

MDNA – Brief History

The current version of the Mission Dolores Neighborhood Association (MDNA) was founded in August of 2005 with a primary focus on land use in San Francisco's oldest residential and a sub area of The Mission District. Our main concern has been to preserve the historic resources in the area and to oversee new construction, even though we also work to resolve quality of life issues.

Since the beginning we have raised over \$135,000 to complete an historic survey and historic context statement of the area (now adopted) with the goal of completing a National Register Historic District in the rear future. We completed this important work while working with The San Francisco Study, as our fiscal sponsor.

In the process we've been instrumental in saving many historic resources from demolition. They include 200 Dolores (former parsonage building for the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Ebenezer Church that was destroyed in a fire, in 1993), 601 Dolores (former Golden Gate Lutheran Church), 651-655 Dolores (former Second Church of Christ Scientist), 3140-50 16th Street (historic garage), among others.

The Mission Dolores Neighborhood Historic Survey and Context Statement was also instrumental in triggering the Historic Resource Evaluation (HRE) of Mission Dolores Park during its recent and successful renovation. Those documents guaranteed that the park's original John McLaren design would be preserved and only slightly altered. So the park remains an historic resource today.

In addition to our preservation work, we've worked closely with many project sponsors (developers) and architects in helping to oversee some outstanding new buildings, some of which have won design awards.