SACRAMENTO OLD CITY ASSOCIATION



CHERISHING OUR HERITAGE. . . PLANNING OUR FUTURE

February 20, 2009

Dear National Trust for Historic Preservation:

Regarding: Globe Mills National Preservation Award Nomination

It is with great pleasure that the Sacramento Old City Association (SOCA), Sacramento's premier historic preservation membership organization, supports the nomination of the Globe Mills project for a National Trust/HUD Secretary's Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation.

For years the derelict, empty, fire damaged old mill was an eyesore in Alkali Flat, Sacramento's oldest neighborhood. In its day, it was a thriving grain mill and a source of employment for many of Sacramento's early families. When the mill was no longer used, nature and vandals damaged it leaving it in disrepair. The owner of the mill asked for it to be demolished. Luckily, Sacramento's Housing and Redevelopment Agency saw its possibilities, bought it, and looked for innovative developers to bring it back to life.

The courageous developers were found, along with an incredibly imaginative architect. With several funding sources, including HUD's, the people of the City of Sacramento now have a stunning landmark. Everyone is proud of the results. SOCA is especially pleased that a new structure was incorporated on the site allowing for a mixture of residents, including low income seniors have access to beautiful new apartments. Others have been able to purchase moderate rate condos in the building where the silos still stand and are part of the complex and a gateway to the City from Highway 160.

SOCA was able to include this restoration on one of our annual Home Tours and the community interest was fantastic. In addition, our public television station recently featured this project and its surrounding neighborhood, a much acclaimed program by our members. We suggest that jurors watch the program to get a much better idea of the importance of the restored Globe Mills to this community.

We sincerely hope you will give great consideration to the Globe Mills project in making your selection for this award.

Linda K. Whitney

President

Sincerely,

cc: Mike Malinowski

SOCA P.O. Box 162140 Sacramento, CA 95816 Phone (916) 455-2935-sacoldcity.org