

June 28, 2007

Planning Commission
Humboldt County
3033 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501

PLEASE, I beg of you DO NOT create a historic district, commission, committee, or even a survey for the unincorporated portion of Humboldt County regarding historic buildings.

My real estate office for some 25 years was located on the ground floor of an 1886 Eastlake Victorian building. Believe me, "historic" aka known as "old" buildings are money pits even without the added time and cost of another layer of regulations and permits.

During the deliberations regarding the establishment of the Magnolia Historic District in Stockton an architect neighbor or mine and myself requested our block be excluded. Thank goodness, it was excluded.

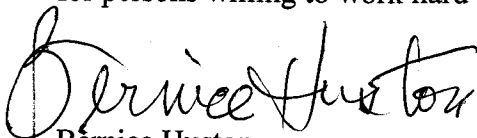
In order to develop the frontage of the 1100 block of North California Street in Stockton, it was necessary to remove three old, dilapidated single family houses. This was necessary to develop parking for the two small office buildings at either end of the block. There were three Eastlake victorian buildings in the 100 x 100 middle.

The new office buildings incorporated some of the details of the Eastlakes. Yes, we were recognized for a job well done.

In handling real estate in Stockton, I was instructed many times to locate property except in the Magnolia district. The experience with the commission has generally been negative. As an indication of lack of interest in architectural history, there are no persons who reside in the neighborhood sitting on the board of the historic commission.

To repeat: I beg you, don't create more regulations and expense. It is an unnecessary hurdle.

Thanks for your good efforts in crafting a General Plan in plain English and with less handicaps for persons willing to work hard to make this a better place to live.



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HUMBOLDT COUNTY
PLANNING DIVISION