

APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION
as
LANDMARK OR HISTORIC DISTRICT

PEORIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Pursuant to Article III, Sec. 9-8 of Ordinance No. 11,990, I submit the following:

- A. Name(s) and address(es) of the owner(s) of property proposed for designation:

Name

Address

CITY OF PEORIA

BRICK STREET AND BOULEVARD ON ARMSTRONG AVENUE BETWEEN N. NORTH STREET AND SHERIDAN ROAD.

- B. Legal description and common street address(es) of the property proposed for designation:

400, 500 and 600 blocks of Armstrong Ave. (including the boulevard of three sections) This street is covered with bricks having been laid circa 1903 but patched in several places with asphalt and cement fill (in fewer spots) by the water company and gas and/or sewer crews after completing repairs.

- C. A map delineating the boundaries and location of the property proposed for designation (attached). SEE - (1)

- D. Written statement describing the property and setting forth reasons in support of the designation proposed (attached). SEE (?)

Submitted by: James H. Demosey

404 West "Armstrong Avenue

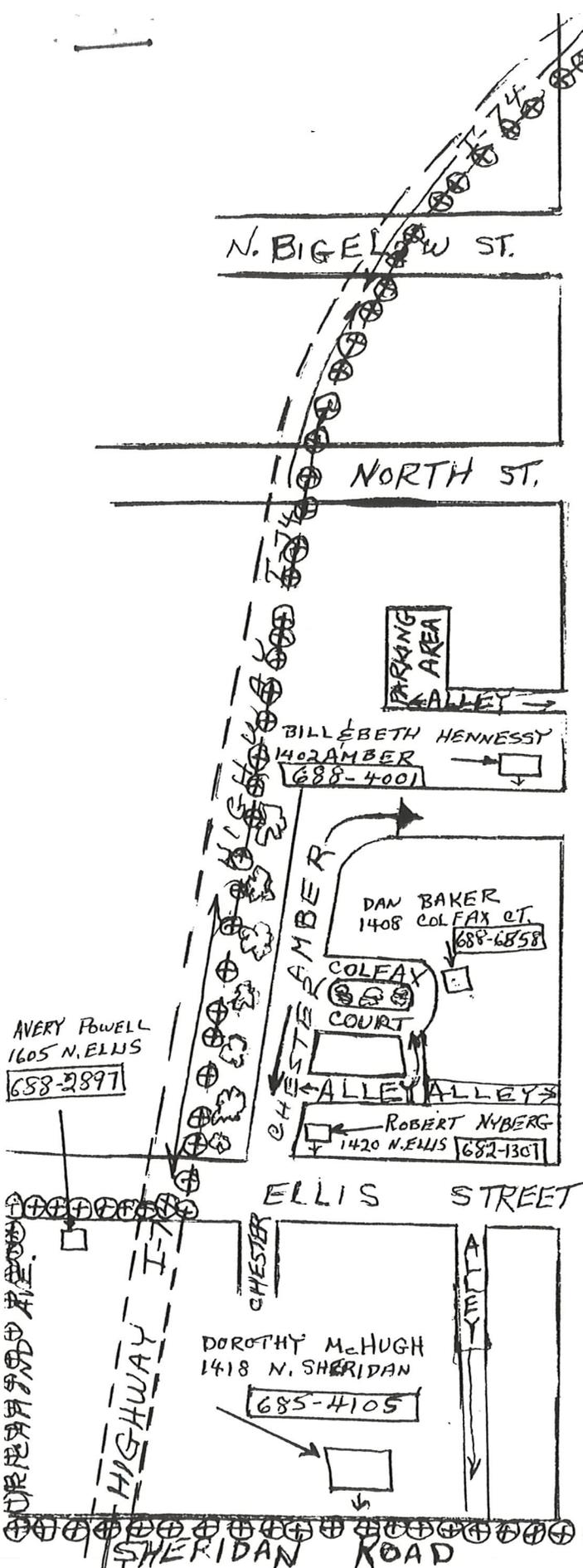
Address

March 27, 1992

Date

688-4517

Phone



(1)

RICK BURDETTE
218 W. ARMSTRONG
688-5265

N. BIGELOW ST.

ALLEY

OSCAR JAMES
1320 N. NORTH
686-6499

NORTH STREET

JIM DEMPSEY
404 W. ARMSTRONG
688-4517

ALLEY

FLORA STREET

ODIS JONES
500 W. ARMSTRONG
682-5117

WM. BEAVERS
1314 N. ELLIS
688-5620

ELLIS STREET

ALLEY

GIZA BIRO
602 W. ARMSTRONG
682-2988

SHERIDAN ROAD

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
INFORMATION 1991

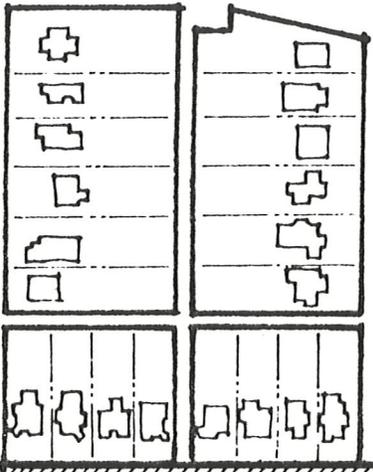
ARMSTRONG - ELLIS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC.

INTERSTATE 74

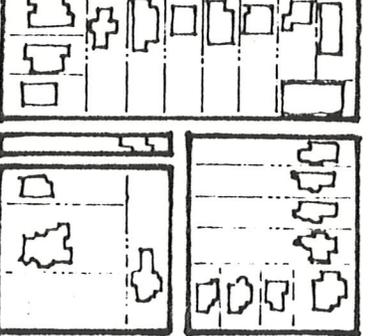
RD.

SHERIDAN

N.



W. ARMSTRONG AVE.

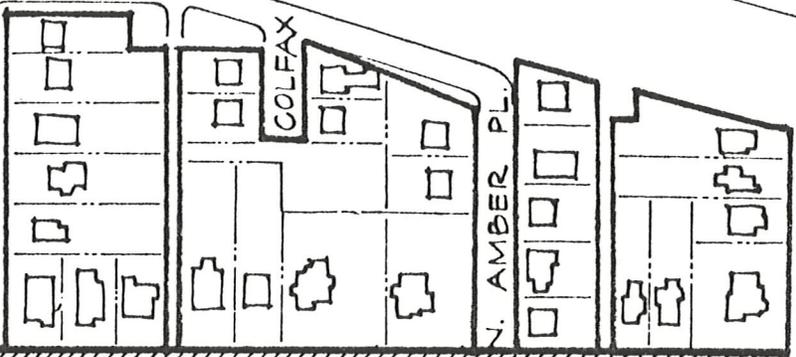


W. COLUMBIA TERRACE

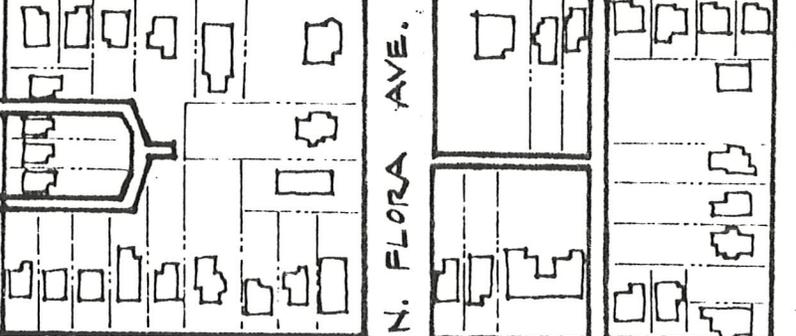
ST.

ELLIS

N.



W. ARMSTRONG AVE.

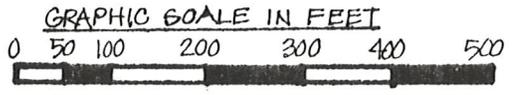


N. FLORA AVE. N. COLUMBIA TERRACE

ST.

NORTH

N.



This street is the only one in Peoria that has a boulev^Eard. It had to have been laid before the turn of the century since the houses there have brick foundations. Bricks were prohibited from being used by contractors in a city ordinance forbidding the use of bricks in home foundations after 1905.

This nearly 100 year old brick street has received no city maintenance since its installation. To bring the street up to its original condition might require a considerable investment but it would be cheap in the long run when one realizes it will last another 100 years.

Property values are declining in this area in part due to PHA rentals and rental landlords or agencies who only care about collecting the rents. (Also, due to the appearance of the street with its patches, crumbling boulevard and street curbing and its overall age.) There is still plenty of homeowner interest in property upkeep but little or none by the renters. Most homes are inhabited by older couples whose children have grown and moved away. However, in the last two years, four or five young couples with children have bought homes on our street and we see the return of children to the area.

By making the three blocks an historic district, curbing, lighting, street repairs of broken bricks, removal of patches and general upgrading of our street can be accomplished. Without being designated an historic district, the percentage of homeowners necessary to petition for these will never be met because of landlord owners, absentee owners who rent their property and the ability to pay by our many elderly fixed income retiree homeowners.

NOTE: A study concerning brick streets in Peoria was done by Steve VanWinkle for the mayor and city council thru the city manager. It is dated April 12, 1988 and is attached.

Armstrong residents in the 400, 500 and 600 blocks do not want the city to cover their brick street with asphalt. They did that many years ago to Armstrong (after removing the boulevard) from North to Knoxville. This street has turned into a "Speedway" as evidenced by parked police cars there during the summer months issuing traffic tickets.



INTERSECTION N. NORTH AND ARMSTRONG AVENUE (LOOKING WEST) OLD TWO STORY
HOUSES BUILT BEFORE 1905. Mostly 3 or 4 bedroom but several are 5.



VIEW OF BRICK STREET AND BOULEVARD (ARMSTRONG AVENUE) LOOKING WEST



VIEW OF BRICK STREET AND BOULEVARD (ARMSTRONG AVENUE) LOOKING EAST -600 block
CROSS STREET IS SHERIDAN ROAD. SEVERAL PHA AND RENTAL APARTMENTS IN THIS BLOCK.



INTERSECTION OF ARMSTRONG AVENUE AND ELLIS. NOTE CRACKING ASPHALT COVERING ELLIS- ALSO
rectangular cement patch done by water company - bricks running diagonally on Ellis
which can be seen where cover washed out to reveal them.