HISTORIC PRESERVATION

BENICIA, CALIFORNIA







SERVICES:

- » Downtown Design Guidelines Development
- » Analysis of Existing Conditions
- » Preservation Policies
- » Design Review Development
- » Public Process and Community Engagement

CLIENT:

Suzanne Thorsen Principle Planner City of Benicia

DATE: 2017-Present

Benicia Downtown Historic District Design Guidelines

The Downtown Historic District Design Guidelines project will update the Historic District Design Guidelines within the Downtown Historic Conservation Plan, which was developed in 1990. The Downtown Historic District encompasses the First Street central business district and surrounding neighborhoods as well as the former Tannery, Southern Pacific Depot, State Historic Capitol Building and numerous national and state landmarks. In total, approximately 700 parcels fall within the Downtown Historic District boundary; of these, about 300 contain designated historic structures corresponding to the historic district's period of significance, 1847-1940.

The objective of this project is to provide user-friendly guidelines for the treatment of historic properties, alterations to non-historic buildings, and the design of new infill structures within the historic district, as well as to update design review procedures. The updated design guidelines will ensure consistency in the design review process, reinforce the character of the historic district, and provide the basis for clear and fair decision-making in the district. This project is expected to bring Benicia into alignment with historic preservation "best practices" and streamline design review procedures.



Map of the Benicia Downtown Historic District.

