Shine Brighter Terminale

Flashfile 4 Portland's "Living room"

Extrait p.45 – Article de Hannah Seibold, *portlandtribune.com*

What are all these inscribed bricks at Pioneer Courthouse Square?

They beg walkers, strollers, runners, passersby to cock their heads down and crook their necks for a longer glance at the thousands of names, quotes and messages below.

Theresa Vetsch-Sandoval, of Pioneer Courthouse Square, has been involved with the beloved community space for more than 20 years.

"It feels like people are committed and connected to this space," she said of those who buy the inscribed bricks. "People feel like they are welcome here and want to come and not only experience the events and everything that takes place here, but also have that connection of owning a piece of it." […]

Vetsch-Sandoval said the project flaunted[1] a roughly $7 million price tag.

Friends of Pioneer Courthouse Square, a citizens' group, posed the option of selling bricks in efforts to raise money for the project. At the time, each brick was sold for $15 a pop, leading to about $1.5 million in profits to support The Square. […]

The good ol' days of unfolding an obnoxiously large paper map are over.

In the '90s, Vetsch-Sandoval said an intern was hired to put everything into the digital database so folks could easily search for their special inscription.

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[1] exposed

“It’s super easy to find now,” Vetsch-Sandoval said. “It says the location within a quadrant, so it gives you an idea of where, but you still have to look a little bit.”

That seems to be part of the fun. People get a hint to where their brick is, but still get a tease of scavenging for the right one.

Hannah Seibold, *portlandtribune.com*, 2025