with the construction of the development at 1532 Harrison Street, the city's In-Kind Agreement program was used to fund a plaza on 12th Street between Harrison and Bernice Streets. This includes an 80' flag pole for the Leather Flag and Leather pride-themed crosswalks, installed in 2020 and 2021 respectively. Fundraising events, in many cases hosted by the Eagle, were a source of funds assisting with certain elements of the plaza.⁹⁰

According to SoMA LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District Manager Cal Callahan, as of 2020, there were only around 14 SoMa businesses catering to Leather/LGBTQ Communities.⁹¹ The Covid-19 global pandemic led to the loss of a few more, including the Stud, a long-running SoMa dance club. While the Eagle has been temporarily closed through the Covid-19 pandemic, per conversation with business owner Lex Montiel, the venue plans to reopen. However, given the Covid-19 pandemic represents a temporary break in the Eagle's operations, 2020 was identified as the POS end date.

Criterion 2 - People

The Eagle has long served as a social space for a countless number of historically significant individuals, collectively contributing to its unparalleled cultural importance for Leather and/or LGBTQ communities both locally and globally. The following individuals have been identified as significant to the Leather community⁹², and are specifically associated with the Eagle. This list is not intended as an exhaustive list of prominent figures within SoMa's Leather/LGBTQ history, but rather a list of those individuals whose historically significant work is closely tied to the Eagle. Many others have utilized the space in ways which have undoubtedly contributed to the Eagle's legacy, though may have stronger ties with other spaces, for which historical significance has or could be evaluated. Being listed below, however, is not to preclude other spaces from being evaluated for historical significance due to their associations with these individuals.

⁸⁹ Fiske Interview.

⁹⁰ Goldfarb Interview.

⁹¹ Callahan Interview.

⁹² Terry Thompson, Alan Selby and Marcus Hernandez are three of the twenty-eight people honored with bootprints along Ringold Alley between 8th and 9th Streets. These bootprints were installed as part of the "Leather Memoir" project, which commemorates the area's history. Ringold Alley served as a late-night gay cruising spot prior to the onset of AIDS, and was the original location of the Up Your Alley Fair, beginning in 1985. <https://www.artandarchitecture-sf.com/ringold-alleys-leather-memoir.html>. Accessed May 7, 2021.

- **Marcus Hernandez (1932-2009)**

Marcus Hernandez, commonly known as Mr. Marcus, was a well-known Leather personality. Born in Los Angeles on March 22, 1932 as Gilbert Hernandez, Hernandez married Marian Givens in 1952, with whom he had four sons.⁹³ Hernandez moved to San Francisco from Los Angeles following his divorce in 1968, the same year he came out as homosexual.⁹⁴ Upon moving, Hernandez managed various San Francisco Leather bars for 12 years, and also served as the Appointment Secretary for then-Mayor Joseph Alioto circa early 1970's.⁹⁵

Along with Terry Thompson, Marcus played a critical role in the success of early events and fundraisers which the Eagle became known for, including MCing all of the BCC contests (both while at the Eagle and later at the Powerhouse).⁹⁶ Also known as "Marcus the Merciless", as he was notorious for posing probing, embarrassing questions to contestants.⁹⁷ Marcus is perhaps best known as Leather Columnist for the Bay Area Reporter, a position which he held for 38 years, starting in 1972. His columns were filled with details on Leather contests, as well as gossip, and he viewed his platform as an opportunity to educate the non-Leather LGBTQ community about Leather culture. His column was also used to bolster the visibility of non-profits, including AEF. Additionally a photographer, Marcus photographed Leather contests worldwide, and judged an estimated 250 contests.⁹⁸ Hernandez also contributed articles and photographs to Drummer Magazine, the Leather Journal, and other publications.⁹⁹ He was also involved with the Imperial Court of San Francisco¹⁰⁰, one of the largest and oldest LGBT organizations in the world, and in 1972, while working for Mayor Alioto, he became the first Emperor of the Imperial Court.¹⁰¹ Hernandez passed away on October 8, 2009, due to complications from diabetes and arteriosclerosis.



Thumbnail photo of Mr. Marcus from his Bay Area Reporter Column.

Image Source: Bay Area Reporter, September 12, 1985.

⁹³ Online Archives of California, "Collection overview to the Marcus Hernandez (Mister Marcus) collection, 2011-03," collection held by GLBT Historical Society. Accessed May 7, 2021 via <https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8n01bzg/>.

⁹⁴ Ibid.

⁹⁵ Cynthia Laird, "B.A.R. leather columnist Marcus Hernandez dies". *Bay Area Reporter*, October 9, 2009.

⁹⁶ Goldfarb Interview.

⁹⁷ Rich Interview.

⁹⁸ Ibid.

⁹⁹ Online Archives of California, "Collection overview to the Marcus Hernandez (Mister Marcus) collection, 2011-03," collection held by GLBT Historical Society. Accessed May 7, 2021 via <https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8n01bzg/>.

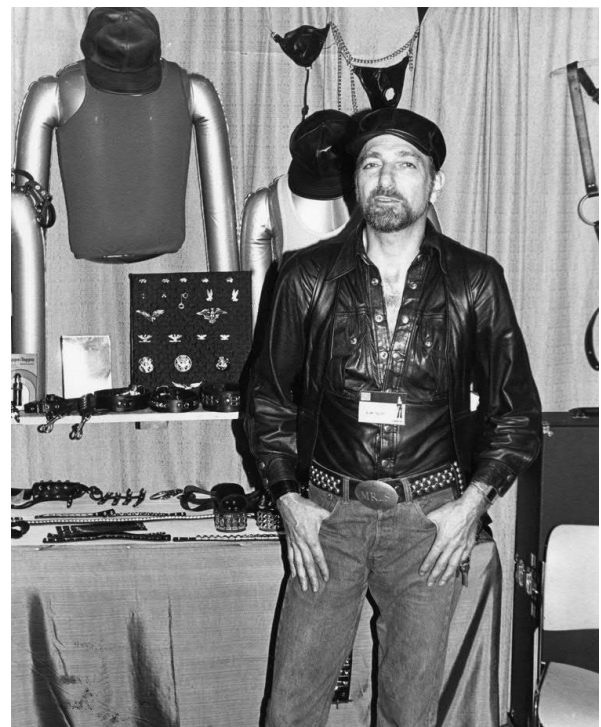
¹⁰⁰ The Imperial Court of San Francisco was established by José Julio Sarria in 1965. Sarria, a proud openly gay Latino and drag queen is an iconic figure in the early years of activism for LGBT civil rights, including being the first openly gay candidate for public office, co-founding the Society for Individual Rights, and co-founding the Tavern Guild. By 1995, there were 60 Imperial Courts and Empires throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico. (<http://www.imperialcouncilsf.org/founder.html>. Accessed May 6, 2021).

¹⁰¹ Online Archives of California, "Collection overview to the Marcus Hernandez (Mister Marcus) collection, 2011-03," collection held by GLBT Historical Society. Accessed May 7, 2021 via <https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8n01bzg/>.

- **Alan Selby (1929 – 2004)**

A well-known personality in the SoMa Leather scene, and often called “The Mayor of Folsom Street”, as well as “Daddy Alan”. Born in London, Selby served as a medic and nurse in World War II. After the War he became a gentleman’s clothier, at which point his interest and skills in leatherwork began to develop.¹⁰² Cultural and fashion trends of London’s swinging sixties further inspired his professional interest in Leather. During this time period he also familiarized himself with the aesthetic of the homosexual fetish underground.¹⁰³

In 1969 Selby made his first visit to San Francisco, where he had his first S/M experience and toured local Leather shops, piquing his interest in opening his own.¹⁰⁴ Upon returning to London he joined his first Leather club, called the Sixty-Nine Club of the United Kingdom where he met and befriended renowned homoerotic artist Tom of Finland.¹⁰⁵ Around this time he also met his lover Peter Jacklin, who was skilled in leathercraft.¹⁰⁶ While still in London, Selby and Jacklin established Leather Unlimited, a small factory and outlet.¹⁰⁷ He established connections in major cities like New York, and in 1972 worked with the owners of “Leather-n-Things” in San Francisco’s Castro District. For much of the 1970s, Selby traveled regularly between London and San Francisco, as well as numerous other world class cities for business.¹⁰⁸



Above: Alan Selby commemorated on Ringold Alley’s Leather Memoir. Photo Credit: Planning Department Staff.

Below: Alan Selby at the Mr. S Leather store on 7th Street in San Francisco (circa 1980). Photograph by Alexander V. Areno.

¹⁰² Online Archives of California, “Collection overview to the Alan Selby collection, 1999-63,” collection held by GLBT Historical Society. Accessed May 7, 2021 via <https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8q81m0m/?query=alan+selby>.

¹⁰³ Leatherpedia, “Alan Selby.” Accessed May 7, 2021 via <http://www.leatherpedia.org/alan-selby/>.

¹⁰⁴ Ibid.

¹⁰⁵ Ibid.

¹⁰⁶ Ibid.

¹⁰⁷ Online Archives of California, “Collection overview to the Alan Selby collection, 1999-63,” collection held by GLBT Historical Society. Accessed May 7, 2021 via <https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8q81m0m/?query=alan+selby>.

¹⁰⁸ Leatherpedia, “Alan Selby.” Accessed May 7, 2021 via <http://www.leatherpedia.org/alan-selby/>.

In 1979, Selby and Jacklin moved to San Francisco, bringing their business with them. On June 17, 1979, the first Mr. S Leather (“S” for Selby) opened on 7th Street. Mr. S. Leather remains open today as a well-known a retailer and manufacturer of bondage, fetish and sex gear, at 385 8th Street near Harrison Street. Mr. S. Leather also operated a store within the Eagle circa the late 1980’s – 1998.¹⁰⁹

Jacklin became sick and died of AIDS in the 1980s. At this time, Selby shifted his focus to fighting AIDS and supporting its victims. Selby sold Mr. S Leather to community member Richard Hunter, and turned to fundraising and volunteer work.¹¹⁰ Amongst Selby’s countless events at the Eagle were the "Leather Daddy" and "Leather Daddy's Boy" contests, which continued well into the late 2000s.¹¹¹ Many of his events served as fundraisers for AIDS-related charities and services, including AEF, for which he raised over one million dollars.¹¹² In addition to raising money, his events served to recirculate the local community’s “material culture”. As people died, their leather estates were often donated to Selby’s auctions which both helped to generate funds as well as find new homes. Some of his items were also donated to archival collections, including Gayle Rubin’s personal collection, the GLBT Historical Society, and the Leather Archives and Museum in Chicago.¹¹³ Additionally, Selby served as a long-term volunteer at the San Francisco General Hospital AIDS Ward, including providing patient massages, and also served on numerous boards including the Stop AIDS project.¹¹⁴ At the age of 75, Selby died of complications from emphysema. Upon his 2004 passing, around 400 people gathered at the Eagle to celebrate his life.¹¹⁵ Selby received numerous awards and honors throughout his life and posthumously, including the Steve Maidhof Award for National or International Work by the National Leather Association International in 1988, Man of the Year as part of the Pantheon of Leather Awards in 1989, the Lifetime Achievement Award as part of the Pantheon Leather Awards in 2004, a 2013 Leather Hall of Fame Induction, and a 2019 GLBT Historical Society Museum Exhibition.¹¹⁶



California Assemblyman Mark Leno, right, presents a proclamation to the late Alan Selby on the occasion of his 75th birthday gala held earlier this year in San Francisco, just one of many accolades Selby received during his lifetime.

Alan Selby, on his 75th birthday, receiving a proclamation from California Assemblyman Mark Leno.

Photo Credit: Bay Area Reporter May 6, 2004.

¹⁰⁹ Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, “A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle,” 1980-2005.

¹¹⁰ Leatherpedia, “Alan Selby.” Accessed May 7, 2021 via <http://www.leatherpedia.org/alan-selby/>.

¹¹¹ Kenyon biography.

¹¹² Leatherpedia, “Alan Selby.” Accessed May 7, 2021 via <http://www.leatherpedia.org/alan-selby/>.

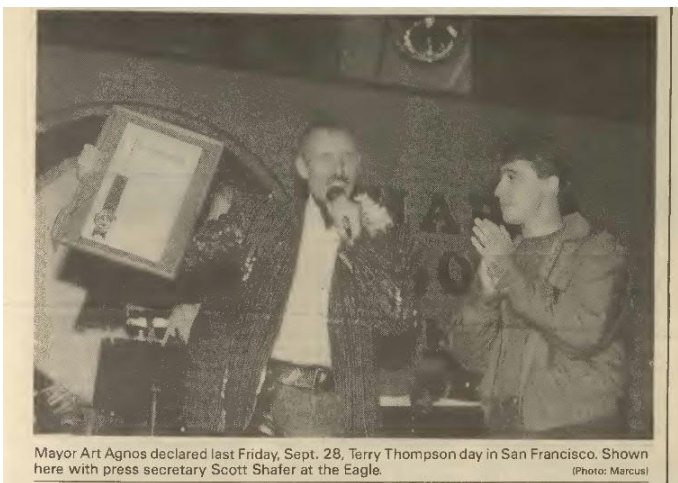
¹¹³ Rubin Interview.

¹¹⁴ Julian Guthrie, “Alan Selby -- Beloved Leader in Leather Community / 'Daddy Alan' is Remembered for Gregarious, Generous Spirit”. *San Francisco Gate*, May 11, 2004. Accessed May 8, 2021 via <https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Alan-Selby-beloved-leader-in-leather-community-2780553.php>.

¹¹⁵ Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, 1980-2005.

¹¹⁶ Wikipedia, “Alan Selby.” Accessed May 7, 2021 via https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alan_Selby.

- **Terry Thompson (1940-1994)**
Terry Thompson managed the Eagle from 1984-1994 and is widely credited as the driving force behind the venue's extensive fundraising efforts. To date these efforts have raised millions of dollars for AIDS-related, and other charities, including over \$5 Million during the 11 years of Thompson's management.¹¹⁷ Prior to residing in San Francisco, Thompson lived in Los Angeles, serving as commander-in-chief of the Academy, an upscale gay restaurant, as well as a member of the Oedipus MC, a gay motorcycle club established in 1958. He moved to San Francisco to first manage bars, including the Arena, the home of the original BCC. While the then owner of the Arena conceived the idea of the BCC, Thompson brought the BCC with him to the Eagle the following year, after the Arena shut down, and transitioned it into the AIDS charity fundraiser which it remains today.¹¹⁸ Other events which grew and flourished under Thompson's leadership included, Leathers and Feathers, Halloween's pumpkin-carving contest; the Easter Egg coloring contest; donations for lighting on the bar's Christmas tree; and Sunday Beer Busts.¹¹⁹ Thompson also did two street fairs, in 1987 and 1988, on 12th Street between Harrison Street and Bernice Alley.¹²⁰ His strong public relation skills were credited as having lended to the success of the venue's events during this time period.¹²¹ Thompson was the recipient of several awards and honors including 1985 and 1988 Gay Community Awards (Bar Manager of the Year), 1987 Citation of Community Service (John Molinari and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors), 1990 Declaration of "Terry Thompson Day" (by the Mayor of San Francisco Art Agnos), 1992 honor at Castro Lions Annual Anniversary, 1993 Cable Car Awards (Special Award), and 1994 AEF Awards Dinner (Zachary Long Hall of Fame Award).¹²² Thompson passed away on November 5, 1994.



Above: Terry Thompson commemorated on Ringold Alley's Leather Memoir. Photo Credit: Planning Department Staff.

Below: 1990 Terry Thompson Day declaration.

Image Source: Bay Area Reporter, October 4, 1990.

¹¹⁷ Gary Kenyon, SF Eagle History, page 6.

¹¹⁸ Mr. Marcus, "Ode to a Fallen Brother", *Bay Area Reporter*, November 10, 1994.

¹¹⁹ Kenyon, Eagle Biography.

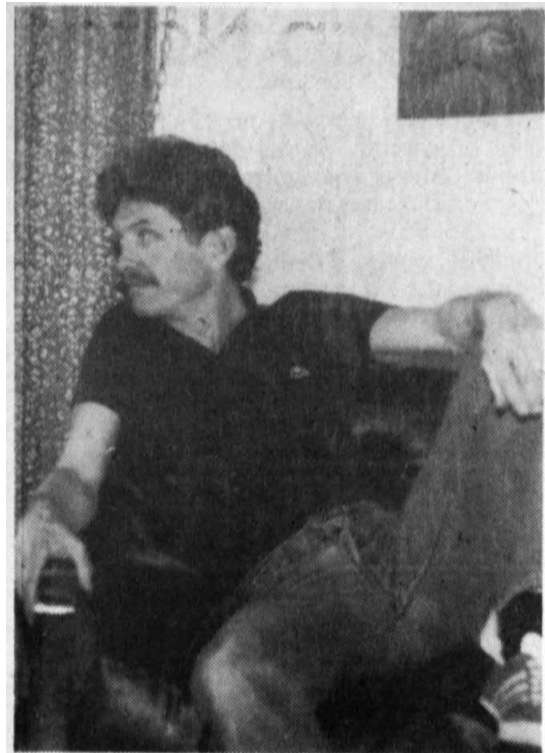
¹²⁰ Leon, Mike and Lex Montiel, *Legacy Business Registry (The Eagle) Application – Historical Narrative*, page 5.

¹²¹ Mr. Marcus, "Ode to a Fallen Brother", *Bay Area Reporter*.

¹²² Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives, "A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle," 1980-2005.

- **Robert Uyvari (1941-1986)**

Robert Uyvari, originally from Wisconsin, was a gay artist known for his homoerotic paintings and drawings, and whose work was distributed internationally. Uyvari's work included the cover art displayed in the Places of Interest Map Guide Book for three years, approximately 1980-1984.¹²³ He spent his time between San Francisco and Milwaukee from 1975-1984, and won numerous "Cable Car Awards" for his artwork while in San Francisco. The Eagle's first ever art exhibit, in 1981, spotlighted Uyvari's work. His work was also featured at the Arena, and he designed the Eagle graphic which was used on all T-shirts, as well as the iconic Eagle poster which was displayed in the bar.¹²⁴ The poster was also widely distributed, with thousands of copies mailed out throughout the world, thus helping to foster Leather culture internationally.¹²⁵ He also designed posters for other venues contemporary to this time period. Furthermore his work was featured at a number of Milwaukee gay bars over the years.¹²⁶ Additional work specific to Milwaukee included the design and construction supervision of the city's first large outdoor patio for a gay bar, the M&M club in 1980, and chief designer for Club 219 bar.¹²⁷ Uyvari died of AIDS in 1986, and was survived by his lover Ron, both parents, four brothers, and a sister. His wishes were for his ashes to be scattered over the San Francisco Bay. Years after his death his artwork continued to be auctioned at various AIDS fundraising events. Furthermore, his artwork remains associated with the Eagles's brand identity decades later, including continued occasional use on event promotional fliers.



Above: Robert Uyvari. Below: Promotional poster for 1993 Mr. S.F. Eagle contest (used after Uyvari's death). Images Source (both): History of Gay and Lesbian Life in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

¹²³ History of Gay and Lesbian Life in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, "Robert Anthony Uyvari." Accessed May 7, 2021 via http://www.mkelgbthist.org/people/peo-u/uyvari_robert.htm.

¹²⁴ Kenyon interview.

¹²⁵ Ibid.

¹²⁶ Ibid.

¹²⁷ History of Gay and Lesbian Life in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, "Robert Anthony Uyvari." Accessed May 7, 2021 via http://www.mkelgbthist.org/people/peo-u/uyvari_robert.htm.

Property Description

The subject site lies on an approximately 5,153 square feet, irregularly shaped rectangular lot at the corner of 12th and Harrison Streets with approximately 79.5 feet of street frontage along 12th Street, and 60.5 feet along Harrison Street. The property includes both indoor and outdoor components including the main corner building with indoor bar, stage, DJ booth, and an indoor/outdoor bar; a spacious patio with stage; and a rear building with an enclosed bar, walk-in cooler, and storage.

Exterior

The building is comprised of multiple structures with varying roof forms. The corner one-story building portion with gabled roof, which houses the front indoor bar space, includes a northeast facing primary elevation roughly 22' in length with three structural bays (12th Street elevation). The wood-framed building has no discernable architectural style and includes scored stucco cladding along the front façade. Façade ornamentation is relatively minimal, though a sinuously curved, darkly colored decorative stucco pattern projects along the front of the building from the ground level up to a few feet, wrapping into the recessed entryway. Front façade fenestration includes a segmented arched opening with a recessed primary entryway, solid double entry doors with a glazed transom, and a scored concrete step. Additional building fenestration to the right of the entryway consists of two slightly recessed fixed plate-glass wood-sash windows with arched stucco surrounds. The primary façade terminates in a cornice and a false front parapet that features a cartouche. Three flagholders with Leather flags are attached to the false parapet. Additional features include simple "398" address numbering directly above the front entryway.

The flat roofed portion of the building along 12th Street encloses the indoor/outdoor bar and is roughly 14.5 feet in length. This part of the building is fronted by a solid wooden fence with vertical planks. Fenestration is minimal, with the exception of a recessed egress door which serves to access the indoor/outdoor bar. The fence further extends approximately 43 more feet to enclose the rear patio. A set of recessed double doors lies midway along this portion of the fence, providing access to the patio. The Eagle's logo is painted to span the double doors and an artistic rendering of eagle wings in the Leather flag colors (white, blue, black, and red) is painted along the fence's exterior.

Along the secondary Harrison Street elevation, the main portion of the building extends nearly 47 feet and is clad in channel drop wood siding. The secondary façade is free from fenestration, and largely free from ornamentation with the exception of several metal flagholders, equi-distantly spaced just below the roofline. The asphalt-shingled front-facing gable roof, can be viewed from the side, which extends the depth of this portion of the building. The remainder of the side facade is clad with the same siding material, though flat-roofed and projects slightly south of the rest of the building.

Interior

Once inside the building at the primary bar space, to the left is a bar with three serving stations, extending about nine feet from the south wall. The remainder of this portion of the building is generally left open for socializing and watching performances, as well as space for a pool table which is frequently kept out. A vaulted ceiling defines this portion of the building. To the rear is the indoor stage, elevated a few feet above the ground, and measuring approximately 340 square feet. To the right of the stage is an enclosed wood-framed DJ booth with chain-link metal fencing material beginning midway up the booth's exterior on the south and east sides for viewing the stage and crowd. Additionally, smaller partitioned rooms within the main building include an ADA-accessible restroom, office, and utility room.

The northeastern portion of the main building includes the indoor/outdoor bar. The bar includes two serving stations, one which can be accessed from the inside, and the other from the outside via the patio. Above the outdoor portion are wooden fold-up panels which create an awning when open.

Patio

The outdoor open-air concrete patio is nearly 1,400 square feet, not including the stage, and largely kept open for socializing. A tall wooden gazebo roughly 10 x 25 feet is situated on the southern portion of the patio which provides relief from the sun, and includes wooden panels installed partway up along its four posts for holding drinks. An additional shade structure is draped between the gazebo and the main building. A porcelain trough functions as a shared urinal, and is around 6 feet long, attached to the southern wall and filling much of the small room it is located in which opens onto the patio. At the eastern edge of the patio, just south of the recessed doorway is a tall metal flagpole with the Leather flag. The interior of the fence facing the patio is adorned with painted wooden art pieces characteristically depicting men of the classic Leather aesthetic. The stage, elevated a few feet above grade, is roughly 450 square feet and located in the northeastern corner of the patio. A wooden bench lines the northern portion of the stage, to provide seating when the stage is not being used for an event.

Rear Building

An additional one-story building is sited at the lot's northwest corner. The building includes two rooms, with the northernmost room used for storage. The other room includes the third bar, open to the patio, with 3-4 serving stations, and a walk-in cooler. In front of the bar is an open area which has been used as a meeting space by a variety of community groups which utilize the venue.

Property History

According to the Assessor's Report found in the Planning Department records, the subject property was erected in 1906. However previous Sanborn maps indicate prior development on-site. Specifically both the 1889 and 1899-1900 Sanborn map indicate four parcels roughly aligning with the one parcel that now includes the Eagle (bar and patio). This includes the corner parcel whose primary façade faces 12th Street, two additional 12th Street-oriented parcels to the northwest, and one Harrison Street-oriented parcel to the southwest. The corner parcel facing 12th Street included a two-story saloon with a store/grocery. The nearly square structure was roughly 45' x 50' with a shingle roof, a first story front façade roof overhang and a smaller second story roof overhang at the rear of the building's north façade over what appears to be a setback between the neighboring northwest property. According to the 1899-1900 Sanborn map the subject property's address was 346-350 12th Street. The two adjacent 12th St. facing parcels area also developed with 1-2 story structures, though the maps include no indication of their uses. The Harrison Street-facing parcel includes a one-story dwelling unit, addressed 1602 (1889) and 1608 (1899). A few small rear additions were made to the property between 1889 and 1899. No other details on the original structures' histories were uncovered, and likely they were destroyed in the 1906 Great San Francisco Earthquake and Fires given the devastating effects this disaster had on the SoMa neighborhood as well as other parts of the City.¹²⁸

¹²⁸ Page and Turnbull, Inc., *South of Market Area, Historic Context Statement*, page 46.

The original 1906 building permit was not discovered after a search through the Department of Building Inspection's files, nor did staff research did not uncover any information about the builder from other sources such as the San Francisco Chronicle archives. The 1913 Sanborn map identifies three separate parcels facing 12th street on what is now one parcel (that includes the original building and the outdoor patio). The corner parcel, roughly 25' x 60' consists of a one story 12-foot building, now serving as the primary enclosed portion of the Eagle where the main bar lies, whose use is identified as "Saloon," with the address 350 12th St. The main portion of the building is roughly 25' in length along 12th Street and nearly 50 feet in depth along Harrison Street, matching the current dimensions. The remainder of the parcel, to the rear along Harrison street, is a separate one-story room, though joined with main building, enclosing the area the now includes the indoor stage. The adjacent northern parcel consists of a smaller one story 10' tall structure, used for storage, addressed 348A 12th St., and roughly 15' in length covering the full 12th Street frontage, though only approximately 25' in-depth. This is the area that now houses the indoor/outdoor bar. Its 12th street dimensions roughly align with the current dimensions, indicating this could be original. The third parcel in from the corner of 12th and Harrison Streets, the area now covering the Eagle's patio, is addressed 346-348 12th Street and appears to consist of a 1-story 12-foot building with a hipped roof, though no specific use is indicated.

The 1950 Sanborn map conveys fairly similar information for this property with a few changes. While the corner and northwest adjacent parcel appear to remain separate, the smaller structure on the adjacent parcel appears to now be attached to the main saloon. Furthermore the two structures now share an address of 388 12th Street. The third northwest parcel appears to remain developed, with the same building footprint as before, labeled A. & Stge. (Automobile and Storage per Sanborn Map acronyms), with an address of 386 12th Street.

The 1998 Sanborn maps identifies the site developed more closely to what it is today, including all three parcels now merged into one. The main enclosed bar structure remains, along with the attached rear and side rooms which previously existed, all similarly dimensioned to what was previously there. Three one story additions now appear including a side rectangular addition on twelve street and two non-street visible roughly square additions facing the interior, located in the general areas that are now used for restrooms/office space. The building which previously existed on what was the third northwest parcel from the corner (previously labeled A & Stge) was since demolished. In its place is the unenclosed area making up the Eagle Patio, labeled "parking".

Through City Directory searches of the various addresses amongst the few parcels which now make up the Eagle (bar and outdoor patio), staff research yielded limited information about past occupants. The space that is now the Eagle's patio, originally appears to have been used as the "Denver Horse Market" per a listing in the 1907 City Directory. No other information on specific occupants was yielded about this property. Circa 1910s-1920s, the corner property (now the enclosed portion of the Eagle Bar) was occupied by John Schwormstede. Earlier in his residency Schwormstede appears to have used the site for liquor retail, though liquor is no longer mentioned in the 1920s City Directory, likely due to prohibition. Circa 1930s-1940s the site was occupied by Walter and/or Elisha O'Leary, who also appear to have used it as a retail liquor space post-prohibition. Circa 1950s – mid-1970s the site appears to be the location of the Buzz's Shamrock Inn Tavern. From the late 1970s through 1980, prior to the 1981 establishment of the Eagle, the site appears to have been vacant. No historic photographs, interior or exterior, were uncovered through staff research, of the subject property prior to its use as the Eagle.

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Western SOMA Citizens Planning Taskforce. *Recognizing, Protecting and Memorializing South of Market LGBTQ Social Heritage Neighborhood Resources*, 2011.

Interviews

Interviews were conducted by Planning Department Staff Member Alex Westhoff, as follows:

Lex Montiel (current SF Eagle Owner), March 10, 2021

Cal Callahan (SF LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District Manager), March 11, 2021

Bob Goldfarb (SF LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District President), March 12, 2021

Jon Ginoli (Pansy Division Lead Singer), March 17, 2021

Larry Rich (Bare Chest Calendar Big Daddy/CEO), March 19, 2021

Gary Kenyon (former SF Eagle Bartender), March 22, 2021

Gayle Rubin (Associate Professor of Anthropology, and Women's and Gender Studies University of Michigan/SOMA Historian), March 26, 2021

Peter Fiske (SF Leather Community Leader/Regular Eagle Patron), March 30, 2021

As interview follow-ups, Cal Callahan, Bob Goldfarb and Gayle Rubin reviewed the draft Fact Sheet for accuracy.

Newspapers & Periodicals & Archival Research

Bay Area Reporter Digital Archives (1980-2005) - "A Snapshot Timeline of the San Francisco Eagle"
Compiled by Jeffrey Wayne on behalf of the San Francisco LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District, 2021.

Bannon, Race. "Unsung Heroes: Leather Community Acknowledged on World AIDS Day". *Bay Area Reporter*, December 13, 2015.

Laird, Cynthia. "B.A.R. leather columnist Marcus Hernandez dies". *Bay Area Reporter*, October 9, 2009.

Mr. Marcus. "Ode to a Fallen Brother", *Bay Area Reporter*, November 10, 1994.

SF Eagle Staff. *SF Eagle Entertainment Roster*, (Unpublished Document, 2021)

Public Records

Leon, Mike and Lex Montiel. *Legacy Business Registry (The Eagle) Application – Historical Narrative*. April 5, 2017

Watson, Shayne E. *Historic Resources Evaluation, 280-282 7th Street, July 2017*.

Websites

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GayTravel4U, "San Francisco Leather Walk 2021," Accessed April 8, 2021 via <https://www.gaytravel4u.com/event/san-francisco-leather-walk/>

Guthrie, Julian, "Alan Selby -- Beloved Leader in Leather Community / 'Daddy Alan' is Remembered for Gregarious, Generous Spirit". *San Francisco Gate*, May 11, 2004. Accessed May 8, 2021 via <https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Alan-Selby-beloved-leader-in-leather-community-2780553.php>

History of Gay and Lesbian Life in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, "Robert Anthony Uyvari." Accessed May 7, 2021 via http://www.mkelgbthist.org/people/peo-u/uyvari_robert.htm

The Gay Highwayman. Accessed May 6, 2021 via <https://gayhighwaymen.com/>

The Imperial Council of San Francisco, "Founder". Accessed May 6, 2021 via <http://www.imperialcouncilsf.org/founder.html>

Leatherpedia, "Alan Selby." Accessed May 7, 2021 via <http://www.leatherpedia.org/alan-selby/>

Online Archives of California, "Collection overview to the Marcus Hernandez (Mister Marcus) collection, 2011-03," collection held by GLBT Historical Society. Accessed May 7, 2021 via <https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8n01bzg/>

Online Archives of California, "Collection overview to the Alan Selby collection, 1999-63," collection held by GLBT Historical Society. Accessed May 7, 2021 via <https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c8q81m0m/?query=alan+selby>

Public Art and Architecture from Around the World, "Ringold Alley's Leather Memoir." Accessed May 7, 2021 via <https://www.artandarchitecture-sf.com/ringold-alleys-leather-memoir.html>

SF Gay History, "Castro Gay Bars." Accessed May 9, 2021 via
<http://www.sfgayhistory.com/neighborhoods/castro/castro-gay-bars/>

"San Francisco Drag King Contest." Accessed 2/12/21. <http://www.sfdragkingcontest.com/aboutus.php>

Wikipedia, "Alan Selby." Accessed May 7, 2021 via https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alan_Selby

Photos
Current/Recent



Top Left: 2014 Crowd on patio. Taken from outdoor stage with indoor/outdoor bar behind. Photo Credit: David Hyman.

Top Right: Enclosed patio bar. Photo Credit: Planning Department Staff.

Bottom Left: Outdoor patio under existing gazebo. Photo Credit: Planning Department Staff.

Bottom Right: Shared porcelain trough, open to outdoor patio. Photo Credit: Planning Department Staff.



Above: Interior space with bar (left), stage (rear) and DJ booth (right rear). Photo Credit: Unknown (form Eagle's Website).
Below: 2018 photo with indoor bar. Photo Credit: Rick Gerharter (Bay Area Reporter).



Current Exterior Photos. Photo Credit: Planning Department Staff.

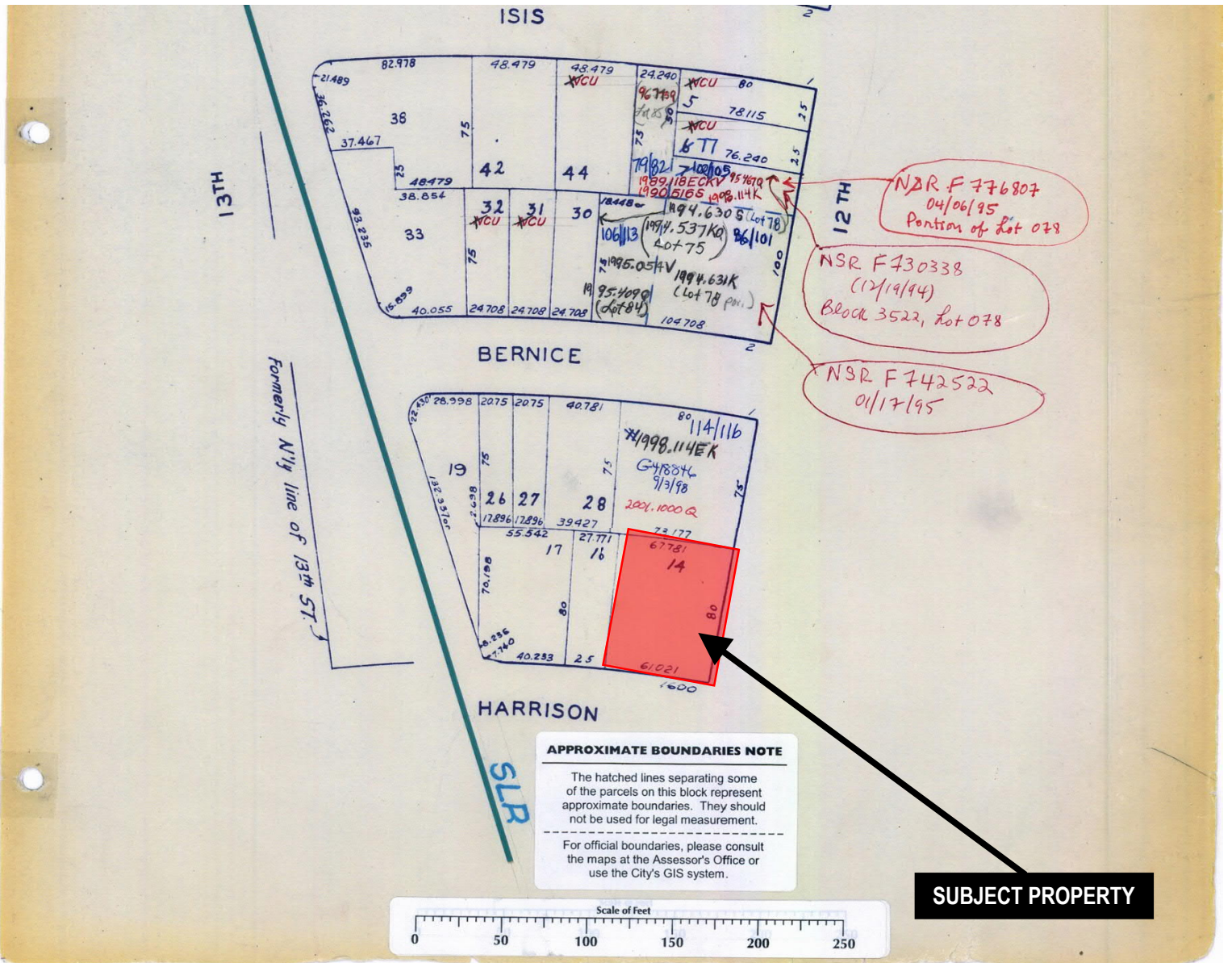
Historic



Above: SF Eagle circa mid-1980's. Photo Credit: Allan Berube.

Below: The Eagle Tavern. Date unknown, though under the ownership of John Gardiner and Joe Banks (1998-2011). Photo Source: The Gay Highwaymen.

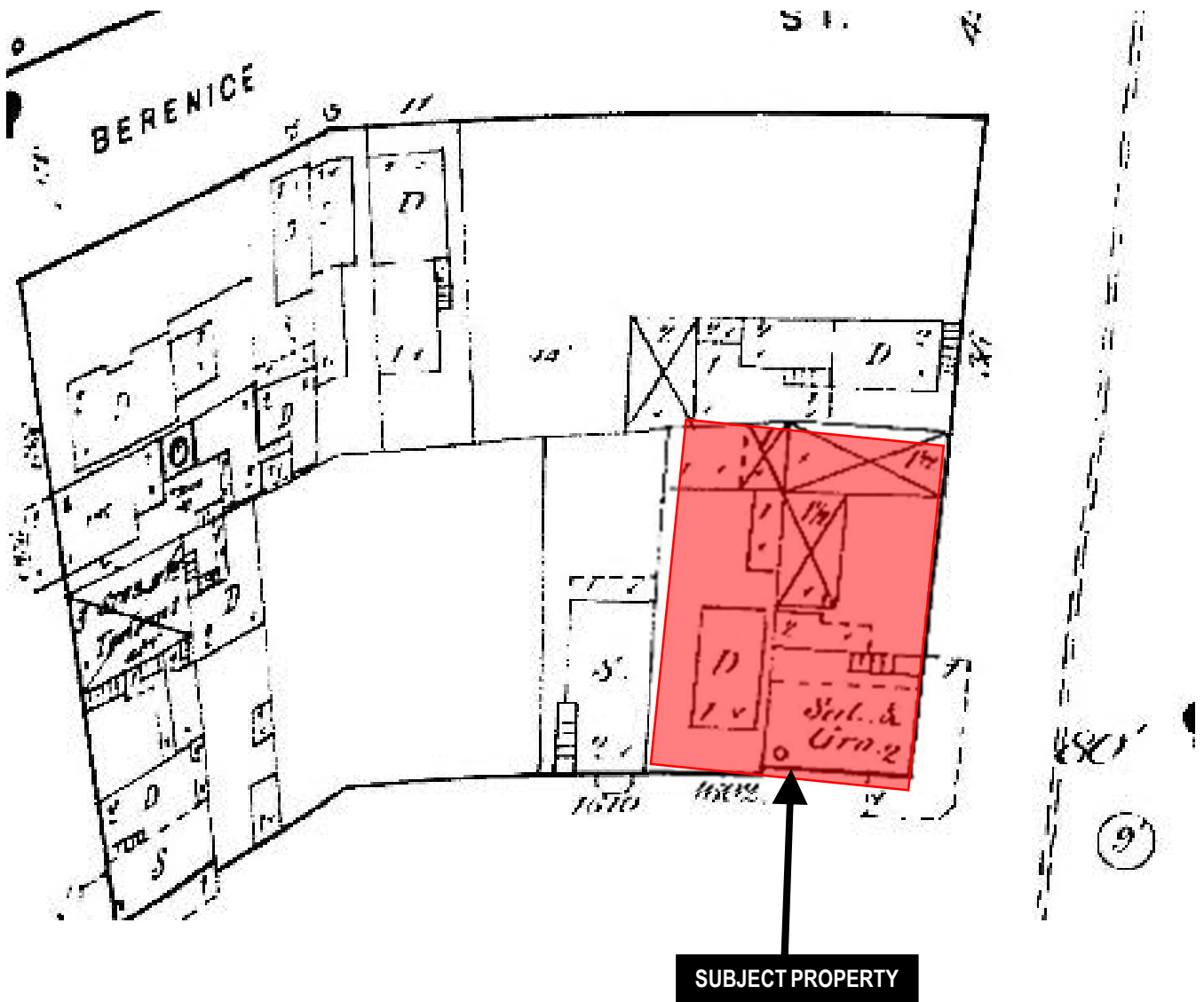
Parcel Map



Article 10 Landmark Designation
 Case Number 2021-001853DES
 San Francisco Eagle Bar
 396-398 12th St.



Historic Sanborn Map (1889)



1889 Sanborn Map, Volume 3, Sheet 66

(Image Source: Planning Department)

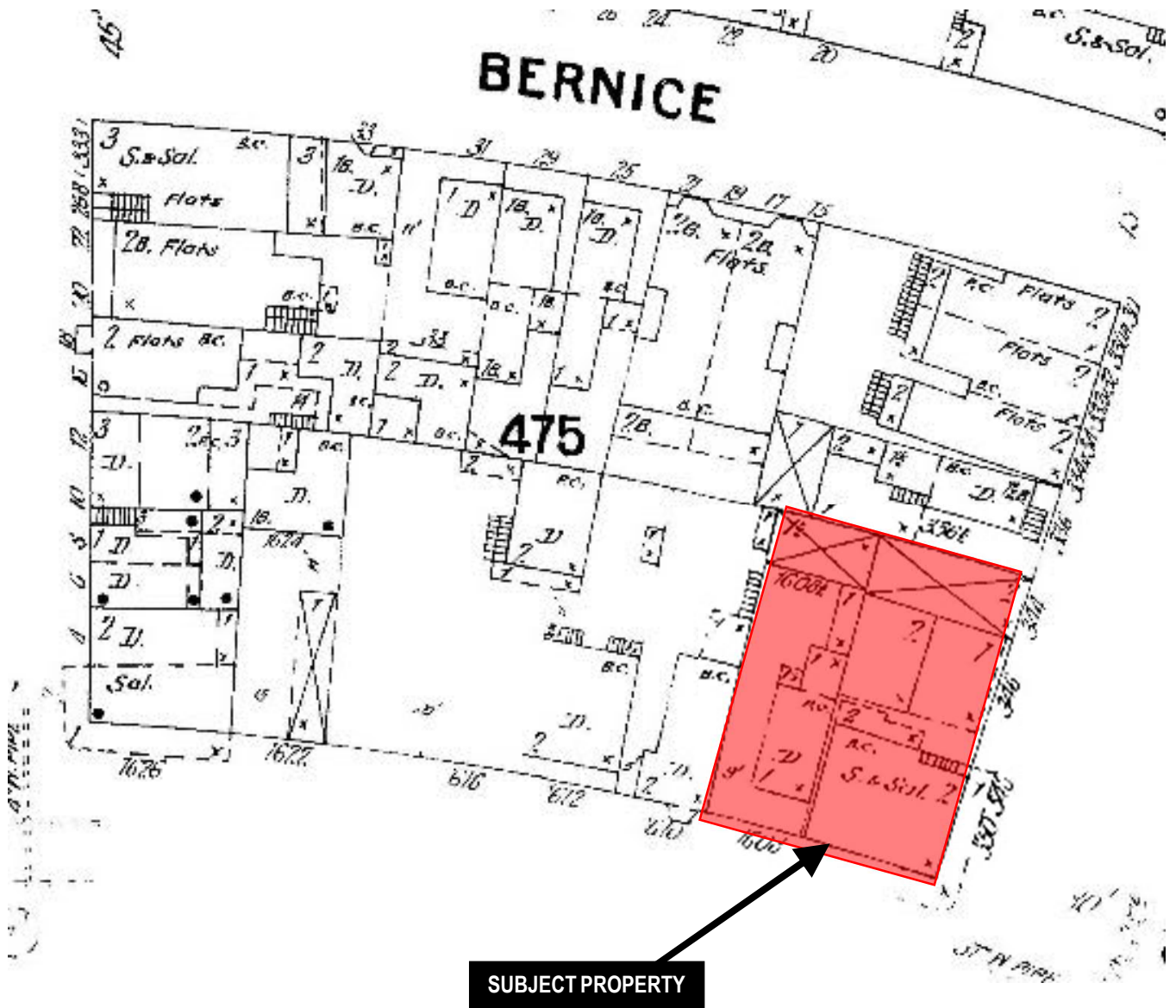
Excerpt from Sheet 66, Block 475.

Approximate location for 396-398 12th Street shown.

Note: Given this map is pre-1906, delineated structures, including the subject parcels', were likely destroyed in the Great San Francisco Earthquake and Fires



Historic Sanborn Map (1899)



1899 Sanborn Map, Volume 2, Sheet 171

(Image Source: Planning Department)

Excerpt from Sheet 171, Block 475.

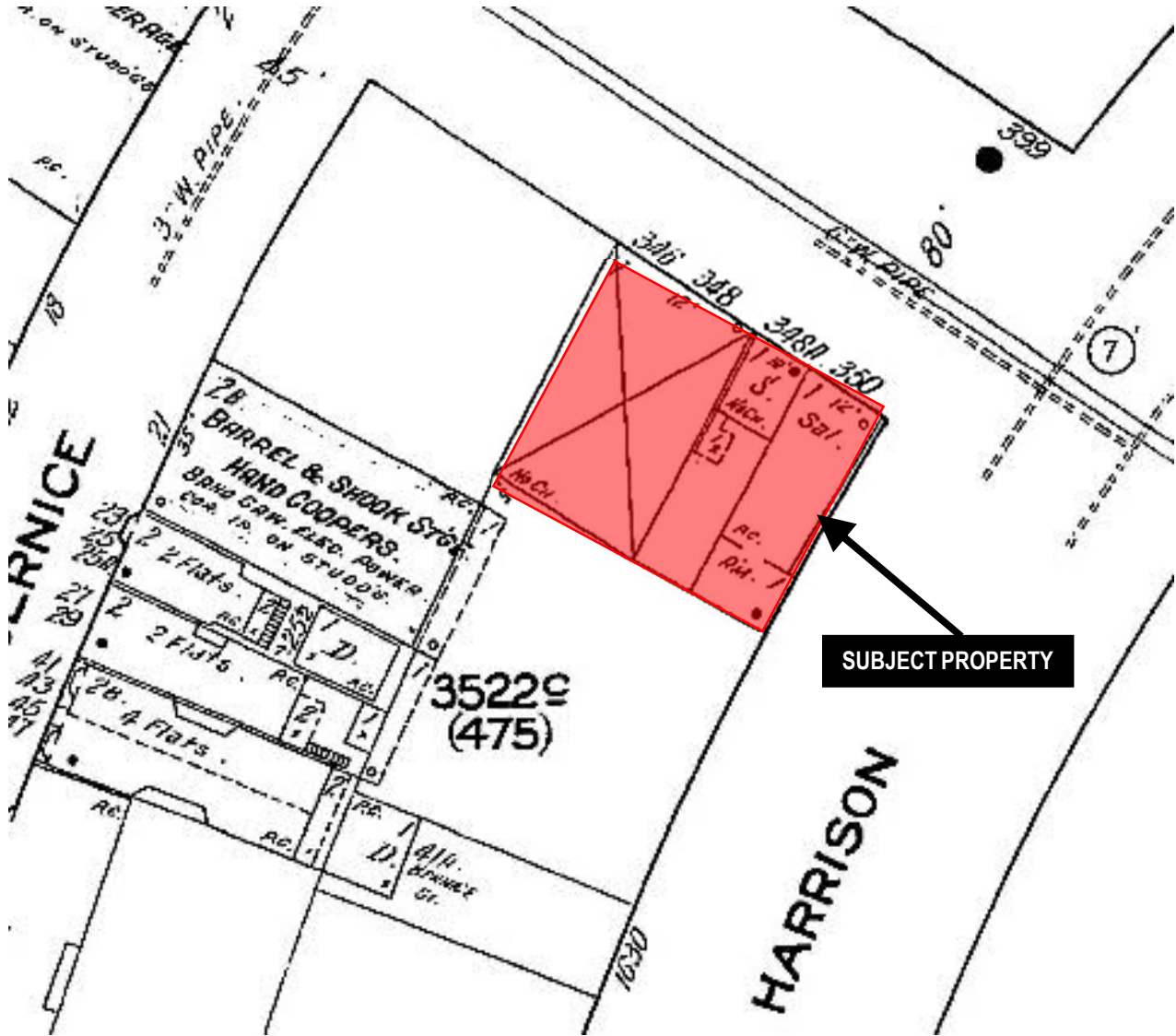
Approximate location for 396-398 12th Street shown.

Note: Given this map is pre-1906, delineated structures, including the subject parcels, were likely destroyed in the Great San Francisco Earthquake and Fires



Article 10 Landmark Designation
Case Number 2021-001853DES
San Francisco Eagle Bar
396-398 12th St.

Historic Sanborn Map (1913)

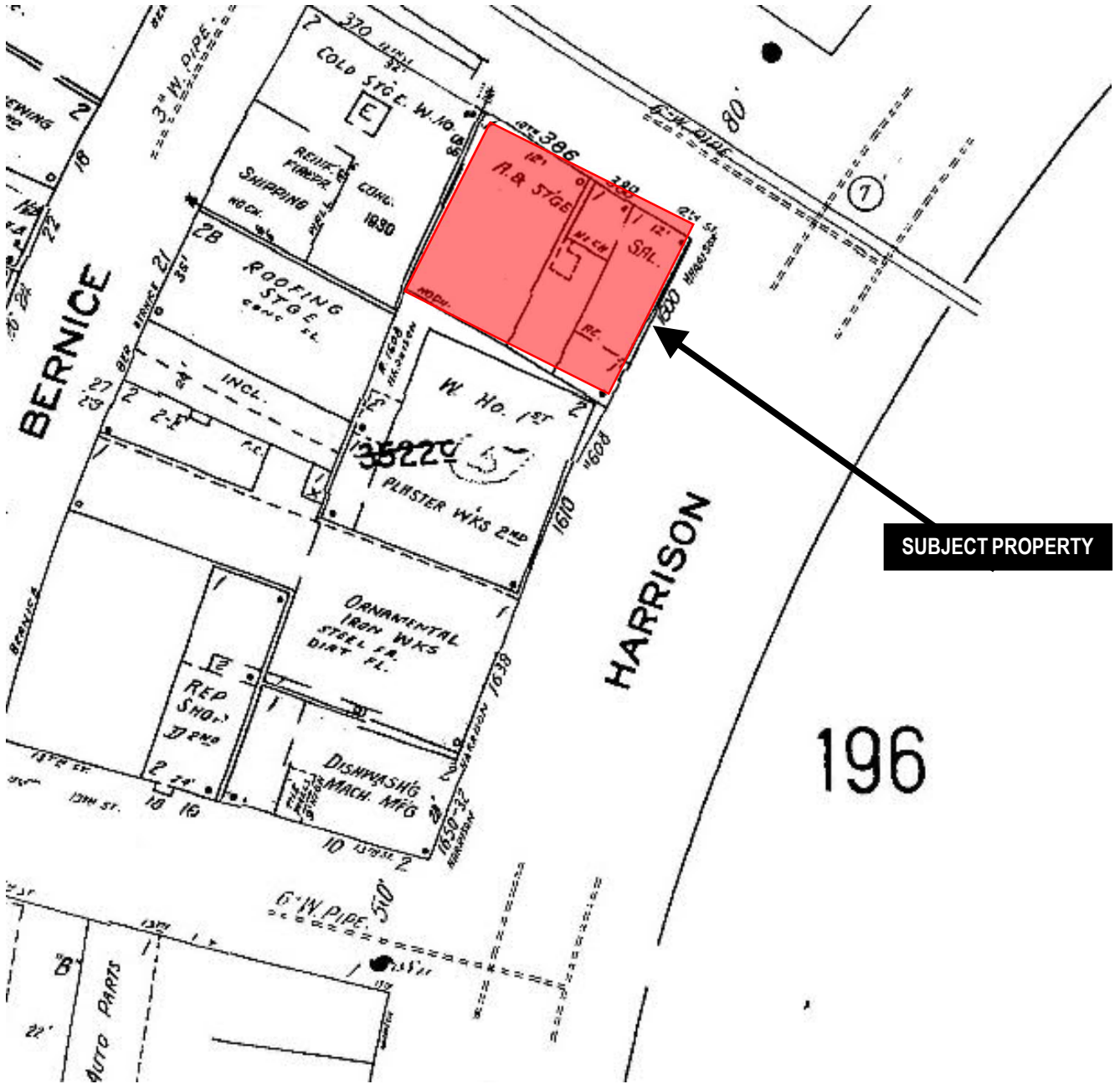


1913 Sanborn Map, Volume 2, Sheet 200
(Image Source: Planning Department)
Excerpt from Sheet 200, Block 3522.



Article 10 Landmark Designation
Case Number 2021-001853DES
San Francisco Eagle Bar
396-398 12th St.

Historic Sanborn Map (1950)

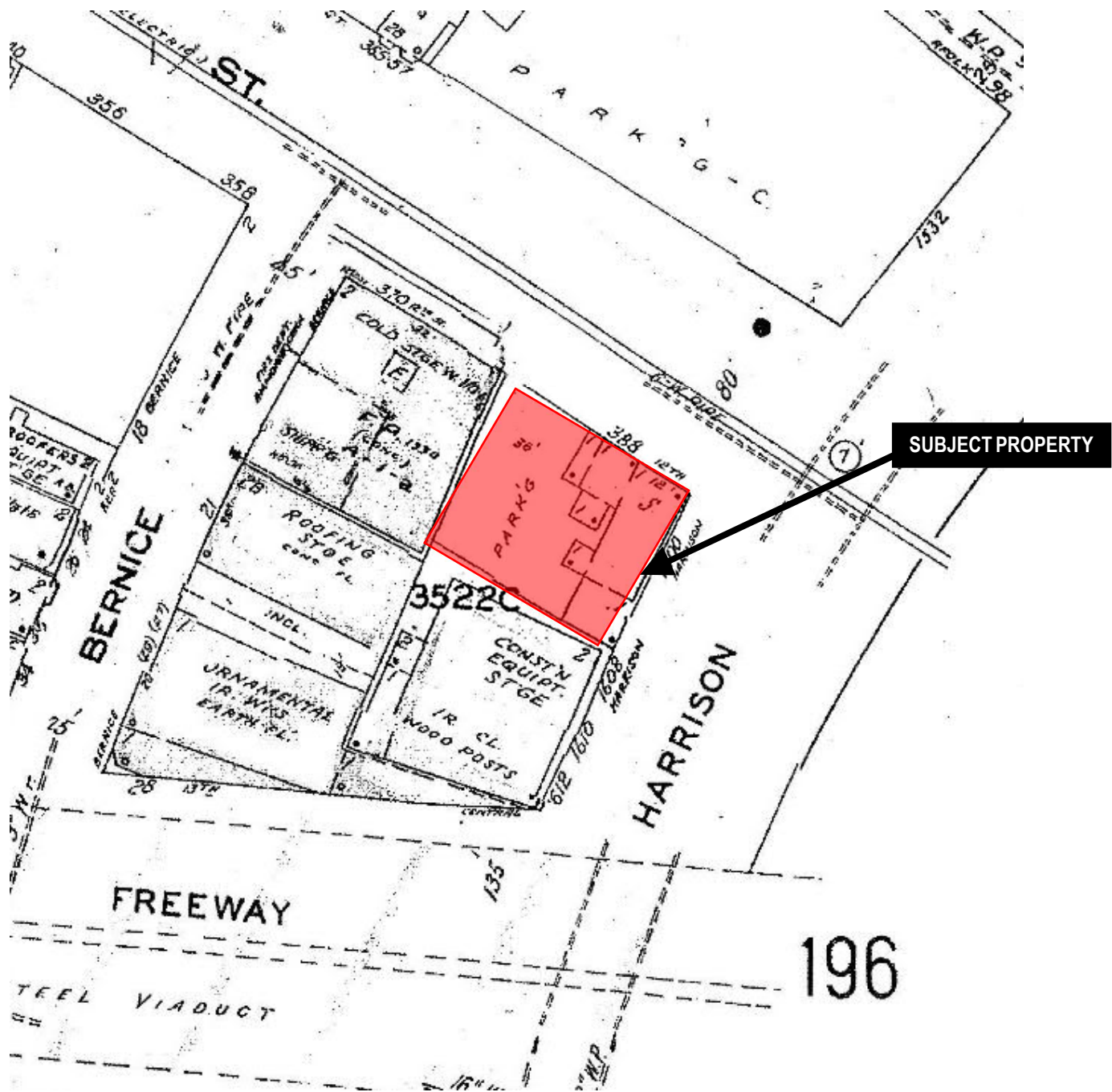


1950 Sanborn Map, Volume 2, Sheet 200
(Image Source: Planning Department)
Excerpt from Sheet 200, Block 3522.



Article 10 Landmark Designation
Case Number 2021-001853DES
San Francisco Eagle Bar
396-398 12th St.

Sanborn Map*



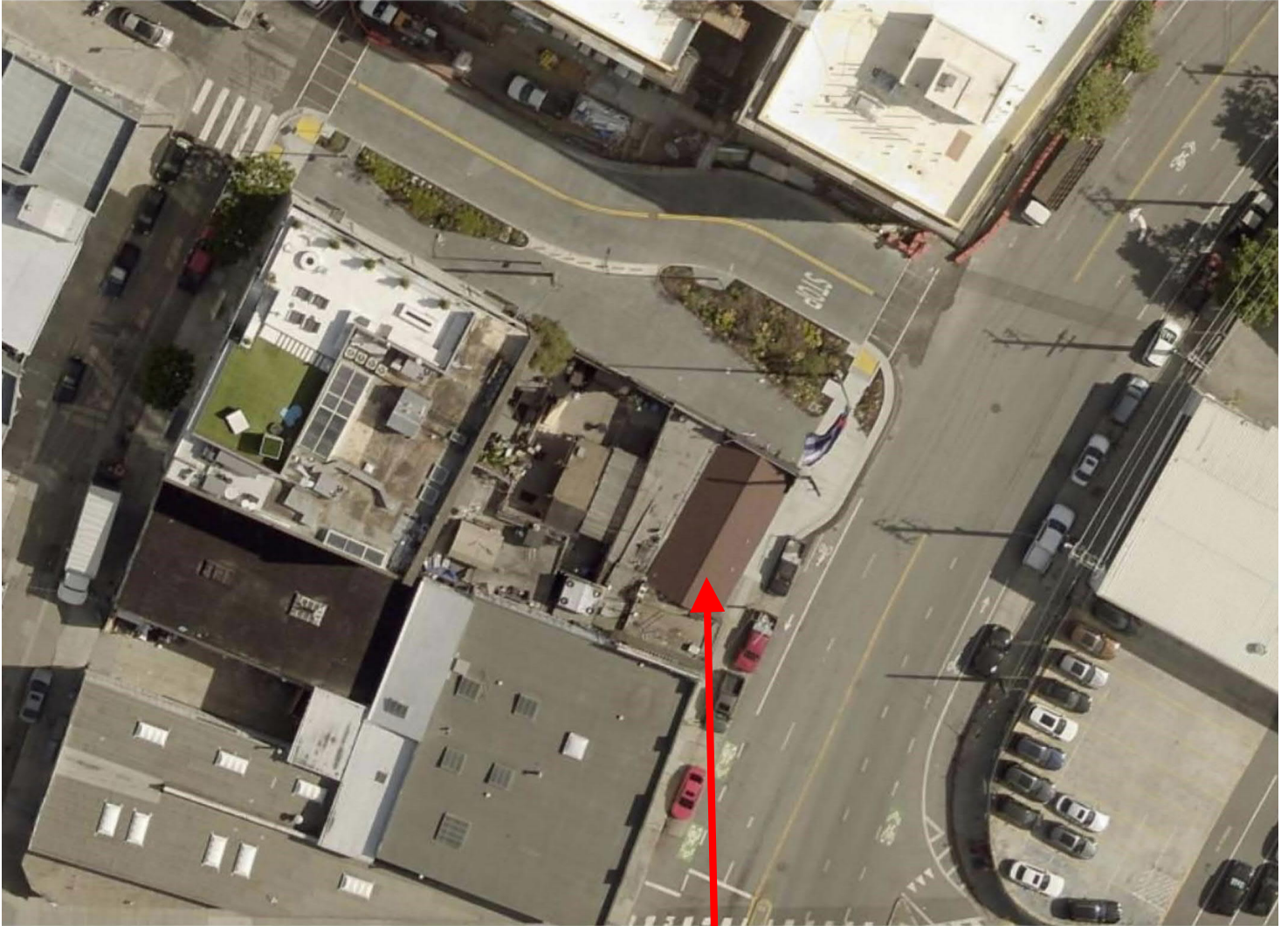
1998 Sanborn Map, Sheet 200
(Image Source: Planning Department)
Excerpt from Sheet 200, Block 3522.

*The Sanborn Maps in San Francisco have not been updated since 1998, and this map may not accurately reflect existing conditions.



Article 10 Landmark Designation
Case Number 2021-001853DES
San Francisco Eagle Bar
396-398 12th St.

Aerial Photo – View 1



SUBJECT PROPERTY



Article 10 Landmark Designation
Case Number 2021-001853DES
San Francisco Eagle Bar
396-398 12th St.

Aerial Photo – View 2



SUBJECT PROPERTY



Article 10 Landmark Designation
Case Number 2021-001853DES
San Francisco Eagle Bar
396-398 12th St.

Zoning Map



Site Photo



Article 10 Landmark Designation
Case Number 2021-001853DES
San Francisco Eagle Bar
396-398 12th St.

1 [Planning Code - Landmark Designation - 396-398 12th Street (San Francisco Eagle Bar)]

2

3 **Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate 396-398 12th Street (aka San**
4 **Francisco Eagle Bar), Assessor’s Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, as a Landmark**
5 **consistent with the standards set forth in Article 10 of the Planning Code; affirming the**
6 **Planning Department’s determination under the California Environmental Quality Act;**
7 **and making public necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code,**
8 **Section 302, and findings of consistency with the General Plan and the eight priority**
9 **policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.**

10 NOTE: **Unchanged Code text and uncodified text** are in plain Arial font.
11 **Additions to Codes** are in *single-underline italics Times New Roman font*.
12 **Deletions to Codes** are in *strikethrough italics Times New Roman font*.
13 **Board amendment additions** are in double-underlined Arial font.
14 **Board amendment deletions** are in ~~strikethrough Arial font~~.
15 **Asterisks (* * * *)** indicate the omission of unchanged Code
16 subsections or parts of tables.

14

15 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

16

17 Section 1. Findings.

18 (a) CEQA and Land Use Findings.

19 (1) The Planning Department has determined that the Planning Code
20 amendment proposed in this ordinance is subject to a Categorical Exemption from the
21 California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et
22 seq., "CEQA") pursuant to Section 15308 of California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections
23 15000 et seq., the Guidelines for implementation of the statute for actions by regulatory
24 agencies for protection of the environment (in this case, landmark designation). Said
25

1 determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. _____
2 and is incorporated herein by reference. The Board of Supervisors affirms this determination.

3 (2) Pursuant to Planning Code Section 302, the Board of Supervisors finds that
4 the proposed landmark designation of 396-398 12th Street (Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522,
5 Lot No. 014 ("San Francisco Eagle Bar"), will serve the public necessity, convenience, and
6 welfare for the reasons set forth in Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No.
7 _____, recommending approval of the proposed designation, which is incorporated
8 herein by reference.

9 (3) The Board of Supervisors finds that the proposed landmark designation of
10 396-398 12th Street is consistent with the General Plan and with Planning Code Section
11 101.1(b) for the reasons set forth in Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No.
12 _____.

13
14 (b) General Findings.

15 (1) Pursuant to Charter Section 4.135, the Historic Preservation Commission
16 has authority "to recommend approval, disapproval, or modification of landmark designations
17 and historic district designations under the Planning Code to the Board of Supervisors."

18 (2) The Landmark Designation Fact Sheet was prepared by Planning
19 Department Preservation staff. All preparers meet the Secretary of the Interior's Professional
20 Qualification Standards for historic preservation program staff, as set forth in Code of Federal
21 Regulations Title 36, Part 61, Appendix A. The report was reviewed for accuracy and
22 conformance with the purposes and standards of Article 10 of the Planning Code.

23 (3) The Historic Preservation Commission, at its regular meeting of May 19,
24 2021, reviewed Planning Department staff's analysis of the historical significance of 396-398
25 12th Street set forth in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet dated _____.

1 (4) On February 2, 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 041-
2 21, initiating landmark designation of 396-398 12th Street as a San Francisco Landmark
3 pursuant to Section 1004.1 of the Planning Code. On February 12, 2021, the Mayor approved
4 the resolution. Said resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No.
5 201400.

6 (5) On May 19, 2021, after holding a public hearing on the proposed
7 designation and having considered the specialized analyses prepared by Planning
8 Department staff and the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet, the Historic Preservation
9 Commission recommended designation of 396-398 12th Street as a landmark consistent with
10 the standards set forth in Section 1004 of the Planning Code, by Resolution No. _____.
11 Said resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. _____.

12 (6) The Board of Supervisors hereby finds that the 396-398 12th Street has a
13 special character and special historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and value, and
14 that its designation as a Landmark will further the purposes of and conform to the standards
15 set forth in Article 10 of the Planning Code. In doing so, the Board hereby incorporates by
16 reference the findings of the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet.

17
18 Section 2. Designation.

19 Pursuant to Section 1004 of the Planning Code, 396-398 12th Street (San Francisco
20 Eagle Bar), Assessor's Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, is hereby designated as a San Francisco
21 Landmark consistent with the standards set forth in Section 1004. Appendix A to Article 10 of
22 the Planning Code is hereby amended to include this property.

1 Section 3. Required Data.

2 (a) The description, location, and boundary of the Landmark site consists of the City
3 parcel located at 396-398 12th Street (San Francisco Eagle Bar), Assessor's Block No. 3522,
4 Lot No. 014, in San Francisco's South of Market neighborhood.

5 (b) The characteristics of the Landmark that justify its designation are described and
6 shown in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet and other supporting materials contained in
7 Planning Department Record Docket No. 2021-001853DES. In brief, 396-398 12th Street is
8 eligible for local designation as it is associated with events that have made a culturally and
9 historically significant contribution to the broad patterns of San Francisco history and with
10 persons significant to San Francisco history. Specifically, designation of the San Francisco
11 Eagle Bar is proper given association with the South of Market neighborhood's Leather and
12 LGBTQ communities. The venue, with a 40-year tenure, serves as the longest running South
13 of Market Leather/LGBTQ bar and has served as a de-facto community center home to a
14 large variety of events including charitable fundraisers, leather contests, live music and
15 comedy, political organizing, community activism, art exhibits, and more. Signature events
16 such as Sunday Beer Busts and the Bare Chest Calendar have collectively raised millions of
17 dollars for AIDS-related charities, and date back to the 1980s at a time when the Federal
18 Government resources for AIDS victims was lacking, thus contributing to the San Francisco
19 model of AIDS care.

20 (c) The particular features that should be preserved, or replaced in-kind as determined
21 necessary, are those generally shown in photographs and described in the Landmark
22 Designation Fact Sheet, which can be found in Planning Department Record Docket No.
23 2021-001853DES, and which are incorporated in this designation by reference as though fully
24 set forth. Specifically, all those physical and spatial features which define the historic
25 character of the bar should be preserved or replaced in-kind, including:

1 *Exterior:*

2 (1) Site comprised of building (consisting of the primary bar space within the
3 gable-roofed portion, indoor stage within the rear flat-roofed portion, and the side bar within
4 the side flat-roofed portion) with primary elevation at 12th Street and secondary elevation at
5 Harrison Street, and open side yard allowing for outdoor patio;

6 (2) Single-story massing of building;

7 (3) Secondary elevation (on Harrison Street) clad in channel drop wood siding;

8 (4) Primary elevation (on 12th Street) clad in stucco ;

9 (5) Minimal fenestration at visible façades on Harrison Street and 12th Street;

10 (6) Roof-form on primary bar space of building, defined by front-facing gable
11 roof terminating in false front parapet with cartouche detailing;

12 (7) Recessed entryway at 12th Street elevation with segmented arched opening,
13 solid double doors and glazed transom;

14 (8) Two segmented arched window openings with glazed infill at 12th Street
15 elevation;

16 (9) Solid front property-line fence extending from the building (fronting the
17 indoor/outdoor bar area) to enclose the patio (12th Street elevation);

18 (10) Large outdoor patio, located at side yard, with enclosed rear bar (3-4
19 serving stations) and outdoor stage, and tall metal flagpole with Leather flag; and

20 (11) Indoor/outdoor restroom, defined by an original porcelain trough (shared
21 urinal) attached to exterior wall of main building and opening onto outdoor patio.
22
23
24
25

1 *Interior.*

2 (1) Indoor performance stage with adjacent DJ booth located to the rear of the
3 primary bar space;

4 (2) Vaulted wood ceiling at the open-volume interior primary bar space;

5 (3) Indoor bar, with three serving stations, located within primary bar space;

6 (4) Indoor/outdoor bar, with two serving stations, located within the side flat-
7 roofed portion of the building which opens onto the patio, with unique fold-up panels above
8 bar, which form an awning when open to the patio.
9

10
11 Section 4. Effective Date.

12 This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after enactment. Enactment occurs
13 when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not
14 sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the
15 Mayor's veto of the ordinance.
16

17 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
18 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

19 By: /s/
20 ANDREA RUIZ-ESQUIDE
21 Deputy City Attorney

22
23
24
25
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BOARD of SUPERVISORS




City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-5184
Fax No. 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

Date: February 19, 2021

To: Jonas Ionin, Commission Secretary, Historic Preservation Commission
Rich Hillis, Director, Planning Department

From:  Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board

Subject: Initiating Landmark Designation - San Francisco Eagle Bar
(File No. 201400)

On February 2, 2021, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 041-21, sponsored by Supervisors Haney, Ronen, Preston, Mandelman, Walton, Peskin, Melgar, Mar, Safai, and Chan, and approved by Mayor London N. Breed on February 12, 2021.

A copy of the Resolution is being forwarded to you, pursuant to the directives found in Resolution No. 041-21.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Erica Major, Assistant Clerk, at (415) 554-4441 or by email at: Erica.Major@sfgov.org.

cc: Scott Sanchez, Zoning Administrator
Lisa Gibson, Environmental Review Officer
Devyani Jain, Deputy Environmental Review Officer
Adam Varat, Acting Director of Citywide Planning
AnMarie Rodgers, Legislative Affairs
Aaron Starr, Manager of Legislative Affairs
Andrea Ruiz-Esquide, Deputy City Attorney
Joy Navarrete, Major Environmental Analysis
Corey Teague, Zoning Administrator
Dan Sider, Director of Executive Programs
Marcelle Boudreaux, Planning Department

em:bjj:ams

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - San Francisco Eagle Bar]

2

3 **Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**
4 **the San Francisco Eagle Bar, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, situated**
5 **within the Leather and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Cultural District.**

6

7 WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by
8 resolution initiate landmark designation; and

9 WHEREAS, San Francisco Eagle Bar (SF Eagle), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522,
10 Lot No. 014, is situated in Supervisorial District 6 within San Francisco's Leather and Lesbian,
11 Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) Cultural District in the South of Market (SOMA)
12 neighborhood and is listed as a key asset by the cultural district; and

13 WHEREAS, SF Eagle is a Legacy Business, a designation affirmed by the Historic
14 Preservation Commission and Small Business Commission, and is considered an iconic San
15 Francisco establishment that contributes greatly to the culture, character, and lore of San
16 Francisco; and

17 WHEREAS, SF Eagle has been operating at its current location since opening in
18 February of 1981 at 396-398 12th Street, the corner of 12th and Harrison, and is the name
19 sake of Eagle Plaza, a new public plaza that pays homage to SOMA's historic LGBTQ
20 community, and is the first plaza of its kind in the world; and

21 WHEREAS, The LGBTQ leather community has played an integral role in SOMA's
22 history as a neighborhood, and by the 1960's SOMA had become the epicenter of the LGBTQ
23 leather scene; and

24 WHEREAS, In 1964 a Life magazine article titled "Homosexuality in America,"
25 highlighted San Francisco's leather community, making San Francisco the unofficial capital of

1 the gay leather scene and drawing even more like-minded individuals to the city and more
2 specifically the SOMA neighborhood; and

3 WHEREAS, The Folsom and Harrison corridors in SOMA became known as the
4 'Miracle Mile' and by the 1970's counted nearly 30 different gay businesses including leather
5 bars, clubs, shops, and bathhouses; and

6 WHEREAS, The late 70's and early 80's saw the gay leather community organize to
7 protest the redevelopment of SOMA by establishing the Folsom Street Fair in 1981 and later
8 the Up Your Alley Street Fair, both of which celebrated the existing gay leather residents,
9 businesses, and culture of SOMA and currently bring in half a million people every year from
10 all over the world into the neighborhood; and

11 WHEREAS, Less than a dozen leather bars, clubs, shops, and bathhouses are left in
12 SOMA today, with several having recently closed, announcing their pending closure, or being
13 threatened with closure; and

14 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco established the Leather & LGBTQ
15 Cultural District in order to preserve the unique culture of the Western SOMA neighborhood
16 and protect the existing businesses and residents who currently call it home from
17 displacement; and

18 WHEREAS, The SF Eagle has a history as an important fundraising institution for the
19 LGBTQ community; and

20 WHEREAS, Terry Thompson, who became the bar manager of SF Eagle in 1984 and
21 managed the bar for 11 years, utilized the Eagle as a vehicle for raising over \$5 million for
22 AIDS charities and eventually helped to create the AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF); and

23 WHEREAS, Many of Thompson's events became classic fund-raisers in the SOMA bar
24 scene and several continue on at the SF Eagle today including the world famous Bare Chest
25

1 Calendar (hosted at the SF Eagle since 1985) and the wildly successful and popular Sunday
2 fund-raising beer busts; and

3 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Eagle Bar is a large open space format leather-themed
4 bar, with the second-largest outdoor patio in the City with a structure dating back to the late-
5 1800s that has been painted to reflect the colors of the leather community which are, black,
6 blue, white, and red; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of
8 San Francisco Eagle Bar, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, under Planning
9 Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Planning Department
11 prepare a Landmark Designation Report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission
12 for its consideration of the special historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and value of
13 the property; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Historic Preservation
15 Commission review the Landmark Designation Report and any other information the Planning
16 Department may have related to the special historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and
17 value of the San Francisco Eagle Bar; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Historic Preservation
19 Commission consider whether the San Francisco Eagle Bar warrant landmark designation,
20 and submit its recommendation to the Board pursuant to Article 10 of the Planning Code.



City and County of San Francisco

Tails Resolution

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

File Number: 201400

Date Passed: February 02, 2021

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for the San Francisco Eagle Bar, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, situated within the Leather and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Cultural District.

January 25, 2021 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED

February 02, 2021 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Chan, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton

File No. 201400

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 2/2/2021 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

Mayor

2/12/21

Date Approved

File No. 201400 Committee Item No. 3
Board Item No. 26

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Land Use and Transportation Committee Date January 25, 2021

Board of Supervisors Meeting Date February 2, 2021

Cmte Board

- | | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Motion |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Resolution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ordinance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Legislative Digest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Budget and Legislative Analyst Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Youth Commission Report |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Introduction Form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MOU |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grant Information Form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grant Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Subcontract Budget |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Contract/Agreement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Form 126 – Ethics Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Award Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Application |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Public Correspondence |

OTHER (Use back side if additional space is needed)

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Completed by: Erica Major Date January 21, 2021
Completed by: Erica Major Date January 27, 2021

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation - San Francisco Eagle Bar]

2

3 **Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**
4 **the San Francisco Eagle Bar, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, situated**
5 **within the Leather and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Cultural District.**

6

7 WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by
8 resolution initiate landmark designation; and

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12 neighborhood and is listed as a key asset by the cultural district; and

13 WHEREAS, SF Eagle is a Legacy Business, a designation affirmed by the Historic
14 Preservation Commission and Small Business Commission, and is considered an iconic San
15 Francisco establishment that contributes greatly to the culture, character, and lore of San
16 Francisco; and

17 WHEREAS, SF Eagle has been operating at its current location since opening in
18 February of 1981 at 396-398 12th Street, the corner of 12th and Harrison, and is the name
19 sake of Eagle Plaza, a new public plaza that pays homage to SOMA's historic LGBTQ
20 community, and is the first plaza of its kind in the world; and

21 WHEREAS, The LGBTQ leather community has played an integral role in SOMA's
22 history as a neighborhood, and by the 1960's SOMA had become the epicenter of the LGBTQ
23 leather scene; and

24 WHEREAS, In 1964 a Life magazine article titled "Homosexuality in America,"
25 highlighted San Francisco's leather community, making San Francisco the unofficial capital of

1 the gay leather scene and drawing even more like-minded individuals to the city and more
2 specifically the SOMA neighborhood; and

3 WHEREAS, The Folsom and Harrison corridors in SOMA became known as the
4 ‘Miracle Mile’ and by the 1970’s counted nearly 30 different gay businesses including leather
5 bars, clubs, shops, and bathhouses; and

6 WHEREAS, The late 70’s and early 80’s saw the gay leather community organize to
7 protest the redevelopment of SOMA by establishing the Folsom Street Fair in 1981 and later
8 the Up Your Alley Street Fair, both of which celebrated the existing gay leather residents,
9 businesses, and culture of SOMA and currently bring in half a million people every year from
10 all over the world into the neighborhood; and

11 WHEREAS, Less than a dozen leather bars, clubs, shops, and bathhouses are left in
12 SOMA today, with several having recently closed, announcing their pending closure, or being
13 threatened with closure; and

14 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco established the Leather & LGBTQ
15 Cultural District in order to preserve the unique culture of the Western SOMA neighborhood
16 and protect the existing businesses and residents who currently call it home from
17 displacement; and

18 WHEREAS, The SF Eagle has a history as an important fundraising institution for the
19 LGBTQ community; and

20 WHEREAS, Terry Thompson, who became the bar manager of SF Eagle in 1984 and
21 managed the bar for 11 years, utilized the Eagle as a vehicle for raising over \$5 million for
22 AIDS charities and eventually helped to create the AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF); and

23 WHEREAS, Many of Thompson’s events became classic fund-raisers in the SOMA bar
24 scene and several continue on at the SF Eagle today including the world famous Bare Chest
25

1 Calendar (hosted at the SF Eagle since 1985) and the wildly successful and popular Sunday
2 fund-raising beer busts; and

3 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Eagle Bar is a large open space format leather-themed
4 bar, with the second-largest outdoor patio in the City with a structure dating back to the late-
5 1800s that has been painted to reflect the colors of the leather community which are, black,
6 blue, white, and red; now, therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of
8 San Francisco Eagle Bar, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, under Planning
9 Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Planning Department
11 prepare a Landmark Designation Report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission
12 for its consideration of the special historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and value of
13 the property; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Historic Preservation
15 Commission review the Landmark Designation Report and any other information the Planning
16 Department may have related to the special historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and
17 value of the San Francisco Eagle Bar; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Historic Preservation
19 Commission consider whether the San Francisco Eagle Bar warrant landmark designation,
20 and submit its recommendation to the Board pursuant to Article 10 of the Planning Code.

From: [Rev. Victor Floyd](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Lex@thesfeagle.com](#); [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 11:29:24 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To whom it may concern,

I voice my support for creating a historical designation for The San Francisco Eagle Tavern. The Eagle is one of the few historic bars left in the city. It commemorates the rise of the leather, Levi, blue collar, working class LGBTQ community. The Eagle hosts community events that raise money for the aids emergency fund, breast cancer emergency fund, and many other charities. The eagle is an important gathering place – reliable and welcoming. Most of all, The SF Eagle deserves preservation.

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Rev. Victor H. Floyd
Metropolitan Community Churches
United Church of Christ
Calvary Presbyterian Church (USA)
San Francisco

From: [Jacob](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 11:06:18 AM

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Dear members of The Historic Preservation Commission:

I am writing in support of designating the SF Eagle bar as a historic landmark in San Francisco.

While we can't stop progress I believe it is our duty to preserve The SF Eagle because of its notable past and current significance to the gay, leather and kink communities in San Francisco and as it is known around the world. The bar has been a safe place of gatherings and celebrations, an educational and fundraising venue, a tourist destination and it has been and still is an important and influential place for GBLTQ everywhere and I believe it should remain so for future generations.

Please preserve this iconic and historic bar for the values for which we are known as a community that welcomes and embraces everyone and as a symbol of the gay leather and kink communities.

With sincere thanks for your consideration,

Jacob Myles Loyar
jloevsf@gmail.com
4428 18th Street.
San Francisco, CA 94114

=====
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From: [Stuart Goldstein](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#)
Cc: lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 10:58:54 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

The SF Eagle is one of the few places left for our community to gather. It's also known for many fundraisers that help the community. This is the last of the Leather Bars if the only Leather Bar left. Don't let this disappear into the dust of our history.

Thank you, Stuart

From: [Alex Ray](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 10:57:08 AM

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The Historic Preservation Commission
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103

Hello,

I'm writing to show my support behind the effort to designate the SF Eagle bar as an historic San Francisco landmark. The SF Eagle is the cornerstone and most important physical representation of the San Francisco LGBTQ/Leather community and provides an essential safe space for individuals in that community. We meet there to acknowledge and show respect for our cultural traditions and help carry them into the future; to celebrate our hard-fought civil rights victories; to commiserate our political defeats and mourn our dead; to provide loving emotional and spiritual support for one another; to raise much-needed funds for the various non-profit organizations that provide an essential lifeline to our most vulnerable community members; and so much more.

As such, it's in perfect keeping with the spirit of the reasons for status designation as specified in Section 1001 of Article 10 of the San Francisco Planning Code: "The enhancement of human life in its educational and cultural dimensions in order to serve spiritual as well as material needs, by fostering knowledge of the living heritage of the past."

I hope the Historic Preservation Commission grants this status and helps ensure the survival of this vital community space. Thank you.

Best regards,
Alex Ray
San Francisco Resident Since 1992

From: [Warren Longmire](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Ionin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 10:13:28 AM

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Hello,

I would like to add my voice in support of ensuring the Eagle SF is dedicated as a historic landmark.

Since the time I moved to San Francisco 25 years ago, I have seen how the Eagle is a central gathering point for the community. So many social bonds were formed there, so much creativity, so much impact on the history of the LGBTQ community in the Bay Area. I have friends who come from around the world and want to visit this legendary leather bar. As the SOMA area moves forward with even more high-rise developments, we have a duty to preserve the precious historical institutions which remain.

But this is not about creating a history museum... the Eagle remains a very vital, thriving and viable business that — right until the pandemic — continues to provide life and connection to our community. And I hope that will resume immediately as soon as restrictions are lifted.

We must act now to save this unique, living, breathing reminder of San Francisco's precious history as a place that provides culture and community to everyone.

Thank you,
Warren Longmire

From: [Rev. Victor Floyd](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Lex@thesfeagle.com](#); [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
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Metropolitan Community Churches
United Church of Christ
Calvary Presbyterian Church (USA)
San Francisco

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From: [Stuart Goldstein](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#)
Cc: lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 10:58:54 AM

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Thank you, Stuart

From: [Alex Ray](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 10:57:08 AM

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The Historic Preservation Commission
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103

Hello,

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I hope the Historic Preservation Commission grants this status and helps ensure the survival of this vital community space. Thank you.

Best regards,
Alex Ray
San Francisco Resident Since 1992

From: [Warren Longmire](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Ionin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 10:13:28 AM

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We must act now to save this unique, living, breathing reminder of San Francisco's precious history as a place that provides culture and community to everyone.

Thank you,
Warren Longmire

From: [Race Bannon](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Lex@thesfeagle.com](#); [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 9:44:36 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To:

The Historic Preservation Commission
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103

We the undersigned comprise the entirety of the Steering Committee for the [SF Bay Area Queer Nightlife Fund](#).

Our Fund's mission is in part to enthusiastically encourage efforts to preserve and foster San Francisco's queer nightlife., We therefore strongly support the designation of The SF Eagle bar located at 398 12th Street as a historic landmark.

The Eagle has a long and important history as a vital venue for San Francisco's LGBTQ and leather communities. To say that it would be a catastrophic development to lose this venue is an understatement.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Steering Committee
[SF Bay Area Queer Nightlife Fund](#)

Committee Members:

Shannon Amitin
Race Bannon
Angel Garfold
Phil Hammack

Juanita More
Mark O'Brien
Joe Weidman

From: [Stephen Roberts](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Lex@thesfeagle.com](#); [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 3:09:02 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my support for the designation of the San Francisco Eagle as a historic landmark. The Eagle is an iconic location for the gay community and has served as the template for Eagle bars around the world. Within the San Francisco community it has served as a gathering place during the AIDS epidemic and has served as a community meeting and fundraising space ever since. Many of those lost to AIDS during the height of the pandemic had their ashes scattered there. It would be a blow to our community if this site was lost to developers and I encourage you to help preserve it.

Thank you for your time.

Stephen Roberts
415-505-5151
srob1121@gmail.com

From: [Tony](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Ionin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 3:02:46 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I support historic designation of the SF Eagle Bar because it is one of the places that I know that I will be welcomed with open arms and feel safe. This bar means so much to me because it has always contributed back to our community.

Thank you,
Tony Russell

From: [Jackie Siegel](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:57:28 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello!

I would like to express my support for designating the SF Eagle Bar as a historic landmark in San Francisco.

Little has shown us the importance of public meeting places like the Covid-19 Pandemic and sheltering in place. In the best of times, communities need safe and sacred places to meet, gather, celebrate, and remember. In harder times, the most vulnerable among us need these spaces even more.

The SF Eagle is unique among the city and indeed the world, and it has been a center of queer and leather life for San Franciscans and people from all over. San Francisco is what it is because of the leather and queer community, and indeed the spaces like the SF Eagle that nourished and sheltered creativity, sexual revolution, and queer rights.

Thank you,

Jackie Siegel
Resident of San Francisco
(he/him/his)

From: [Brian Abascal](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting the SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:51:46 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

1/21/21

The Historic Preservation Commission
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103

As a SF resident, and active member of the LGBTQ and Leather communities, I want to show my support for making the SF Eagle Bar a historic landmark. This iconic building is home to a thriving community that frequently fundraises for nonprofits. It is a cultural gem that serves as a gathering place for the gay community. Please preserve its history and honor us by making it an SF historical landmark.

Sincerely,
Brian Abascal
SF, CA 94110

From: [Robert Roder](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar-Historic Preservation Commission -Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 3:15:53 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I would like to show my support for the SF Eagle Bar to become a Historic Landmark!

For over 40 years that I am personally aware of the SF Eagle Bar has been a core supporter of the LGBTQ community. They have raised millions of dollars for different charities. They have been a refuge for so many. They have been a place where clubs and organizations from every walk of the LGBTQ community could go and have a place to express their individual freedoms.

After we have lost so much, now is the time to rescue and recognize what we have.

The SF Eagle is an institution of the LGBTQ community. Please Grant them Historic Landmark Status.

Thank you,

Robert M Roder
415-676-9669
505 West 100 South
Apt 457
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

From: [Dave Fong](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:09:03 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I support The SF Eagle Bar be given Historic Status because it was been an long time supporter of the gay community. Many gay men and women have found this bar as their home during sunday beer busts and the holidays when their own blood family has turned their back on them. It is an important part of the city's history in the SOMA district has evolved.

Sincerely,
David Fong

From: [Joseph Coloff](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#)
Cc: [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:17:02 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

The Historic Preservation Commission
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400

I support the historic designation of the San Francisco Eagle and the simple truth is during this pandemic the LGBTQ+ community especially the leather community of SF seems to be losing our safe spaces. My personal history started back in the 1990s, the San Francisco Eagle was the 1st bar that I went to when I first came here to live. I'm originally from Detroit and we had our own Eagle which sadly closed many years ago. Not only is the SF Eagle a local Bar it stands as a landmark to the international LGBTQ+ community. Please Grant the SF Eagle Historic Designation.

Sincerely,
Joe Coloff
SF Drummerboy 1996-97
Mr. American Rubber 2013.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Martin Willmann](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400 - SF Eagle bar should be ahistoric landmark
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:09:44 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To whom it may concern. We are German immigrants my husband and I and coming to San Francisco was always a symbol for being free of any judgement for being gay.
And just a few places like the Harvey milk bar or the sf eagle stand out as a beacon for that that is why we both are in favor and support the historic designation.

Best Martin & Dietmar.

From: [Mark Bonsignore](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: SF Eagle Bar: Historic Preservation 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:02:58 PM
Attachments: [SFEagle_LOS_SFPA.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Historic Preservation Commission,

Attached is my letter in support of the San Francisco Eagle Bar's application for historical status.

If there is any additional information I can provide, please feel free to reach out,

--

Mark Bonsignore

Project Manager
Parks + Place

San Francisco Parks Alliance

1074 Folsom Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
o: 415.906.6234
e: mark@sfparksalliance.org
sfparksalliance.org

SF Parks are here for you.

Resolve this year to give to your parks! [Donate here!](#)

Resolve this year to give to your parks! [Donate here!](#)

sfparksalliance.org





January 21, 2021

The Historic Preservation Commission
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103
Board File: 201400

To whom it may Concern,

I have had the pleasure of working with the SF Eagle Bar and neighboring LGBTQ community organizations for the past three years in an effort to bring the world's first leather plaza to SoMa; Eagle Plaza.

As a project manager for the San Francisco Parks Alliance, working around the city with a diverse population of citizens and sites, I have found no other group of citizens more supportive and eager to improve their community than the LGBTQ SoMa population, including the Friends of Eagle Plaza, the Leather Cultural District and SF Bay Area Leather Alliance.

I have seen first-hand the impact the SF Eagle bar has on not only San Francisco's population, but for cities around the country that support LGBTQ businesses that have been historically depleted of the necessary funds and rights given to similar businesses.

Every Sunday (outside of COVID), the bar provides an event to supporting a local non-profit, where proceeds from liquor and food sales go; an invaluable resource to this community.

In addition, the outreach that the bar gets nationwide from spectators looking to visit the city for annual celebrations, such as Folsom Street Fair or Dorey Alley, provide a huge economic boost to the area. Within just one afternoon in April of 2019, the Friends of Eagle Plaza organized a street festival outside the bar to raise funds for the proposed Eagle Plaza. The group was able to raise over \$10,000.00 in just a few hours, a small snapshot of this communities' efforts to support not only each other, but the businesses and landmarks that make up our great city.

Myself and the San Francisco Parks Alliance completely support the San Francisco Eagle Bar's application for landmark status.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Bonsignore', written in a cursive style.

Mark Bonsignore

From: [Cal Callahan](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Low, Jen \(BOS\)](#); [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#); [Ionin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#)
Cc: [Robert Goldfarb](#); [Bob Goldfarb](#); [Lex](#)
Subject: Leather District Supports SF Eagle Landmark Designation
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:29:14 PM
Attachments: [SF Eagle Support Letter.docx](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors and Committee Members, please find our letter of support for the SF Eagle's landmark designation. Thank you for your consideration.

--

Cal Callahan
District Manager
(Pronouns: he, him)

LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District

584 Castro Street #140
San Francisco, CA 94114
info@SFLCD.org
415-237-3237

January 21, 2021

Supervisor Melgar
Supervisor Preston
Supervisor Peskin
Land Use and Transportation Committee
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Supervisors and Committee Members,

We are writing in support of the SF Eagle's landmark designation. The Eagle has been a linchpin in the SOMA culture for many years and is an important partner for the LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District. Its famed Sunday Beer Bust is a stand-by for hundreds, if not thousands, of patrons every week. It is a priority destination for out-of-town visitors, as well as providing a fundraiser for dozens of local nonprofits every year.

It has been the home of countless live music shows, contests, and social events. It is more than a bar, more than a series of events, it is an institution of the gay community's culture. For many, the SF Eagle IS SOMA. Being granted historical landmark status would help ensure that this cornerstone of the community remains the resource it has been for so many years.

We strongly urge the passage of SF Eagle's landmark designation on behalf of the residents of SOMA, visitors to the District, and the neighboring businesses which benefit from the consistent influx of patrons. It is an extremely significant piece of our cultural heritage and an important factor in the vitality of the LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District.

Sincerely,



Bob Goldfarb
President, LEATHER & LGBTQ Cultural District

From: pup@morty.me
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 8:15:31 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

Please help the Eagle achieve historic landmark status. It has been around for decades and it a vital gathering place for our community. Many social organizations use that place for their events.

Thank you for your attention,

Mark Sockness
Treasurer, SF K9 Unit
Associate Member of The 15 Association

From: [Boomer Ullrich](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 8:04:03 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To the member of the San Francisco Historic Preservation Committee-

When I first moved to San Francisco, I hardly knew anyone. During the years I lived in the Bay Area, my relationships with many of the people I now consider family started when I met them at Sunday beer bust, karaoke with the inimitable Beth Bicoastal, the make out parties, or any of the other nights of fantastic queer entertainment. The SF Eagle is not only woven into my personal history as a queer man, but into the stories of all of the queer people who have ever found a home and a family at The Eagle and thus in the San Francisco queer community. Designating The SF Eagle as a historic landmark would be a testament to everything The Eagle has given to the city and its residents.

Respectfully,

Boomer Ullrich

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Simon Schrick-Senasac](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 7:58:42 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

The Historic Preservation Commission
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103

To whom it may concern:

I wholly support the historic designation of the SF Eagle Bar. The SF Eagle has been part of the LGBT community for generations. It's historical and cultural significance cannot be understated. In addition to having spent time there myself, many of my contemporaries, from whom I have learned how to be the gay man I am today, attribute their own cultural upbringing to time in SF affiliated with the SF Eagle.

Thank you for your consideration.
Simon Schrick-Senasac, DO

From: [Eoin Thomas O'Hehir](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 6:35:01 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To whom it may concern,

I support the historic designation for the SF Eagle. It is special to me, and I don't want another meeting place for LGBTQ+ folks taken away from us and defaced like The Stud was.

Thank you,
Eoin Thomas O'Hehir

From: [Mckuin, Patrick](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#)
Cc: [Ionin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Lex@thesfeagle.com](#); [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 6:32:57 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Coming to San Francisco five short years ago. I was a mostly closeted, mostly conservative, 1st year law student at UC Hastings.

I still remember day 2 of orientation, being grabbed by Zac, an incredibly flamboyant SF local, as he yelled, 'YOU'VE NEVER BEEN TO A GAY BAR!!!!' He was in my section, but a few years older than I was, not surprising though as I was only 22.

He dragged me to The Eagle that night. And I have dragged him back many subsequent nights.

The Eagle is where I became the person I am today. The Eagle is home. Whether it be Frolic, Woof, or just games night, it has such a welcoming, open atmosphere that I was able to come out of my shell for the first time in my life. The Eagle is where I met my boyfriend of two years and many of my friends.

To me. The Eagle is the most important building in San Francisco. The Eagle changed my life in so many ways I can never fully describe. And I hope it is protected for the future, so that it may have that same impact on others.

Thank you for taking the time to read this,
Patrick McKuin

From: [Travis Trick](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 6:29:46 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Greetings,

During the hearing taking place on Monday, January 25th, I would appreciate your voice and support to designate the SF Eagle bar as a historic landmark. This location has been part of the area for more than 35 years and supports many in the local and surrounding communities.

Thank you,
Martin Levario

From: [Angel Garfold LA President](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Christopher Wood](#); lex@sf-eagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 5:19:44 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Attn:
The Historic Preservation Commission
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103

Good day everyone,

We, the undersigned, represent the SF Bay Area Leather Alliance.

The Alliance's mission is in part to enthusiastically encourage efforts to preserve and foster San Francisco's queer, leather, and fetish communities. We, therefore, strongly support the designation of The Eagle bar located at 398 12th Street as a historic landmark.

The Eagle has a long and important history as a vital venue for San Francisco's LGBTQ and leather communities. To say that it would be a catastrophic development to lose this venue is an understatement.

Thank you for your time in this matter,

Angel Garfold, President, SF Bay Area Leather Alliance
Christopher Wood, Vice President, SF Bay Area Leather Alliance

From: [Sal Mattos](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:53:26 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello Historic Preservation Commission team,

My name is Sal Mattos and I am an actor, writer, drag queen, and lifelong resident of San Francisco.

It goes without saying that this past year has been particularly devastating to local businesses, particularly queer organizations. We've already seen one historic spot, The Stud, have to move away from its longtime venue, in addition to other venues closing up for good.

We cannot have this happen to The Eagle, an institution with years of history tied directly to SF's own queer history. It is of particular importance to the leather community, and is even literally physically at the center of the leather cultural district. To put it simply: San Francisco is not San Francisco without the Eagle.

Please consider granting the SF Eagle historic preservation status to help ensure that this institution can survive not only the pandemic but also the wave of changes to the city that are sure to follow it.

Thank you!

--

Sal Mattos
Actor, Writer
[@salmattos](#)

From: [Robert Goldfarb](#)
To: [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#); [Low, Jen \(BOS\)](#); [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#); [Ionin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Lex Montiel](#)
Subject: SF Eagle Bar - Support for Landmark Designation
Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021 11:26:32 PM
Attachments: [2021-01-21 - letter of support for Eagle Bar Landmark designation.pdf](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

Please see the attached letter supporting the Landmark Designation for the SF Eagle Bar.

Thanks!

Bob Goldfarb
President (Pronouns: he, him)
Friends of Eagle Plaza

Friends of the Eagle Plaza, Inc.
584 Castro Street, #140
San Francisco, CA 94114

January 21, 2021

Supervisor Melgar
Supervisor Preston
Supervisor Peskin
Land Use and Transportation Committee
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Supervisors:

I am writing in support of the SF Eagle's landmark designation.

The Eagle has been the center of leather culture in SOMA for decades. They host community fundraisers at least weekly and are a "must" destination for visitors from throughout the world.

Landmark status would help denote the important role the location has played in the leather & LGBTQ communities for so long.

I urge you to support the landmark designation for the SF Eagle bar.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Goldfarb", written in a cursive style.

Bob Goldfarb
President
Friends of Eagle Plaza

From: [L.M. West](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 8:24:59 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To -
The Historic Preservation Commission
49 South Van Ness Avenue, Suite 1400
San Francisco, CA 94103

I support the historic designation of The SF Eagle Bar because this business represents the history of GLBT people in San Francisco.

Thank you,
Lindsay West

From: [Alexandre Stutzmann](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting the SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission - Board File 201400
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 8:23:25 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear friends of the SF Eagle,

As a French lover of SF, of its vibe and respect of diversity, I was very happy to hear that there is an ongoing process to designate the SF Eagle as a historic landmark! I very much welcome this initiative and support it wholeheartedly! I am looking forward to visiting as soon as the pandemic is over!

Warm regards,
Alexandre Stutzmann

From: [Peter Berman](#)
To: [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Fwd: Eagle bar as a landmark
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 6:23:36 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

>>> Good morning.

>>>

>>> I am writing to express my full support to grant the SF Eagle Bar historical status and to urge you to support this move. This space is more than just a bar—nearly a second home for me. It is here that I feel welcome and included, as a kinky leatherman. Please help me protect my cherished space.

>>>

>>> Peter Berman, MD MPH

>>>

>>> Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jamey Allen](#)
To: [CPC-Commissions Secretary](#); [Jonin, Jonas \(CPC\)](#); [Major, Erica \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: Lex@thesfeagle.com; [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting The SF Eagle Bar - Historic Preservation Commission
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 3:48:57 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good day to you all,

As a patron of The SF Eagle bar for nearly thirty years, and believing in the importance of this building and business to our community, I urge you to approve the request for historical designation certification.

Our hopes are with you.

Sincerely, JD Allen

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-5184
Fax No. 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

MEMORANDUM

TO: Rich Hillis, Director, Planning Department
Jonas Ionin, Commission Secretary, Historic Preservation Commission

FROM: Erica Major, Assistant Clerk, Land Use and Transportation Committee

DATE: December 22, 2020

SUBJECT: LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Transportation Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Haney on December 15, 2020:

File No. 201400

Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for the San Francisco Eagle Bar, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, situated within the Leather and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Cultural District.

If you have comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102 or by email at: erica.major@sfgov.org.

cc: Corey Teague, Planning Department
Dan Sider, Planning Department
Laura Lynch, Planning Department
Scott Sanchez, Planning Department
Lisa Gibson, Planning Department
Devyani Jain, Planning Department
Adam Varat, Planning Department
AnMarie Rodgers, Planning Department
Aaron Starr, Planning Department
Andrea Ruiz-Esquide, Deputy City Attorney
Joy Navarrete, Planning Department

Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or Mayor

Time stamp
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment).
- 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.
- 4. Request for letter beginning : "Supervisor inquiries"
- 5. City Attorney Request.
- 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attached written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Reactivate File No.
- 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- Small Business Commission
- Youth Commission
- Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission
- Building Inspection Commission

Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Form.

Sponsor(s):

Haney, Ronen, Preston, Mandleman

Subject:

Initiating Landmark Designation – San Francisco Eagle Bar

The text is listed:

Resolution initiating landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for the San Francisco Eagle Bar, Assessor’s Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, situated within the Leather & LGBTQ Cultural District.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: MATT HANEY

For Clerk's Use Only

From: [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Beinart, Amy \(BOS\)](#); [Kilgore, Preston \(BOS\)](#); [Gee, Natalie \(BOS\)](#); [Temprano, Tom \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Resolution Initiating Landmark Status for the SF Eagle
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:32:16 PM
Attachments: [Introduction Form Resolution Initiating Landmark for SF Eagle.pdf](#)
[Resolution Initiating Landmark of SF Eagle Bar.docx](#)

Hello Clerks,

Please find attached a Resolution initiating the process for Landmarking the SF Eagle that was introduced by Supervisor Haney at this week's Board Meeting.

I have cc'ed staff for Supervisors Ronen, Preston, Walton, and Mandleman to confirm their co-sponsorship.

Please let me know if you need anything else from me.

Best,

Honey Mahogany, MSW
Pronouns: she/her or they/them
Legislative Aide
Supervisor Matt Haney

From: [Gee, Natalie \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#); [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Beinart, Amy \(BOS\)](#); [Kilgore, Preston \(BOS\)](#); [Temprano, Tom \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Re: Resolution Initiating Landmark Status for the SF Eagle
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:45:25 PM

Confirming for Supervisor Walton. Thank you Honey!

Natalie Gee 朱凱勤, Chief of Staff
Office of District 10 **Supervisor Shamann Walton**
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl, San Francisco | Room 282
Direct: 415.554.7672 | **Office:** 415.554.7670

*I am working from home due to the **COVID-19 Stay Safer At Home order** and will be most responsive by email.*

From: Mahogany, Honey (BOS) <honey.mahogany@sfgov.org>
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 7:32 PM
To: BOS Legislation, (BOS) <bos.legislation@sfgov.org>
Cc: Haney, Matt (BOS) <matt.haney@sfgov.org>, Beinart, Amy (BOS) <amy.beinart@sfgov.org>, Kilgore, Preston (BOS) <preston.kilgore@sfgov.org>, Gee, Natalie (BOS) <natalie.gee@sfgov.org>, Temprano, Tom (BOS) <tom.temprano@sfgov.org>
Subject: Resolution Initiating Landmark Status for the SF Eagle

Hello Clerks,

Please find attached a Resolution initiating the process for Landmarking the SF Eagle that was introduced by Supervisor Haney at this week's Board Meeting.

I have cc'ed staff for Supervisors Ronen, Preston, Walton, and Mandleman to confirm their co-sponsorship.

Please let me know if you need anything else from me.

Best,

Honey Mahogany, MSW

Pronouns: she/her or they/them

Legislative Aide

Supervisor Matt Haney

From: [Beinart, Amy \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#); [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Kilgore, Preston \(BOS\)](#); [Gee, Natalie \(BOS\)](#); [Temprano, Tom \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: RE: Resolution Initiating Landmark Status for the SF Eagle
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:51:19 PM

Yes, confirming for Supervisor Ronen!

<<<<<<>>>>>>

Amy Beinart | Legislative Aide/Chief of Staff

Office of Supervisor Hillary Ronen

amy.beinart@sfgov.org

<https://sfbos.org/supervisor-ronen-district-9>

From: Mahogany, Honey (BOS) <honey.mahogany@sfgov.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:32 PM
To: BOS Legislation, (BOS) <bos.legislation@sfgov.org>
Cc: Haney, Matt (BOS) <matt.haney@sfgov.org>; Beinart, Amy (BOS) <amy.beinart@sfgov.org>; Kilgore, Preston (BOS) <preston.kilgore@sfgov.org>; Gee, Natalie (BOS) <natalie.gee@sfgov.org>; Temprano, Tom (BOS) <tom.temprano@sfgov.org>
Subject: Resolution Initiating Landmark Status for the SF Eagle

Hello Clerks,

Please find attached a Resolution initiating the process for Landmarking the SF Eagle that was introduced by Supervisor Haney at this week's Board Meeting.

I have cc'ed staff for Supervisors Ronen, Preston, Walton, and Mandleman to confirm their co-sponsorship.

Please let me know if you need anything else from me.

Best,

Honey Mahogany, MSW

Pronouns: she/her or they/them

Legislative Aide

Supervisor Matt Haney

From: [Kilgore, Preston \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#); [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Beinart, Amy \(BOS\)](#); [Gee, Natalie \(BOS\)](#); [Temprano, Tom \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Re: Resolution Initiating Landmark Status for the SF Eagle
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 2:43:58 PM

Sponsorship confirmed. Apologies for the delay.

From: "Mahogany, Honey (BOS)" <honey.mahogany@sfgov.org>
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 7:32 PM
To: "BOS Legislation, (BOS)" <bos.legislation@sfgov.org>
Cc: "Haney, Matt (BOS)" <matt.haney@sfgov.org>, "Beinart, Amy (BOS)" <amy.beinart@sfgov.org>, "Kilgore, Preston (BOS)" <preston.kilgore@sfgov.org>, "Gee, Natalie (BOS)" <natalie.gee@sfgov.org>, "Temprano, Tom (BOS)" <tom.temprano@sfgov.org>
Subject: Resolution Initiating Landmark Status for the SF Eagle

Hello Clerks,

Please find attached a Resolution initiating the process for Landmarking the SF Eagle that was introduced by Supervisor Haney at this week's Board Meeting.

I have cc'ed staff for Supervisors Ronen, Preston, Walton, and Mandleman to confirm their co-sponsorship.

Please let me know if you need anything else from me.

Best,

Honey Mahogany, MSW

Pronouns: she/her or they/them

Legislative Aide

Supervisor Matt Haney

From: [Mahogany, Honey \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [Beinart, Amy \(BOS\)](#); [Kilgore, Preston \(BOS\)](#); [Gee, Natalie \(BOS\)](#); [Temprano, Tom \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Re: Resolution Initiating Landmark Status for the SF Eagle
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 2:39:19 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hello,

The Reso looks good with edits. I'm sorry for confusion. Supervisor Walton was the final one to sign on so should be listed after Mandleman.

Thank you,

Honey Mahogany, MSW
Pronouns: she/her or they/them
Legislative Aide
Supervisor Matt Haney

From: BOS Legislation, (BOS) <bos.legislation@sfgov.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:44 PM
To: Mahogany, Honey (BOS) <honey.mahogany@sfgov.org>; BOS Legislation, (BOS) <bos.legislation@sfgov.org>
Cc: Haney, Matt (BOS) <matt.haney@sfgov.org>; Beinart, Amy (BOS) <amy.beinart@sfgov.org>; Kilgore, Preston (BOS) <preston.kilgore@sfgov.org>; Gee, Natalie (BOS) <natalie.gee@sfgov.org>; Temprano, Tom (BOS) <tom.temprano@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: Resolution Initiating Landmark Status for the SF Eagle

Hi Honey,

Please see attached for proof of clerical edits. Would you be able to confirm the order of the sponsorship? The introduction form lists the sponsors as Supervisors Haney, Ronen, Preston, and Mandelman, while your email below indicates Supervisors Ronen, Preston, Walton, and Mandelman.

Kindly review and confirm the clerical and formatting changes are acceptable. Thank you.

Best regards,

Jocelyn Wong

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102
T: 415.554.7702 | F: 415.554.5163
jocelyn.wong@sfgov.org | www.sfbos.org

(VIRTUAL APPOINTMENTS) To schedule a “virtual” meeting with me (on Microsoft Teams), please ask and I can answer your questions in real time.

Due to the current COVID-19 health emergency and the Shelter in Place Order, the Office of the Clerk of the Board is working remotely while providing complete access to the legislative process and our services



Click [here](#) to complete a Board of Supervisors Customer Service Satisfaction form

The [Legislative Research Center](#) provides 24-hour access to Board of Supervisors legislation, and archived matters since August 1998.

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From: Mahogany, Honey (BOS) <honey.mahogany@sfgov.org>

Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:32 PM

To: BOS Legislation, (BOS) <bos.legislation@sfgov.org>

Cc: Haney, Matt (BOS) <matt.haney@sfgov.org>; Beinart, Amy (BOS) <amy.beinart@sfgov.org>; Kilgore, Preston (BOS) <preston.kilgore@sfgov.org>; Gee, Natalie (BOS) <natalie.gee@sfgov.org>; Temprano, Tom (BOS) <tom.temprano@sfgov.org>

Subject: Resolution Initiating Landmark Status for the SF Eagle

Hello Clerks,

Please find attached a Resolution initiating the process for Landmarking the SF Eagle that was introduced by Supervisor Haney at this week's Board Meeting.

I have cc'ed staff for Supervisors Ronen, Preston, Walton, and Mandleman to confirm their co-sponsorship.

Please let me know if you need anything else from me.

Best,

Honey Mahogany, MSW

Pronouns: she/her or they/them

Legislative Aide

Supervisor Matt Haney

1 [Initiating Landmark Designation ~~--~~ San Francisco Eagle Bar]

2
3 **Resolution initiating a landmark designation under Article 10 of the Planning Code for**
4 **the San Francisco Eagle Bar, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, situated**
5 **within the Leather and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer & LGBTQ Cultural**
6 **District.**

7
8 WHEREAS, Under Planning Code, Section 1004.1, the Board of Supervisors may by
9 resolution initiate landmark designation; and

10 WHEREAS, San Francisco Eagle Bar (SF Eagle), Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522,
11 Lot No. 014, is situated in Supervisorial District 6 within San Francisco's Leather and Lesbian,
12 Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer & (-LGBTQ) Cultural District in the South of Market
13 (SOMA) neighborhood and is listed as a key asset by the cultural district; and

14 WHEREAS, SF Eagle is a Legacy Business, a designation affirmed by the Historic
15 Preservation Commission and Small Business Commission, and is considered an iconic San
16 Francisco establishment that contributes greatly to the culture, character, and lore of San
17 Francisco; and

18 WHEREAS, SF Eagle has been operating at its current location since opening in
19 February of 1981 at 396-398 12th Street, the corner of 12th and Harrison, and is the name
20 sake of Eagle Plaza, a new public plaza that pays homage to SOMA's historic LGBTQ
21 community, and is the first plaza of its kind in the world; and

22 WHEREAS, The LGBTQ leather community has played an integral role in SOMA's
23 history as a neighborhood, and by the 1960's SOMA had become the epicenter of the LGBTQ
24 leather scene; and

1 WHEREAS, In 1964 a Life magazine article titled “Homosexuality in America,”
2 highlighted San Francisco’s leather community, making San Francisco the unofficial capital of
3 the gay leather scene and drawing even more like-minded individuals to the city and more
4 specifically the SOMA neighborhood; and

5 WHEREAS, The Folsom and Harrison corridors in SOMA became known as the
6 ‘Miracle Mile’ and by the 1970’s counted nearly 30 different gay businesses including leather
7 bars, clubs, shops, and bathhouses; and

8 WHEREAS, The late 70’s and early 80’s saw the gay leather community organize to
9 protest the redevelopment of SOMA by establishing the Folsom Street Fair in 1981 and later
10 the Up Your Alley Street Fair, both of which celebrated the existing gay leather residents,
11 businesses, and culture of SOMA and currently bring in half a million people every year from
12 all over the world into the neighborhood; and

13 WHEREAS, Less than a dozen leather bars, clubs, shops, and bathhouses are left in
14 SOMA today, with several having recently closed, announcing their pending closure, or being
15 threatened with closure; and

16 WHEREAS, The City and County of San Francisco established the Leather & LGBTQ
17 Cultural District in order to preserve the unique culture of the Western SOMA neighborhood
18 and protect the existing businesses and residents who currently call it home from
19 displacement; and

20 WHEREAS, The SF Eagle has a history as an important fundraising institution for the
21 LGBTQ community; and

22 WHEREAS, Terry Thompson, who became the bar manager of SF Eagle in 1984 and
23 managed the bar for 11 years, utilized the Eagle as a vehicle for raising over \$5 million for
24 AIDS charities and eventually helped to create the AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF); and
25

1 WHEREAS, Many of Thompson's events became classic fund-raisers in the SOMA bar
2 scene and several continue on at the SF Eagle today including the world famous Bare Chest
3 Calendar (hosted at the SF Eagle since 1985) and the wildly successful and popular Sunday
4 fund-raising beer busts; and

5 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Eagle Bar is a large open space format leather-themed
6 bar, with the second-largest outdoor patio in the City with a structure dating back to the late-
7 1800s that has been painted to reflect the colors of the leather community which are, black,
8 blue, white, and red; now, therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby initiates landmark designation of
10 San Francisco Eagle Bar, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 3522, Lot No. 014, under Planning
11 Code, Section 1004.1; and, be it

12 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Planning Department
13 prepare a Landmark Designation Report to submit to the Historic Preservation Commission
14 for its consideration of the special historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and value of
15 the property; and, be it

16 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Historic Preservation
17 Commission review the Landmark Designation Report and any other information the Planning
18 Department may have related to the special historical, architectural, and aesthetic interest and
19 value of the San Francisco Eagle Bar; and, be it

20 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board requests that the Historic Preservation
21 Commission consider whether the San Francisco Eagle Bar warrant landmark designation,
22 and submit its recommendation to the Board pursuant to Article 10 of the Planning Code.