

BOARD of SUPERVISORS




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MEMORANDUM

Date: January 19, 2023

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

From:  Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board, Office of the Clerk of the Board

Subject: Planning Code - Landmark Designation - Turk and Taylor Streets
Intersection (File No. 220924)

On November 29, 2022, the Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 246-22, sponsored by Supervisors Preston and Dorsey and approved by Mayor London N. Breed on December 9, 2022.

A copy of the Ordinance is being forwarded to you pursuant to Resolution No. 246-22.

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: Dan Sider, Chief of Staff
Corey Teague, Zoning Administrator
Tina Tam, Deputy Zoning Administrator
Lisa Gibson, Environmental Review Officer
Devyani Jain, Deputy Environmental Review Officer
AnMarie Rodgers, Director of Citywide Planning
Aaron Starr, Manager of Legislative Affairs
Joy Navarrete, Environmental Planning
Elizabeth Watty, Current Planning Division
Andrea Ruiz-Esquide, Office of the City Attorney

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1 [Planning Code - Landmark Designation - Turk and Taylor Streets Intersection]

2
3 **Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate the Turk and Taylor Streets**
4 **Intersection together with defined portions of 101 Taylor Street, Assessor's Parcel**
5 **Block No. 0339, Lot No. 003 (known as the "Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot"), as a**
6 **Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code; affirming the Planning Department's**
7 **determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making public**
8 **necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code, Section 302, and**
9 **findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of**
10 **Planning Code, Section 101.1.**

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

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

19 Section 1. Findings.

20 (a) CEQA and Land Use Findings.

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

1 on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 220924 and is incorporated herein
2 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 Turk and Taylor Streets Intersection together with
5 defined portions of 101 Taylor Street, Assessor's Block No. 0339, Lot 003 (known as the "Site
6 of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot"), will serve the public necessity, convenience, and welfare for
7 the reasons set forth in Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No. 1264,
8 recommending approval of the proposed designation, which is incorporated herein by
9 reference.

10 (3) The Board of Supervisors finds that the proposed landmark designation of
11 the Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot is consistent with the General Plan and with Planning
12 Code Section 101.1(b) for the reasons set forth in Historic Preservation Commission
13 Resolution No. 1264.

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 August 17,
24 2022, reviewed Planning Department staff's analysis of the historical significance of the Site of
25

1 the Compton's Cafeteria Riot pursuant to Article 10 as part of the Landmark Designation Fact
2 Sheet dated August 10, 2022.

3 (4) On June 17, 2022, after holding a public hearing on the proposed initiation,
4 the Board of Supervisors initiated of the proposed landmark designation of Turk and Taylor
5 Streets Intersection (at latitude: 37.78323 and longitude: -122.41078) by Resolution No. 283-
6 22. Said resolution is on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. 220461.

7 (5) On August 17, 2022, after holding a public hearing on the proposed
8 designation and having considered the specialized analyses prepared by Planning
9 Department staff and the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet, the Historic Preservation
10 Commission recommended designation of the Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot as a
11 landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code by Resolution No. 1264. Said resolution is on
12 file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. 220924.

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

18
19 Section 2. Designation.

20 Pursuant to Section 1004 of the Planning Code, the intersection of Turk and Taylor
21 Streets, and defined portions of Assessor's Block No. 0339 Lot No. 003, as set forth in
22 Section 3, below (referred to herein as the "Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot"), is hereby
23 designated as a San Francisco Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code. Appendix A
24 to Article 10 of 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:

3 (1) The public right-of-way at the intersection of Turk Street and Taylor Street,
4 bound by Assessor Block Nos. 0339, 0340, 0342 and 0343 with, in addition, the width of
5 Taylor Street north 52 feet and the width of Turk Street west 40 feet; and

6 (2) The exterior building walls of 101 Taylor Street, to a height of 11 feet, 52
7 feet north on Taylor Street and 40 feet west on Turk Street (being the walls that contained the
8 storefronts of the former Compton's Cafeteria).

9 (b) The characteristics of the Landmark that justify its designation are described and
10 shown in the Landmark Designation Fact Sheet and other supporting materials contained in
11 Planning Department Record Case No. 2022-005199DES. In brief, the Site of the Compton's
12 Cafeteria Riot is eligible for local designation as it is associated with events that have made a
13 significant contribution to the broad patterns of San Francisco history. Specifically, designation
14 of the Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot is proper given its association with the first large-
15 scale collective direct action on the part of people marginalized by sexuality/gender that
16 resulted in lasting institutional change. By acting collectively, instead of as individuals,
17 members of the community were able to further the cause to enable a greater freedom of
18 gender expression without oppression. Moreover, after the riot, the City's Health and Police
19 Departments began to develop supportive programs for the transgender people in San
20 Francisco, some of which would also enable people to gain access to State and Federal anti-
21 poverty programs. The riot to demand dignity succeeded in starting the long process to
22 change society.

23 (c) The particular features that shall be preserved, or replaced in-kind as determined
24 necessary, are those generally shown in photographs and described in the Landmark
25 Designation Fact Sheet, which can be found in Planning Department Record Case No. 2022-

1 005199DES, and which are incorporated in this designation by reference as though fully set
2 forth. Specifically, the following features shall be preserved or replaced in kind:

3 (1) The spatial relationships within the public right-of-way at the intersection of
4 Turk and Taylor Streets, being 68-feet, 9-inches in width, and extending north 52 feet from the
5 corner of Turk Street and 40 feet west from the corner of Taylor Street;

6 (2) Limited portions of the exterior walls of 101 Taylor Street, specifically, the
7 lower 11-feet of the building which housed the storefront of the former Gene Compton's
8 Cafeteria; extending north 52 feet from the corner of Turk Street and 40 feet west from the
9 corner of Taylor Street.

10
11 Section 4. Standards of Review for Applications.

12 The following scopes of work shall not require a Certificate of Appropriateness within
13 the public right-of-way at the intersection of Turk and Taylor Streets, and extending north 52
14 feet from the corner of Turk Street and 40 feet west from the corner of Taylor Street:

15 (a) Signs, for businesses fronting the public right-of-way, or projecting into it as
16 regulated by Article 6 of the Planning Code.

17 (b) Awnings or architectural features for buildings fronting the public right-of-way or
18 projecting into it as regulated by Article 1.2 of the Planning Code.

19 (c) Signs for street, transit, bicycle, or pedestrian safety, direction, and identification,
20 such as street names, speed limits, traffic signals, etc.

21 (d) Armatures and overhead wires for MUNI service.
22

23 Section 5. Effective Date.

24 This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after enactment. Enactment occurs
25 when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not

1 sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the
2 Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

3
4 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
5 DAVID CHIU, City Attorney

6 By: /s/
7 ANDREA RUIZ-ESQUIDE
8 Deputy City Attorney

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City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Ordinance

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

File Number: 220924

Date Passed: November 29, 2022

Ordinance amending the Planning Code to designate the Turk and Taylor Streets Intersection together with defined portions of 101 Taylor Street, Assessor's Parcel Block No. 0339, Lot No. 003 (known as the "Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot"), as a Landmark under Article 10 of the Planning Code; affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act; and making public necessity, convenience, and welfare findings under Planning Code, Section 302, and findings of consistency with the General Plan, and the eight priority policies of Planning Code, Section 101.1.

November 14, 2022 Land Use and Transportation Committee - RECOMMENDED AS COMMITTEE REPORT

November 15, 2022 Board of Supervisors - PASSED ON FIRST READING

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

November 29, 2022 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED

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

File No. 220924

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was FINALLY PASSED on 11/29/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

London N. Breed
Mayor

12/9/22

Date Approved



Exhibit D

ARTICLE 10 LANDMARK DESIGNATION FACT SHEET

Historic Name:	Site of the Compton’s Cafeteria Riot
Address:	Intersection of Turk and Taylor Streets and 101 Taylor Street
Block/ Lot(s):	Between Assessor Blocks 0339, 0340, 0342 and 0343 Assessor’s Block 0339, Lot 003
Parcel Area:	N/A
Zoning:	N/A / RC-4
Year Built:	Year of Event: 1966
Architect:	N/A
Prior Historic Studies/Other Designations:	The proposed Landmark is within the Transgender Cultural District. Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco (Donna Graves and Shayne Watson-2015); Contributor to a district or multiple resource property listed in NR by the Keeper. Listed in the CR.
Prior HPC Actions:	HPC Work Program – under-represented communities.
Significance Criteria:	A/1 Association with associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
Period of Significance:	1966
Statement of Significance (abbreviated, see detailed discussion below):	The Site of the Compton’s Cafeteria riot is significant for its association with the first large-scale collective direct action on the part of people marginalized by sexuality/gender that resulted in lasting institutional change, surpassing Cooper Donut in impact, Dewey’s in militancy, and preceding the more important/larger Stonewall in time. By acting collectively, instead of as individuals, members of the community were able to further the cause to enable a greater freedom of gender expression without oppression. Moreover, after the Riot, the City’s Health and Police Departments began to develop supportive programs for the transgender people in San Francisco, some of which would also enable people to gain access to State and Federal anti-poverty programs. The Riot to demand dignity succeeded in starting the long process to change society. [See below for a more comprehensive statement]
Assessment of Integrity:	The seven aspects of Integrity are: location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

	<p>As a resource significant for association for an event, certain aspects of integrity are more relevant than others. The location, setting feeling and association remain intact, as the essential characteristics of an urban intersection are unchanged. Workmanship, design and materials are less important. The storefront that had contained the Compton’s Cafeteria has undergone two significant changes since 1966, and is no longer an active storefront. The design and materials have been changed, yet it is still completely recognizable as the location, setting, feeling and associations are extant.</p>
<p>Character-Defining Features:</p>	<p>Within the public right-of-way: spatial relationships of the intersection and parts of adjacent streets. At 101 Taylor Street: The lower 11-feet of the building which housed the storefronts of the former Gene Compton’s Cafeteria; extending north 52 feet from the corner of Turk Street and 40 feet west from the corner of Taylor Street</p>

Statement of Significance

Site of the Compton’s Cafeteria Riot, August 1966¹

Background Context

In 1966, a group of transgender women and young gay men took direct action during the Compton’s Cafeteria riot, which “resulted in lasting institutional change”². In the 1960s, the Tenderloin saw an influx of socially and economically marginalized people who had been forced out of areas in San Francisco that had been targeted for redevelopment, especially the Western Addition and South of Market areas. The combination of the increased and very mixed population, along with the Tenderloin’s already high number of low-income residents living in single-room-occupancy hotels or on the streets, led to neighborhood activists organizing for financial and social assistance.

Part of a local chain, the Gene Compton’s Cafeteria at 101 Taylor Street at the corner of Turk and Taylor Streets in the heart of the Tenderloin was a popular hangout for transgender women, young male hustlers, and others who lived and worked in the Tenderloin in the early 1960s. Compton’s

¹ Much of this text is based on the CITYWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT FOR LGBTQ HISTORY IN SAN FRANCISCO by Donna J. Graves & Shayne E. Watson, October 2015.

² Susan Stryker, Transgender History (Berkeley: Seal Press, 2008) 64. Earlier transgender protests have been documented in Los Angeles (Cooper’s Donuts in 1959) and Philadelphia (Dewey’s in 1965).

Cafeteria was a brightly lit, inexpensive restaurant that was open 24 hours a day, and was one of the few places where transgender women could feel safe socializing.

Cheap residential hotels in the neighborhood were among the very few places that would rent rooms to them. Transgender activist Felicia “Flames” Elizondo found her first San Francisco home near Compton’s, where a transgender clerk named Amanda St. Jaymes “let us take tricks up to the room for five dollars.”³ Elizondo says, “Golden Gate, Mason, Geary and Hyde Streets were the blocks where we felt comfortable.” Tamara Ching, another long-time transgender activist, says the Tenderloin was the easiest place for transgender women to engage in sex work “because everyone knew what was what, the customers knew who we were, what we were.”⁴

Members of the Tenderloin LGBTQ+ youth group Vanguard also gathered at Compton’s, bringing a more assertive and anti-assimilation⁵ attitude that annoyed management, who began asking police to remove some patrons. In July 1966, a few dozen Vanguard youth organized a picket line in front of Compton’s to protest “physical and verbal abuse by the management and the “Pinkerton” Special Officers assigned there.”⁶ Police at the time had the reputation for capriciousness, arrests were frequent, the charges being for female impersonation, and could result in placement in isolation for days at a time.⁷

The Riot August 1966

Susan Stryker’s pioneering work on the Compton’s Cafeteria Riot documents transgender women in the Tenderloin participating in one of a series of early incidents of militant resistance against

³ Felicia Elizondo Flames, interviewed by Donna Graves, 15 March 2014. Elizondo also mentioned hotels named Camelot, King Edwards, and 111 Mason as places transgender women lived.

⁴ Tamara Ching, interviewed by Donna Graves, 10 March 2014.

⁵ Manolis, Sophia, “Vanguard Then and Now: An Evolution of Gay Youth Activism in the Tenderloin” FoundSF.org accessed 7.14.2022: https://www.foundsf.org/index.php?title=Vanguard_Then_and_Now:_An_Evolution_of_Gay_Youth_Activism_in_the_Tenderloin

⁶ Both protests received media coverage. The Compton’s picket received television coverage by local ABC news. “Young Homos Picket Compton’s Restaurant” Cruise News & World Report, vol. 2, no. 8 August 1966 p 1. accessed http://auralstories.blogspot.com/2013/07/vanguard-revisited-online-exhibit_1.html

⁷ Amanda St. Jaymes, Interview in Screaming Queens: The Riot at Compton's Cafeteria, 2005 Victor Silverman and Susan Stryker

police harassment.⁸ The riot took place over several days in August 1966—three years before the more well-known Stonewall riots in New York.

In August 1966, a police attempt to evict transgender women from the cafeteria inspired patrons to rebel, rather than submit to arrest as they had done previously. Transgender women and drag queens threw crockery and turned over tables as they fought with police, shattering the restaurant's plate-glass windows in the process. An angry crowd gathered at the intersection of Turk and Taylor Streets, and police called in backup, but the night ended with a police car wrecked and a corner newsstand set on fire. Many went to jail, but "there was a lot of joy after it happened" according to Amanda St. Jaymes. The next night a picket line with placards appeared at Compton's and again, shattered glass littered the sidewalk. Although the event did not receive press coverage at the time, Stryker notes that the Compton's Cafeteria Riot demonstrated a growing assertiveness and community consciousness among some transgender people and represented what Stryker describes as "the transgender community's debut on the stage of American political history."⁹

Cultural Significance

The Turk & Taylor Streets Intersection witnessed the first documented uprising of trans and queer people, In August of 1966, what is known as the Compton's Cafeteria Riot, due to the fact that it started as a confrontation between a police officer and a drag queen at Compton's Cafeteria at the intersection of Turk & Taylor and spilled out into the streets. The Compton's Cafeteria Riots of 1966 transpired three years before the Stonewall Inn Riots, which has been regarded as the quintessential event for the gay liberation movement, eclipsing other trailblazing events such as the Cooper Do-nuts Riot in Los Angeles in 1959 which did not evoke cultural changes. However, the revolutionary event that took place at the intersection of Turk & Taylor Streets must also be

⁸ Faderman and Timmons, *Gay L.A.: A History*, 1.

⁹ Susan Stryker in documentary film, *Screaming Queens: The Riot at Compton's Cafeteria*, 2005. The film states that Compton's started closing at midnight after the riot, and patronage decreased. It closed in 1972 and was replaced by a porn shop.

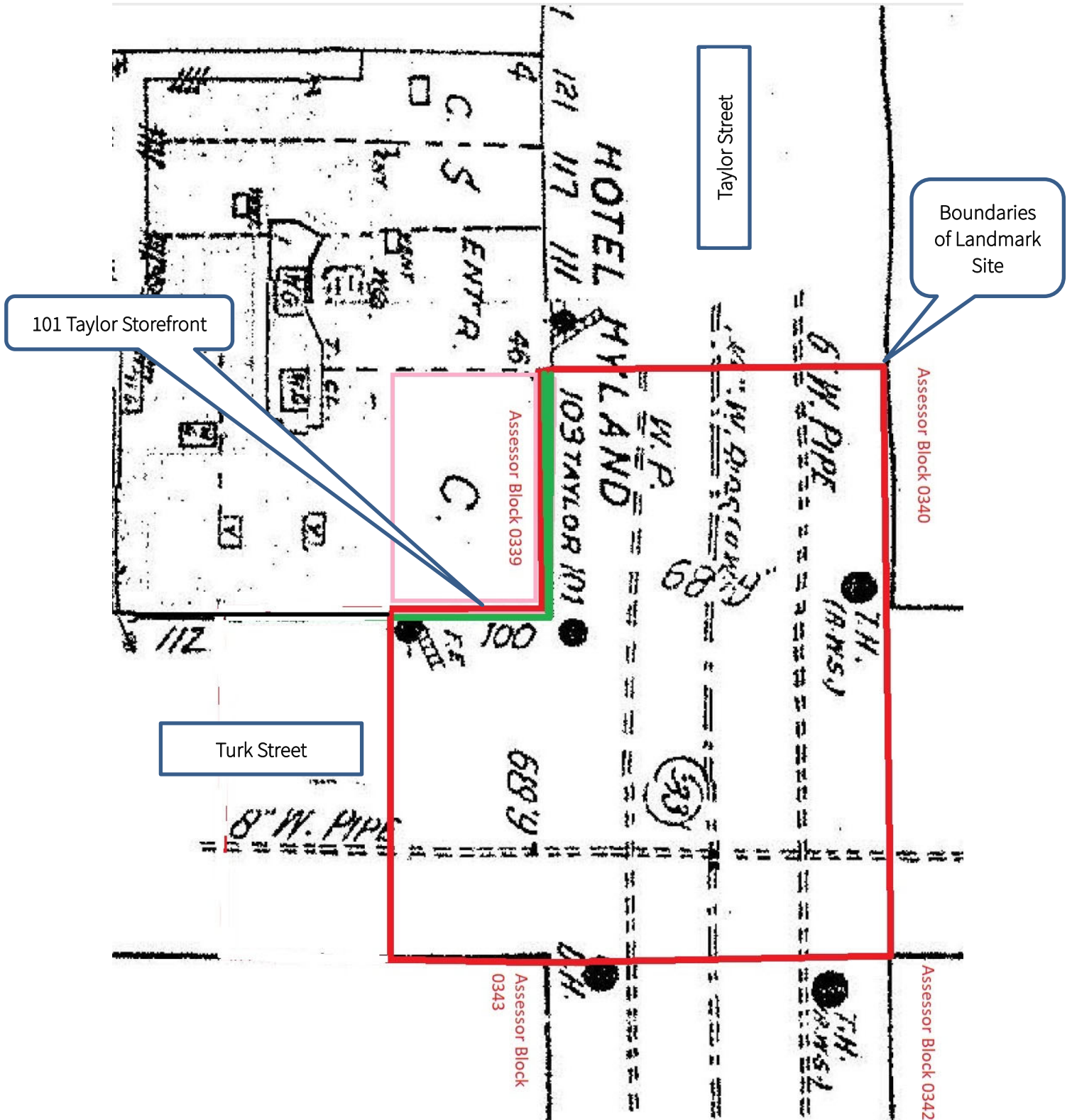
recognized as a seminal event in the history of transgender liberation. As decades have passed San Francisco-based publications such as the San Francisco Chronicle and zines used by Tenderloin-based organizations like Vanguard, continue to uphold the prominence and impact of the Compton's Cafeteria Riots and regard the intersection of Turk & Taylor Streets as a historically and culturally important space.

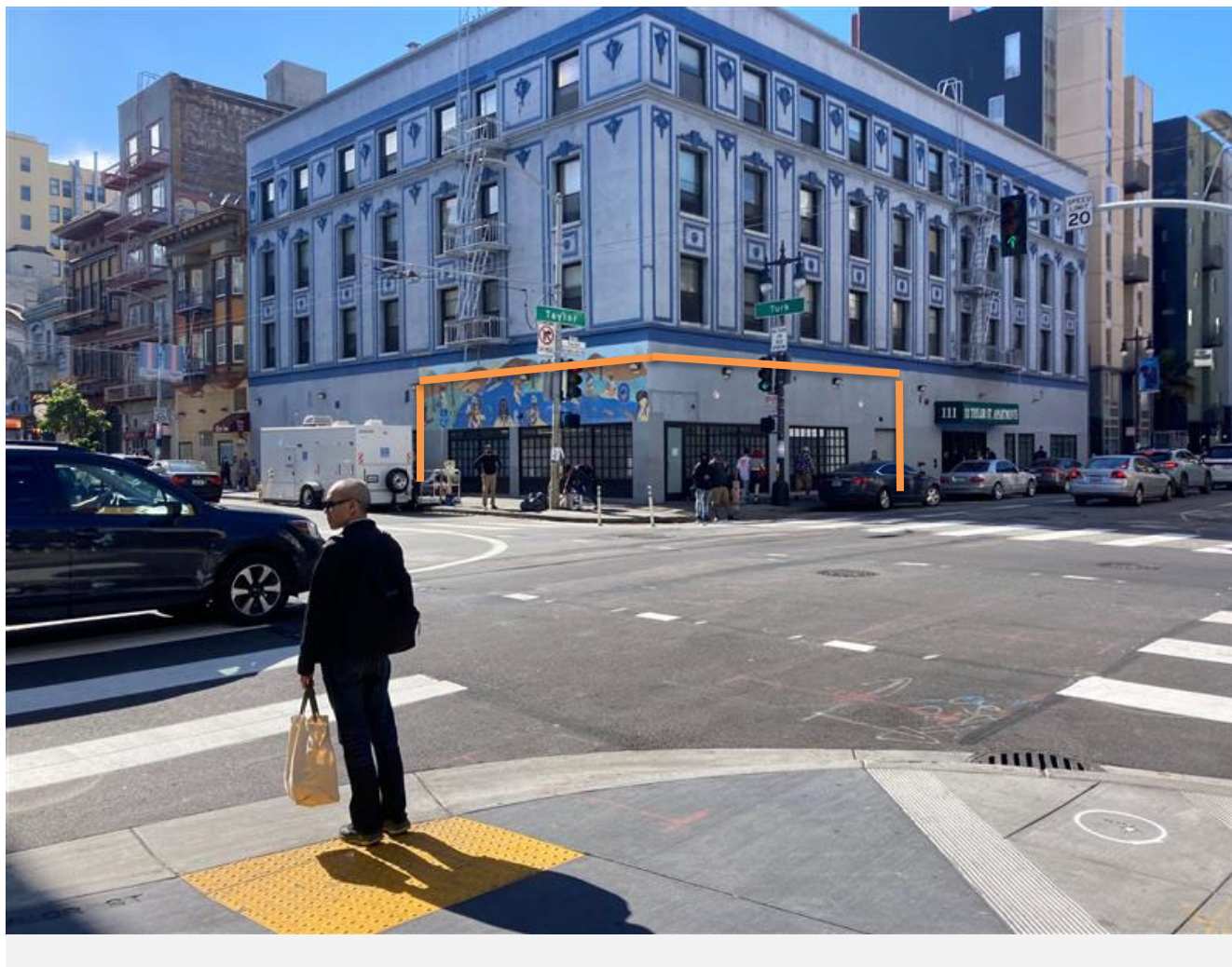
The "Site of the Compton's Cafeteria Riot" is significant given its association with an early documented "instance of collective militant queer resistance to police harassment United States history¹⁰". By acting collectively, instead of as individuals, members of the community were able to further the cause to enable a greater freedom of gender expression without oppression. Moreover, after the Riot, the City's Health and Police Departments began to develop supportive programs for the transgender people in San Francisco, some of which would also enable people to gain access to State and Federal anti-poverty programs. The Riot to demand dignity succeeded in starting the long process to change society.

The corner of Turk & Taylor continues to be a valuable asset tethered to the history of transgender and queer individuals in San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood and is a key monument for The Transgender Cultural District. The Turk & Taylor Streets Intersection represent a sacred site for the transgender community capable of furthering social and historical awareness, educational opportunities, and economic investment in a neighborhood that has memorialized a prominent transgender presence. The Turk & Taylor Streets Intersection was selected to be the site of the Black Trans Lives Matter Mural, a visual demonstration calling for awareness of the alarming violence perpetrated against transgender women, and disproportionately impacting Black transgender women. Recognizing symbols and monuments tethered to transgender liberation and activism supports and empowers an embattled community that struggles for equitable representation in documented history.

¹⁰ Ibid

Exhibit E: Map and Photos





Intersection of Turk Street and Taylor Street looking northwest with 101 Taylor Street wall outlined.

