City of Santa Rosa

Courthouse Square Reunification

Workshop #1
December 12, 2015

Carlile Macy

- Civil Engineers - Urban Planners
- Land Surveyors - Landscape Architects
SANTA ROSA
SONOMA COUNTY, CAL.
Courthouse Square 1855-1884
Courthouse Square 1870

Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
Courthouse Square 1884-1906
Court House, Santa Rosa, Cal.

Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
Courthouse Square  4th of July

Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
4th Street looking West - 1905

Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
Courthouse Square 1910-1966
Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library

Courthouse Square 1929
Courthouse and Empire Building—1920’s

Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
4th and Hinton looking East

Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
County Jail

Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
4th and Hinton looking West – 1930s

Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
Mendocino from 5th looking South

Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
Courthouse Square 1966-2015
Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
Make it Safe
A variety of elements within the square create hidden spaces
Auto-dominated, good visibility

Less activity, poor visibility

More activity, good visibility
Before view showing annex building that blocked the courthouse
Well-activated spaces create a safe and welcoming environment in Redwood City.
Clear site lines and high-quality lighting create a safe and vibrant nighttime environment
First Street Before Improvements
Livermore First Street
Tracy project area in 2010
Aerial view of plaza/ streetscape today
Before improvements an underutilized parking lot fronted the historic buildings
Splitting 6th St into a one way couplet calmed traffic and encouraged free movement of pedestrians
A pedestrian oriented side street with pavers links the plaza with the historic downtown.
Aerial view of Cinema Streetscape and Courthouse Square
Custom light features create a dramatic nighttime environment
Activate the Square
Interactive water plinths draw families into Tracy Downtown Plaza
Fountains encourage spontaneous interaction from children
A variety of seating options encourages activity on Redwood City Courthouse Square
An unprogrammed central space allows for a variety of special events on the square
The movie crowd gathering on the terrace
Make it Flexible
Summer Concert on the Square
Redwood City Courthouse Square
The plaza expands into the side street for special events in Tracy
The street becomes an outdoor room for special events
Moveable tables and chairs in Redwood City
Make it feel like Santa Rosa
What is Santa Rosa?
Sonoma County Courthouse
Santa Rosa, Cal.

Courtesy, the Sonoma County Library
IN 1874 THIS PUBLIC SQUARE WAS DONATED TO THE COUNTY OF SONOMA BY J. CARLILE & SON, H. W. KILLOIAN AND E. B. BALDWIN. THAT SAME YEAR AFTER SANTA ROSA, FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS THE SEAT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT WAS LOCATED ADJACENT TO THIS SQUARE. IN 1884 THE FIRST COURTHOUSE ON THIS SITE WAS DEDICATED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF C. H. L. MILLER. THE EARTHQUAKE OF 1886 DESTROYED THIS BUILDING. SUBSEQUENTLY, IN 1886, THE CORNERSTONE FOR THE LAST COURTHOUSE WERE LAID IN THE FREMONT AND IN 1906 IT WAS DEMOLISHED. ITS GRANITE STEPS HAVE BEEN USED IN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THIS SQUARE.

THIS AREA SERVES AS THE CENTER FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN SONOMA COUNTY. It is hereby dedicated in commemoration of its long use as the legal center for the county. It has been officially named “OLD COURTHOUSE SQUARE.”

PLAQUE DONATED BY LAWYERS WIVES OF SONOMA COUNTY, 1967
Pavilions capture the historic character of the courthouse and Fox Theatre.
Custom planter bowls in Yuba City
Central plaza trellis and fountain in Downtown Livermore
Custom light columns on Redwood City Cinema Streetscape
Plinth fabrication for Tracy Plaza
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Composition</th>
<th>Surrounding Uses</th>
<th>Organizational Elements</th>
<th>Why It Works</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pioneer Square</td>
<td>Assymetrical</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>Predominant hardscape</td>
<td>- Large section of unprogrammed hardscape allows for the flexibility of hosting various events</td>
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<td>Informal</td>
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<td>Hardscape</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank Ogawa Plaza</td>
<td>Assymetrical</td>
<td>Civic (City Hall)</td>
<td>Large historic oak tree</td>
<td>- Formal composition celebrates the history of City Hall</td>
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<td>Informal</td>
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<td>Hardscape / Softscape</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union Square</td>
<td>Symmetrical</td>
<td>Retail</td>
<td>Service Commercial (Hotels)</td>
<td>- Kiosks in plaza help to occupy space</td>
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<td>Informal</td>
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<td>Hardscape / Softscape</td>
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<td>- Combination of hard/softscape allows for large public gatherings, performances and informal seating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Battery Park</td>
<td>Symmetrical</td>
<td>Civic (Library)</td>
<td>Kiosks</td>
<td>- Large non-programmed green provides relief from intense urban environment</td>
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<td>Informal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Large hardscape</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Hardscape / Softscape</td>
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<td>- Flexibility of seating allows for seating arrangement for individuals and groups</td>
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**Comparative Analysis**
<table>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Composition</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Healdsburg Town Square + 1 Acre</td>
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<td>Windsor Town Green + 4 Acre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Redwood City Courthouse Square + 1/2 Acre</td>
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Santa Rosa Courthouse Square +-1.5 Acres
We need your input!