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Astor makes Register

by Ellen Tufts

News-Chronicle Staff Writer

Passersby can soon look on even the humblest Astor neighborhood area buildings with added awe, for the State Historic Preservation Review Board voted unanimously Friday to nominate a large section of the area for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

The board met at the State Historical

Society, 816 State St., in downtown Madison.

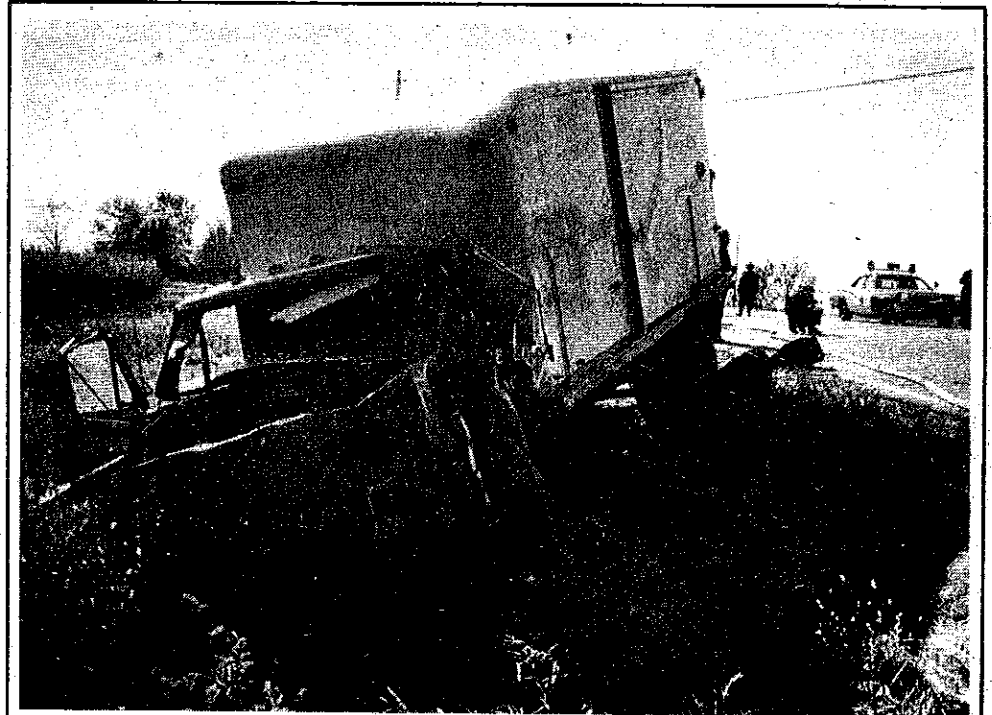
According to Astor Neighborhood Association president Richard Filing, the new district will be known from now on as "Astor Historic District" and all that remains for permanent inclusion as an historic district is a procedural signature from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

It is expected that the final and official cachet will take place from six months to a year, but probably sooner, when scheduling allows.

The area is bounded roughly by the Fox River on the West, Mason Street on the north, Webster Avenue on the east and Grignon Street on the south, but it excludes the Water Department, St. Vincent-Bellin Hospitals complex and the more modern houses and apartment buildings in the 1100 blocks of Quincy and Jackson Streets and Webster Avenue.

Filing said that with the Historic Register designation, the area could be eligible for federal matching funds used for restoration and that the district would receive limited protection from encroachment; also, certain federal tax consequences for income-producing properties may result from the listing.

"We will also benefit by having our zoning stay as first residential," said Filing.



inside

Israelis to return home for talks