

LGBTQ+ Historic Experience Project

Proposed Landmarks*

1. The Incredible Edible
1401 Alhambra Boulevard
2. Offices of *Mom...Guess What!*
1725 L Street
3. Gay Alternative Coffeehouse
2215 P Street
4. The Blue Moon
2565 Franklin Boulevard
5. Bo Jangles
7042 Folsom Boulevard

*Though over 120 buildings were identified as potentially eligible during the project, the grant funding for the project only included the preparation of landmark reports for five buildings. City staff will continue to evaluate buildings and put forward more landmark applications in the future.

State of California — The Resources Agency
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
 HRI # _____
 Trinomial _____
 NRHP Status Code _____

Other Listings _____
 Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 6 *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) 1401 Alhambra Boulevard

P1. Other Identifier: Incredible Edible Place restaurant

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

- *a. County Sacramento and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)
- *b. USGS 7.5' Quad Sacramento East, CA. Date 2021 T 8N; R 5E; of Mt. Diablo of Sec 00; B.M.
- c. Address 1401 Alhambra Boulevard City Sacramento Zip 95816
- d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone , mE/ mN
- e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries) 1401 Alhambra Boulevard (APN 007-0215-001 and 007-215-002) is a one-story, 1,610-square-foot commercial building located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Alhambra Boulevard and N Street in the East Sacramento neighborhood of Sacramento. The building was constructed in 1975 and has a roughly square footprint with a hipped parapet roof with broadly overhanging boxed wood eaves and clay tile roofing. The northwest, northeast, and roughly two-thirds of the southwest facades are clad with painted concrete blocks, while the west third of the southwest façade and all of the southeast facades are clad with vertical wood siding. The northwest facade, facing Alhambra Boulevard, and northeast façade, facing N Street, are the primary facades of the building and contain public entrances to the building (Figure 1 and Figure 2). These entries are located in arched openings with glazed metal storefront doors. (Continued on Page 3)

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP6. 1-3 story commercial building

P5a. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



*P4. Resources Present:

- Building Structure Object
- Site District Element of District Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) View southeast of 1401 Alhambra Blvd., taken August 13, 2024.

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source: Historic Prehistoric Both 1975. Source: Sacramento County Assessor.

*P7. Owner and Address: Alhambra 1401 LLC, 6040 Bayville Ct. Granite Bay, CA 95746

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address) Page & Turnbull, Inc., 1007 7th Street, #404, Sacramento, CA 95814

*P9. Date Recorded: October 8, 2024

P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.") Sacramento LGBTQ+ Experience

History Project Historic Context Statement (LGBTQ+ HCS)

- *Attachments: NONE Location Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record
 Archaeological Record District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record
 Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List): _____

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 6 *NRHP Status Code 3CS, 5S3

*Resource Name or # 1401 Alhambra Boulevard

B1. Historic name: Incredible Edible Place

B2. Common name: _____

B3. Original Use: Commercial

B4. Present use: Commercial

*B5. Architectural Style: Spanish Eclectic

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

Jerry Staveris submitted a permit to construct a restaurant at 1401 Alhambra Boulevard in 1974.¹ According to the Sacramento County Assessor, the building was completed in 1975.² (Refer to continuation sheet, Page 4.)

*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Out & Proud: Development of Visible Sacramento LGBTQ+ Community Area Sacramento, California
Period of Significance 1977-1992 Property Type Commercial Applicable Criteria 1/i, 2/ii

Historic Context:

Incredible Edible Place (1977-1992)

Gay businessman Paul Fitzgerald opened the Incredible Edible Place restaurant at 1401 Alhambra Boulevard in 1977. According to a 1979 article in *Mom Guess What...!* highlighting gay businesses in Sacramento, Fitzgerald's goal for the Incredible Edible Place was to give Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community "good and affordable service."³ Though he desired for Sacramento to have a restaurant solely for the LGBTQ+ community, he recognized that when his restaurant opened in the late 1970s, the local LGBTQ+ community was not yet large enough to support an openly gay restaurant in the numbers required to sustain a healthy business. The restaurant's staff were evenly split between gay and straight employees, and patrons also included a mix of both gay and straight people. Fitzgerald was a prominent advocate for Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community. He was particularly committed to the development of a gay business community. In his interview with *Mom Guess What...!*, he stated: "I feel that gay people should support gay businesses and that the gay business community should educate the rest of the community as to the advantages of gay businesses such as: political clout, getting more gay people into other fields such as doctors, mechanics, etc."⁴ With this goal in mind, he extended the hours of the Incredible Edible Place into the evening on weekends to provide a space for LGBTQ+ patrons to gather for a late-night snack or cup of coffee.

As a result of the welcoming and safe environment fostered by Fitzgerald, the Incredible Edible Place became a popular meeting place for local LGBTQ+ clubs and organizations. It was the site of the first meeting of the Advocates for Gay State Employees (AGSE) in 1979. AGSE was formed by a group of State employees earlier that year to provide input to the State Personnel Board about implementation of Governor Jerry Brown's executive order, prohibiting discrimination against State employees on the basis of sexual preference.⁵ (Refer to continuation sheet, Page 4.)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

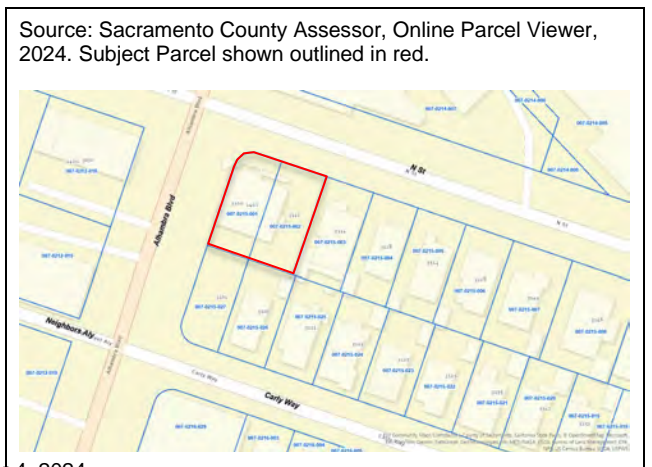
*B12. References: Refer to footnotes

B13. Remarks: N/A

*B14. Evaluator: Page & Turnbull, Inc.

*Date of Evaluation: October 8, 2024

(This space reserved for official comments.)



¹ "City Building Permits," *Sacramento Bee*, 23 June 1974: E13.

² Sacramento County Assessor, Assessor Parcel Viewer, accessed September 4, 2024, <https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html#>.

³ James K. Graham, "Gay Business...Right Here in River City," *Mom Guess What...!*, April 1979.

⁴ Graham, "Gay Business...Right Here in River City."

⁵ "Gay State Employees Have a Voice," *Mom...Guess What...!*, 1 September 1979.

***P3a. Description (continued):**

Large arched storefront openings flank the entrances. The door and window openings are surrounded by projecting concrete block borders. A large coffee cup sculpture and signage for Starbucks Coffee sits on a flat semicircular platform on the roof at the northwest corner of the building. The southwest façade faces a small surface parking lot and has one arched storefront window (Figure 3). The southeast façade faces a small concrete paved patio that is surrounded by a low concrete block wall with metal pickets (Figure 4). The subject block is bounded by Alhambra Boulevard to the northwest, N Street to the northeast, 32nd Street to the southeast, and Carly Way to the southwest. 1401 Alhambra Boulevard is zoned C-2-SPD (General Commercial/Special Planning District).



Figure 1. Northwest facade, view southeast.



Figure 2. Northeast facade, view southeast.



Figure 3. Southwest facade, view north.



Figure 4. Southeast façade, view west.

***B6. Construction History (continued):**

Several restaurants operated out of the building in its first few years including a Mexican restaurant called Alimena's Mexican Restaurant in 1975 and a pizza restaurant called Tower Pizza in 1976.⁶ Gay bar owner and entrepreneur Paul Fitzgerald purchased the property and applied for a license to sell alcoholic beverages at the building in 1977.⁷ Fitzgerald's restaurant, the Incredible Edible Place, opened soon after and remained in operation through approximately 1992.⁸ In 1994, the property was sold and reopened as a Starbucks Coffee shop. The property continued in this use until 2024.⁹ The interior of the building has been remodeled numerous times over its history, starting during Fitzgerald's ownership in 1983. Building permit records document limited exterior alterations to the building after the Incredible Edible Place closed in 1992, including the installation of exterior signage in 1996 and the replacement of existing built-up and tile roofing with new TPO and concrete tile roofing in 2010.¹⁰

***B10. Significance:**
Historic Context (continued)

Another political advocacy group, the River City Democratic Club, had its first meeting at the Incredible Edible Place in 1983.¹¹ The club spearheaded several political efforts on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community in the 1980s and 1990s, including passage of Sacramento's Domestic Partnership Ordinance in 1992 and a project to plant 200 memorial trees along Highway 50 as a memorial to victims of AIDS.¹²

Fitzgerald is also credited with coining the name of one of Sacramento's most prominent and longest running gay bars, Faces, which was opened by Terry Sidie at 2000 K Street in 1985. The name was reportedly intended to reflect the bar's goal to be a place that was inclusive and open to all communities and "faces."¹³

City directories record the Incredible Edible Place at 1401 Alhambra Boulevard until 1992. In 1994, the building was remodeled and reopened as a Starbucks Coffee shop.¹⁴ The building remains in use as a Starbucks Coffee location through 2024.

Paul Fitzgerald (1939-2012)

Paul Fitzgerald was born in 1939 in Poteau, Ohio. He served in the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. Army from 1960 to 1963. In 1964, Fitzgerald married Bonnie Elyce Raposa in Redding, and the couple had a son and two daughters. Fitzgerald came out as gay by the late 1970s, and he and Bonnie divorced in 1976.¹⁵ Fitzgerald worked for a time as a manager at JCPenney in Redding and for eight years at a large food firm outside the Sacramento area. Worn down by the long hours and extensive travel, Fitzgerald moved to Sacramento and began opening a series of gay-friendly businesses in Sacramento. From 1977 to 1992, Fitzgerald owned and managed the Incredible Edible Place restaurant at the subject property. By 1979, he had also opened a gay bar called Upstairs Downstairs at 1225 K Street in Downtown Sacramento.¹⁶ Sometime after 1982, Fitzgerald lived next door to the Incredible Edible Place in a house at 3114 N Street.¹⁷ He died of ALS in 2012.¹⁸

Statement of Significance:

In order for a property to be considered eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), or the Sacramento Register as a landmark, the property must possess significance and retain integrity to convey that significance. Refer to the *Sacramento LGBTQ+ Experience History Project Historic Context Statement (LGBTQ+ HCS)* and *Survey Methodology & Framework* for evaluative criteria of each theme.

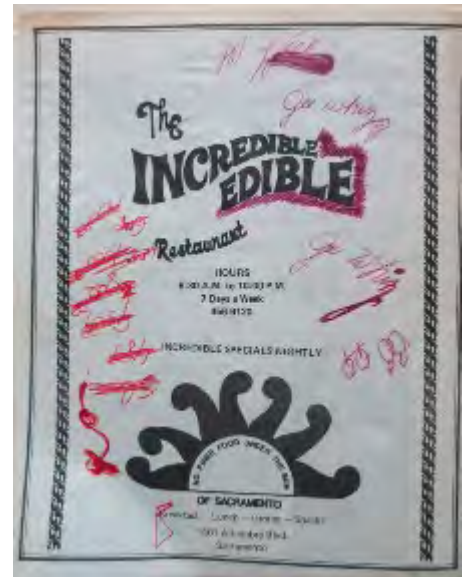


Figure 5. Advertisement for the Incredible Edible Place (1981). Source: *The River City Rambler*, Vol. 1, Issue No. 12, December 1981. Lavender Library.

⁶ Classified ads, *Sacramento Bee*, 11 October 1975: C5; Advertisement, *Sacramento Bee*, 16 September 1976: D6.

⁷ "Public Notice No. 632," *Sacramento Bee*, 2 November 1977: E6.

⁸ Sacramento City Directories, 1978-1992, Sacramento Public Library.

⁹ Certificate of Occupancy, 94-7563-C, City of Sacramento Planning and Development Department, 1994.

¹⁰ Building permit records, City of Sacramento.

¹¹ "New Club," *The Sacramento Bee*, April 1, 1983, C7.

¹² Steve Wiegand, "Tree-Planting with a Twist," *The Sacramento Bee*, March 16, 1992.

¹³ Chris Macias, "Celebrating Inclusion," *Sacramento Bee*, 5 September 2015: B1, B6.

¹⁴ Sacramento city directories, 1978-1994, Sacramento Public Library.

¹⁵ "Marriage Licenses," *Record Searchlight* (Redding, CA), 12 September 1964; California, U.S., Divorce Index, 1966-1984, Ancestry.com.

¹⁶ Graham, "Gay Business...Right Here in River City."

¹⁷ U.S. Public Records Index, 1950-1993, Volume 2, Ancestry.com.

¹⁸ "Fitzgerald, Paul Neeson," *Sacramento Bee*, 22 January 2012: B5.

California Register of Historical Resources Evaluation

The California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) is an inventory of significant architectural, archaeological, and historical resources in the State of California. The evaluative criteria used by the California Register for determining eligibility are closely based on those developed by the National Park Service for the National Register of Historic Places.

In order for a property to be eligible for listing in the California Register, it must be found significant under one or more of the following criteria:

1. (Events): Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
2. (Persons): Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.
3. (Architecture): Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.
4. (Information Potential): Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

Sacramento Register of Historic and Cultural Resources

The Sacramento Register of Historic and Cultural Resources (Sacramento Register) is the City of Sacramento's official inventory of historic and cultural resources. In order to be listed as a local landmark, historic district, or contributing resource to a historic district, a building, structure, site, or feature must meet the following criteria and requirements for listing on the Sacramento Register, as outlined in Chapter 17.604.210 of the City's municipal code:

- A. **Listing on the Sacramento Register—Landmarks.** A nominated resource shall be listed on the Sacramento Register as a landmark if the city council finds, after holding the hearing required by this chapter, that all of the requirements set forth below are satisfied:
1. Requirements.
 - a. The nominated resource meets one or more of the following criteria:
 - i. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of the history of the city, the region, the state or the nation;
 - ii. It is associated with the lives of persons significant in the city's past;
 - iii. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction;
 - iv. It represents the work of an important creative individual or master;
 - v. It possesses high artistic values; or
 - vi. It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in the prehistory or history of the city, the region, the state or the nation;
 - b. The nominated resource has integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. Integrity shall be judged with reference to the particular criterion or criteria specified in subsection A.1.a of this section;
 - c. The nominated resource has significant historic or architectural worth, and its designation as a landmark is reasonable, appropriate and necessary to promote, protect and further the goals and purposes of this chapter.
 2. Factors to be considered. In determining whether to list a nominated resource on the Sacramento register as a landmark, the factors below shall be considered.
 - a. A structure removed from its original location is eligible if it is significant primarily for its architectural value or it is the most important surviving structure associated with a historic person or event.
 - b. A birthplace or grave is eligible if it is that of a historical figure of outstanding importance and there is no other appropriate site or structure directly associated with his or her productive life.
 - c. A reconstructed building is eligible if the reconstruction is historically accurate, if the structure is presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and if no other original structure survives that has the same association.
 - d. Properties that are primarily commemorative in intent are eligible if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value invests such properties with their own historical significance.
 - e. Properties achieving significance within the past 50 years are eligible if such properties are of exceptional importance.

California Register Criterion 1/Sacramento Register Criterion i (Events): Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.

The property at 1401 Alhambra Boulevard appears eligible under Criterion 1/i as the longtime location of the Incredible Edible Place, a gay-owned and LGBTQ+-friendly restaurant that opened in 1977 during an important transitional period in the development of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community, when the community still remained largely underground but was becoming increasingly visible and open. The Incredible Edible Place was one of the earliest openly gay restaurants in the City of Sacramento. The restaurant was owned and operated by a gay man, Paul Fitzgerald, and had a mix of gay and straight patrons and staff. Fitzgerald envisioned the restaurant as a gathering place for Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community, and it became the meeting place for local LGBTQ+ individuals, groups, clubs, and organizations, including the site of the first meetings of political advocacy groups the Advocates for Gay State Employees (AGSE) in 1979 and River City Democratic Club in 1983. The property, thus, is significantly associated with the establishing, support, and increasing the visibility of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community and is eligible under Criterion 1/i.

California Register Criterion 2/Sacramento Register Criterion ii (Persons): Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.

The property at 1401 Alhambra Boulevard appears to be eligible under Criterion 2/ii for its association with gay business owner Paul Fitzgerald. Fitzgerald opened both the Incredible Edible Place and Upstairs Downstairs gay bar, both of which were important gathering places for the LGBTQ+ community when it was developing into a visible part of the broader Sacramento community in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Fitzgerald's leadership and vision for his businesses to serve as incubators for the LGBTQ+ business community, professionals, organizations, and other groups transformed them into important community gathering spaces that contributed to the development of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community during its formative years. As such, the property is eligible under Criteria 2/ii.

California Register Criterion 3/Sacramento Register Criteria iii-v (Architecture): Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.

The property at 1401 Alhambra Boulevard does not appear to be individually eligible under Criterion 4/vi. The subject property has not been identified as the work of a notable architect or builder and does not possess high artistic merit. The building is a late example of a modest commercial building designed in the Spanish Eclectic style with concrete block cladding, a hipped concrete tile roof, and large arched openings. The building is not a distinctive or exemplary representation of the style. Therefore, it is not eligible for listing based on its architectural design under Criterion 3/iii-v.

California Register Criterion 4/Sacramento Register Criterion vi (Information Potential): Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

The property at 1401 Alhambra Boulevard does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register or Sacramento Register under Criterion 4/vi as a building or property that has the potential to provide information important to the prehistory or history of the City of Sacramento, state, or nation. It does not feature construction or material types, or embody engineering practices that would, with additional study, provide important information. Evaluation of this property was limited to age-eligible resources above ground and did not involve survey or evaluation of the subject property for the purposes of archaeological information.

Sacramento Register Factor e.: Factor e. for consideration of properties for listing on the Sacramento Register states that properties that achieved their historic significance less than 50 years ago should be of exceptional significance. The subject property was constructed in 1975, 49 years ago. It will be 50 years old in 2025. The property opened as the Incredible Edible Place in 1977, 47 years ago as of the date of this evaluation. The property is exceptionally significant for its cultural importance to the LGBTQ+ community. Based on a reconnaissance-level survey of properties identified through the Sacramento LGBTQ+ Historic Experience Project in 2024, relatively few properties remain that have a strong individual association with the development of the City of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community, particularly outside the Midtown area, and that retain sufficient historic integrity. Additionally, properties that were significant as community social gathering spaces that were not gay bars are also rare. Therefore the property meets consideration Factor e.

Integrity

1401 Alhambra Boulevard retains all seven aspects of integrity (setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). The building remains in its original location and continues to be surrounded by a variety of commercial, residential, and mixed-use development that was present during its period of significance (1977-1992). The building appears to have undergone minimal exterior alterations since the closure of the Incredible Edible Place in 1992, primarily consisting of re-roofing and the installation of exterior signage. The building would still be recognizable to someone who visited the restaurant while it was in operation, and continues to convey its identity as a commercial building built in the 1970s.

Character-defining Features of 1401 Alhambra Boulevard

Character-defining features of 1401 Alhambra Boulevard that reflect its period of significance (1977-1992) include but are not limited to the following features:

- One-story height
- Concrete block cladding
- Hipped parapet roof with broad overhanging boxed wood eaves and concrete tile roofing
- Arched window and door openings

Conclusion

The property at 1401 Alhambra Boulevard appears to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register and the Sacramento Register under Criteria 1/i (Events) and 2/ii (Persons) for its association with the gay-owned and gay-friendly restaurant The Incredible Edible Place, and its owner Paul Fitzgerald. The restaurant was an important gathering place for members of the LGBTQ+ community during the early years of its development in Sacramento in the 1970s and was the site of some of the first meetings of significant LGBTQ+ clubs and organizations. 1401 Alhambra Boulevard appears to retain all seven aspects of historic integrity from its period of significance. California Historical Resource Status Code (CHRSC) of "3CS, 5S3" has been assigned to the property, meaning "Appears eligible for CR as an individual property through survey evaluation" and "Appears to be individually eligible for local listing or designation through survey evaluation."¹⁹

References

Advertisement. *Sacramento Bee*. 16 September 1976: D6.

Building permit records. City of Sacramento.

California, U.S., Divorce Index, 1966-1984. Ancestry.com.

"City Building Permits." *Sacramento Bee*. 23 June 1974: E13.

Classified ads. *Sacramento Bee*. 11 October 1975: C5.

"Fitzgerald, Paul Neeson." *Sacramento Bee*. 22 January 2012: B5.

"Gay State Employees Have a Voice." *Mom...Guess What...!* 1 September 1979.

Graham, James K. "Gay Business...Right Here in River City." *Mom Guess What...!* April 1979.

Macias, Chris. "Celebrating Inclusion." *Sacramento Bee*. 5 September 2015: B1, B6.

"Marriage Licenses." *Record Searchlight* (Redding, CA). 12 September 1964.

"New Club." *Sacramento Bee*. 1 April 1983: C7.

"Public Notice No. 632." *Sacramento Bee*. 2 November 1977: E6.

Sacramento City Directories. 1978-1994. Sacramento Public Library.

Sacramento County Assessor. Assessor Parcel Viewer. Accessed September 4, 2024, <https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html#>.

Wiegand, Steve. "Tree-Planting with a Twist." *The Sacramento Bee*. March 16, 1992.

U.S. Public Records Index, 1950-1993, Volume 2, Ancestry.com.

¹⁹ California State Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks and Recreation, *Technical Assistance Bulletin #8: User's Guide to the California Historical Resource Status Codes & Historical Resource Inventory Directory*, Sacramento, November 2004.

P1. Other Identifier: Offices of Mom...Guess What...!

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

*a. County Sacramento and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Sacramento East, CA. Date 2021 T 8N; R 5E; _____ of Mt. Diablo _____ of Sec 00; _____ B.M.

c. Address 1725 L Street City Sacramento Zip 95811

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone _____ mE/ _____ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

1725 L Street (APN 006-0126-010) is a one-story, 2,716-square-foot commercial building located on the north side of L Street in Midtown, Sacramento. 1725 L Street consists of a one-story brick masonry commercial storefront built in 1923 attached to a two-story, wood-frame, former residential building constructed around 1880. The primary south façade fronts L Street and features brick cladding with an asymmetrical fenestration, including divided- and single-lite fixed wood storefront windows and a glazed door beneath a fabric awning. The east façade faces a narrow alleyway, and the west façade is attached to the neighboring building at 1729-1731 L Street. The rear façade is obscured from the public right-of-way. The subject block is bounded by 18th Street to the east, Kayak Alley to the north, 17th Street to the west, and L Street to the south. 1725 L Street is zoned C-2-SPD (General Commercial/Special Planning District).

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP6. 1-3 story commercial building

P5a. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



*P4. Resources Present:

Building Structure Object
 Site District Element of District
Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) View north of the south facade, taken July 15, 2024.

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and

Source: Historic Prehistoric Both
Ca.1880. Source: Sanborn maps

*P7. Owner and Address:

St John's Lutheran Church
Sacramento, 1701 L St., Sacramento,
CA 95811

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address) Page & Turnbull, Inc., 1007 7th Street, #404, Sacramento, CA 95814

*P9. Date Recorded: October 8, 2024

P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.")

Page & Turnbull, Sacramento LGBTQ+ Historic Experience Project Historic Context Statement (2024)

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record

Archaeological Record District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record

Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List): _____

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 6 *NRHP Status Code 3CS, 5S3

*Resource Name or # 1725 L Street

B1. Historic name: Offices of Mom...Guess What...!

B2. Common name: _____

B3. Original Use: Residential

B4. Present use: Commercial/Residential

*B5. Architectural Style: Commercial storefront

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

The property first appeared on Sanborn insurance maps in 1895, although the address was referenced in local newspaper records as early as 1887 (Figure 1). From 1895 to 1952, several additions were added to the rear façade, along with infill of an addition to the primary façade of the house portion. The commercial storefront was added in 1923 (Figures 2 and 3). (Refer to continuation sheet, page 3).

*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Out & Proud: Development of Visible Sacramento LGBTQ+ Community Area Sacramento, California
Period of Significance 1988-2003 Property Type Commercial/Residential Applicable Criteria 1/i; 2ii

Historic Context:

Mom...Guess What...! Newspaper

The longest-running and most influential of all of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ media was the *Mom...Guess What...!* (MGW) newspaper. MGW operated from its longtime location at 1725 L Street (the subject property) from circa 1988-2003. The newspaper was founded by local resident Linda Birner and ran its first issue in November 1978, roughly around the same time that similar newspapers launched in major North American cities, including New York, Boston, Washington, D.C., Toronto, Philadelphia, Montreal, San Francisco, Denver, Los Angeles, and others.¹ Early staff members, all of whom initially worked as volunteers, included publisher and design director Linda Birner, executive editor David S. Weinerth, editor James K. Graham, associated editors Bill Spiller and J. Anne Wessel, and photographers Jan-Michelle Sawyer and Adam Ciesielski. Contributing writers included Allen Chamberlain, Sue Diehl, Ron Drum, Colleen Moreland, Greg Low, Doug Biggert, Arthur Corbin, and Zana S. Blazer.² Former State Assemblyman Dennis Mangers later contributed to sections on politics, art, and culture.³ The group initially worked out of Birner's house at 3441 Fair Oaks Boulevard, where they brainstormed the name of the paper and assigned and wrote stories, before eventually moving to an office of its own at 1919 21st Street (extant) from 1980-1982. (Refer to continuation sheet, page 3).

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

*B12. References: Refer to footnotes

B13. Remarks: N/A

*B14. Evaluator: Page & Turnbull, Inc.

*Date of Evaluation: October 8, 2024

(This space reserved for official comments.)

Source: Sacramento County Assessor, Online Parcel Viewer, 2024. Subject Parcel shown outlined in red.



¹ David. C. Weinerth, "From the Inside Out," *Mom...Guess What...!*, 1 December 1978.

² *Mom...Guess What...!*, 1 November 1978.

³ "Sacramento Oral History Episode 2: Linda Birner and Dennis Mangers," May 30, 2023, Center for Sacramento History, YouTube, accessed April 18, 2024, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8t3BwNfUXk>.

***B6. Construction History (continued):**

From visual analysis during a July 2024 site visit, it appears that aluminum windows were installed at an unknown time on the primary façade of the wood-frame house portion. Apart from cosmetic changes to retail signage and awning at the front storefront addition, no other major exterior alterations appear to have taken place to the house or storefront portions of the property during or after the period of significance.



Figure 1: Sanborn-Perris Map Company fire insurance map of Sacramento, 1895. Page 17L. Subject property outlined in red. Source: Historical Information Gatherers, San Francisco Public Library. Edited by Page & Turnbull.

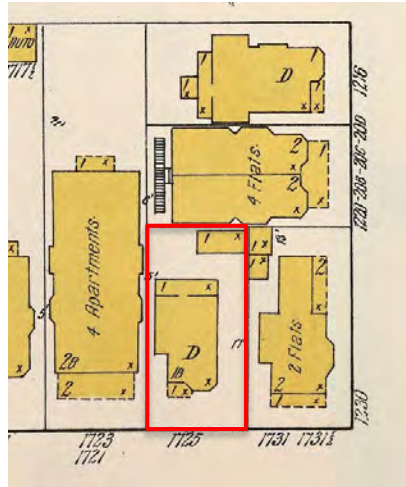


Figure 2: Sanborn Company fire insurance map of Sacramento, 1915. Volume One, Page 41. Subject property outlined in red. Source: Historical Information Gatherers, San Francisco Public Library. Edited by Page & Turnbull.

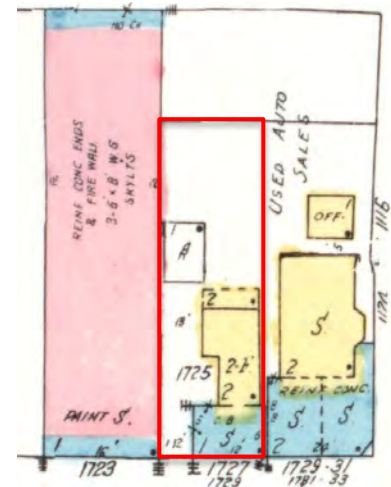


Figure 3: Sanborn Map Company fire insurance map of Sacramento, 1952. Volume One, Page 41. Subject property outlined in red. Source: Historical Information Gatherers, San Francisco Public Library.. Edited by Page & Turnbull.

***B10. Significance:**

Historic Context (continued)

In contrast to many of the sexually oriented publications directed toward the gay community at the time, Birner insisted that *MGW* be a “clean” newspaper without sexually explicit content so that it could appeal to a broader audience, could be openly displayed on coffee tables in public places, and could improve the self-esteem of the gay community.⁴ The newspaper was published monthly and distributed at gay bars and restaurants, the Sacramento Women’s Center, and other local gay businesses, establishments, and social gathering places.⁵

At a time when the gay and lesbian communities were often distinctly separate from each other, *MGW* was designed as a newspaper for both gay men and lesbians across the Sacramento area and wider region. Reflecting one of its goals of increasing awareness, understanding, and acceptance toward the gay community among the broader population, it also notably targeted straight allies, or “Friends,” as part of its main readership base. This mission was explicitly stated on the first page of its first issue:

“*MOM...GUESS WHAT...!*” is a tabloid newspaper that happens to be Gay. It’s for women and men in the Sacramento Valley area and the Mother Lode countries who happen to be gay and for their friends who happen to like sharing the enjoyment of their friends who happen to be gay.

“*MOM...GUESS WHAT...!*” is designed to appeal to the interests of a lot of nice people who may not know each other yet but probably should. After all, Sacramento’s a big place. In and around River City there are thousands of Lesbians, Gay Men, and Friends of all ages and all walks of life who are not only interesting and unique in themselves, but who are also eager to find out more about each other and about their many opportunities for social activity, recreation, and personal growth through involvement with each other.⁶

As demonstrated by its original mission statement, *MGW* went beyond political activism and was explicitly intended to foster the creation of a gay community in Sacramento. In the newspaper’s one-year anniversary issue, associate editor James Graham

⁴ “Sacramento Oral History Episode 2: Linda Birner and Dennis Mangers,” Center for Sacramento History.

⁵ *Mom...Guess What...!*, 1 November 1978.

⁶ *Mom...Guess What...!*, 1 November 1978.

stated, "You can't decide, 'we are going to organize a community.' It has to happen, develop and come together. You can work to create the conditions, and I feel MOM...GUESS WHAT! is doing that."⁷ With that goal in mind, *MGW* published articles not just about local news, important legislation, and policies that were of special interest to the gay community, it also included a calendar of social events, a guide to local entertainment locations, a list of social organizations along with their contact info, and classified advertisements.

According to local mental health worker Elizabeth Harrison, Sacramento's gay community had been primarily bar-oriented until *MGW* began publishing issues. "When *Mom...Guess What...!* started, it opened a whole new world," she said.⁸ The newspaper allowed lesbians and gay men to find not just bars and clubs but also doctors, therapists, sports leagues, professional organizations, and other social clubs, events, and services, specifically by and for members of the gay community. Demonstrating its goal of uniting and uplifting the community, *MGW* was unique in that, as Harrison described it, "the newspaper was kind – it didn't go after people or do exposés. It elevated people and brought people together."⁹

Often the newspaper literally did just that. Classified ads published in *MGW* were frequently the way gay and lesbian individuals met each other and found romantic relationships. People would place an ad in the newspaper and typically list a P.O. box address as their contact in order to keep their personal addresses private. According to Sacramento resident and former State Assemblyman Dennis Mangers, it was common for individuals to meet for coffee at New Helvetia café located in the former fire station at 1215 19th Street (extant) or for some other activity after work.¹⁰

On the newspaper's tenth anniversary, the newspaper received proclamations from the City of Sacramento, County of Sacramento, and the California State Assembly. It was also recognized by the Human Rights Commission and received numerous journalistic and photography awards from the Gay and Lesbian Press Association (GLPA).¹¹ *MGW* ceased publication in 2009, having published approximately 585 issues over the course of its over 30-year existence.¹²

Linda Birner

Born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1949, Linda Birner arrived in Sacramento in 1962, where she worked her way through a master's degree in Psychology at Sacramento State College (now California State University, Sacramento) doing graphic work for state legislators Mervyn Dymally and Leona Egeland. After working for a consulting firm for a period, she started her own graphics design business. Demonstrating the close ties between growing activism among the gay community and other activist movements of the 1960s and 1970s, she became active in the Women's Movement through the National Organization of Women (NOW), believing that the first step to achieving gay rights was obtaining equal rights for women. "All of it's related," she said. "I call it the Gay/Feminist Movement."¹³ Spurred into action by the campaign to pass Proposition 6, known as the Briggs Initiative, which aimed to ban gay and lesbian individuals from working in California's public schools, she founded *MGW* to share important information about the initiative and encourage readers to vote against it. The first meeting to share information about plans for the newspaper and solicit interest from potential writers, photographers, artists, and other contributors was held at Earhart's Café in November 1978.¹⁴ Linda Birner owned and operated *MGW* through 2009, after which the newspaper folded and the business became Guess What Media, LLC. Birner passed away on July 3rd, 2024.¹⁵

⁷ "One Year Later..." *Mom...Guess What...!*, November 1979.

⁸ "Sacramento Oral History Episode 4: Linda Birner and Elizabeth Harrison," May 31, 2023, Center for Sacramento History, YouTube, accessed April 18, 2024, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2nWsdGrixw>.

⁹ "Sacramento Oral History Episode 4: Linda Birner and Elizabeth Harrison," Center for Sacramento History.

¹⁰ "Sacramento Oral History Episode 2: Linda Birner and Dennis Mangers," May 30, 2023, Center for Sacramento History, YouTube, accessed April 18, 2024, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8t3BwNfUXk>.

¹¹ Sacramento's Lesbian and Gay Press, "News from Those Who Print the News: Sacramento's Lesbian and Gay Press, What It's Been Like and Where They're Going," undated, Lavender Library.

¹² Graham Womack, "Community Gathers Issues of Sacramento LGBT Newspaper," *Sacramento Bee*, 2 July 2023: D1.

¹³ "One Year Later..." *Mom...Guess What...!*, November 1979.

¹⁴ *Mom...Guess What...!*, November 1, 1978.

¹⁵ Legacy Remembers. "Linda Birner Obituary." *Legacy* (blog), July 19, 2024.



Figure 4. *Mom...Guess What...!* founder Linda Birner (1998). Source: Hector Amezcua for the *Sacramento Bee*.



Figure 5. *Mom...Guess What...!* staff (from left to right): Bill Spiller, J. Anne Wessel, Linda Birner, James K. Graham, and Gary Kimball. Source: *Mom...Guess What...!*, November 1979. Photo by Rebecca Gregg.

Statement of Significance:

In order for a property to be considered eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) or the Sacramento Register as a landmark, the property must possess significance and retain integrity to convey that significance. Refer to the *Sacramento LGBTQ+ Experience History Project Historic Context Statement (LGBTQ+ HCS)* and *Survey Methodology & Framework* for evaluative criteria of each theme.

California Register of Historical Resources Evaluation

The California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) is an inventory of significant architectural, archaeological, and historical resources in the State of California. The evaluative criteria used by the California Register for determining eligibility are closely based on those developed by the National Park Service for the National Register of Historic Places. In order for a property to be eligible for listing in the California Register, it must be found significant under one or more of the following criteria:

1. (Events): Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
2. (Persons): Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.
3. (Architecture): Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.
4. (Information Potential): Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

Sacramento Register of Historic and Cultural Resources

The Sacramento Register of Historic and Cultural Resources (Sacramento Register) is the City of Sacramento's official inventory of historic and cultural resources. In order to be listed as a local landmark, historic district, or contributing resource to a historic district, a building, structure, site, or feature must meet the following criteria and requirements for listing on the Sacramento Register, as outlined in Chapter 17.604.210 of the City's municipal code:

- A. **Listing on the Sacramento Register—Landmarks.** A nominated resource shall be listed on the Sacramento Register as a landmark if the city council finds, after holding the hearing required by this chapter, that all of the requirements set forth below are satisfied:
1. Requirements.
 - a. The nominated resource meets one or more of the following criteria:
 - i. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of the history of the city, the region, the state or the nation;
 - ii. It is associated with the lives of persons significant in the city's past;
 - iii. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction;
 - iv. It represents the work of an important creative individual or master;
 - v. It possesses high artistic values; or
 - vi. It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in the prehistory or history of the city, the region, the state or the nation;
 - b. The nominated resource has integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. Integrity shall be judged with reference to the particular criterion or criteria specified in subsection A.1.a of this section;
 - c. The nominated resource has significant historic or architectural worth, and its designation as a landmark is reasonable, appropriate and necessary to promote, protect and further the goals and purposes of this chapter.
 2. Factors to be considered. In determining whether to list a nominated resource on the Sacramento register as a landmark, the factors below shall be considered.
 - a. A structure removed from its original location is eligible if it is significant primarily for its architectural value or it is the most important surviving structure associated with a historic person or event.
 - b. A birthplace or grave is eligible if it is that of a historical figure of outstanding importance and there is no other appropriate site or structure directly associated with his or her productive life.
 - c. A reconstructed building is eligible if the reconstruction is historically accurate, if the structure is presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and if no other original structure survives that has the same association.
 - d. Properties that are primarily commemorative in intent are eligible if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value invests such properties with their own historical significance.

e. Properties achieving significance within the past 50 years are eligible if such properties are of exceptional importance.

California Register Criterion 1/Sacramento Register Criterion i (Events): Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.

The property at 1725 L Street appears eligible under Criterion 1/i as the longtime operating headquarters of *Mom...Guess What...!*, one of Sacramento's earliest and longest running LGBTQ+ newspapers. *MGW* was an invaluable asset to the LGBTQ+ community that provided a myriad of news, stories, and advertisements relating to the cultural fabric and daily life of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community from the late 1970s through early 2000s. The newspaper was an influential resource that had a profound impact on the social, professional, and political scene for the LGBTQ+ community in Sacramento.

California Register Criterion 2/Sacramento Register Criterion ii (Persons): Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.

The property at 1725 L Street appears eligible under Criterion 2/ii for its association with Linda Birner, the founder of seminal LGBTQ+ newspaper *Mom...Guess What...!* and an avid educator, community leader, and advocate for social justice. Under Birner's direction, *MGW* thrived as an acclaimed publication and produced queer-centered journalism, stories, and advertising. Birner advocated for a publication that united and uplifted intersectional voices and that allowed for new avenues of social connection, professional development, and connection to LGBTQ+ owned/operated services.

California Register Criterion 3/Sacramento Register Criteria iii-v (Architecture): Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.

The property at 1725 L Street does not appear to be individually eligible under Criterion 4/vi. The subject property has not been identified as the work of a notable architect or builder and does not possess high artistic merit. 1725 L Street is a modest commercial storefront added onto the front of a Victorian-era house that is not a distinctive example of any architectural style.

Criterion 4/vi (Information Potential): Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

The property at 1725 L Street does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 4 as a building or property that has the potential to provide information important to the prehistory or history of the City of Sacramento, state, or nation. It does not feature construction or material types, or embody engineering practices that would, with additional study, provide important information. Evaluation of this property was limited to age-eligible resources above ground and did not involve survey or evaluation of the subject property for the purposes of archaeological information.

Sacramento Register Factor e.: Factor e. for consideration of properties for listing on the Sacramento register states that properties that achieved their historic significance less than 50 years ago should be of exceptional significance. The subject property used as the offices of *Mom...Guess What...!* less than 50 years ago. LGBTQ+ communities did not become visible across the United States until the late 1960s and early 1970s, and many of the most significant developments in the community's history occurred after this period, as it fought to establish itself and achieve equal rights with mainstream society. As such, at the time of this evaluation, the "50 year rule" would eliminate nearly all properties with historic associations with the LGBTQ+ community from eligibility for local designation. 1725 L Street does not appear to be of exceptional significance, but it is clearly historically significant, as demonstrated by its eligibility under Criteria 1/i and 2/ii. Therefore, although Factor e was considered in this evaluation, it should not apply when considering the eligibility of the subject property for listing on the Sacramento Register.

Integrity

1725 L Street retains all seven aspects of integrity (setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). The building remains in its original location and continues to be surrounded by a variety of commercial, residential, and mixed-use development that was present during its period of significance (1988-2003). The building appears to have undergone minimal exterior alterations since the relocation of *Mom...Guess What...!* in 2003. The building would still be recognizable to someone who visited the restaurant while it was in operation and continues to convey its identity as a commercial building built in the 1970s.

Character-defining Features of 1401 Alhambra Boulevard

Character-defining features of 1725 L Street include but are not limited to the following features:

- One-story brick masonry commercial storefront
 - Brick masonry construction
 - Storefront window openings
 - Glazed wood entry door
- Two-story residential building
 - Front-facing gabled roof
 - Gabled vent
 - Horizontal channel rustic wood cladding

Conclusion

The property at 1725 L Street does appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register and the Sacramento Register under Criteria 1/i (Events) and 2/ii (Persons) for its association with the publication of the important local LGBTQ+ publication *Mom...Guess What...!* and for its association with the newspaper's founder Linda Birner, a leader and activist in Sacramento's LGBTQ community. The property appears to retain all seven aspects of historic integrity from its period of significance. The California Historical Resource Status Code (CHRSC) of "3CS, 5S3" has been assigned to the property, meaning "Appears eligible for CR as an individual property through survey evaluation" and "Appears to be individually eligible for local listing or designation through survey evaluation."¹⁶

References

Building permit records. City of Sacramento.

California State Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks and Recreation. *Technical Assistance Bulletin #8: User's Guide to the California Historical Resource Status Codes & Historical Resource Inventory Directory*. Sacramento, November 2004.

Legacy Remembers. "Linda Birner Obituary." *Legacy* (blog). July 19, 2024.

Mom...Guess What...!. 1 November 1978.

"One Year Later..." *Mom...Guess What...!*. November 1979

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Sacramento County Assessor. Assessor Parcel Viewer. Accessed September 4, 2024, <https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html#>.

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"Sacramento Oral History Episode 2: Linda Birner and Dennis Mangers." May 30, 2023. Center for Sacramento History. YouTube. Accessed April 18, 2024, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8t3BwNfUXk>.

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Weinerth, David C. "From the Inside Out." *Mom...Guess What...!*. 1 December 1978.

Womack, Graham. "Community Gathers Issues of Sacramento LGBT Newspaper." *Sacramento Bee*. 2 July 2023: D1.

¹⁶ California State Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks and Recreation, *Technical Assistance Bulletin #8: User's Guide to the California Historical Resource Status Codes & Historical Resource Inventory Directory*, Sacramento, November 2004.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code 3CS, 5S3

Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 6 *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) 2215 P Street

P1. Other Identifier: Gay Alternative Coffeehouse

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

- *a. County Sacramento and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)
- *b. USGS 7.5' Quad Sacramento East, CA. Date 2021 T 8N; R 5E; _____ of Mt. Diablo _____ of Sec 00; _____ B.M.
- c. Address 2215 P Street City Sacramento Zip 95816
- d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone _____ mE/ _____ mN
- e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries) 2215 P Street (APN 702-540-190-000) is a two-story, 1,440-square-foot multi-family residential building located on the north side of P Street in the Winn Park neighborhood of Sacramento. The building was constructed in 1900 and has a rectangular footprint with a hipped roof, overhanging boxed wood eaves, and composite roofing. It is clad with horizontal clapboard siding throughout. The north facade, facing P Street, is the primary facade of the building (Figure 1 and Figure 2). A detached ADU is located behind the main residential building. The subject block is bounded by 23rd Street to the east, Opera Alley to the north, and 22nd Street to the west. 2215 P Street is zoned R-3A-SPD (Multi-family Alternative Residential 36 units/acre/Special Planning District).

(Continued on Page 3)

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP3. Multiple family property

P5a. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



*P4. Resources Present:

- Building Structure Object
- Site District Element of District Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) Primary façade, view north, taken August 13, 2024.

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source: Historic Prehistoric Both
1900, Source: Sacramento County Assessor.

*P7. Owner and Address:
Keith R/Alice M. Kelly Family Revocable Trust, P.O. Box 162612 Sacramento, CA 95816

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address) Page & Turnbull, Inc., 1007 7th Street, #404, Sacramento, CA 95814

*P9. Date Recorded: October 8, 2024

P10. Survey Type: (Describe) Intensive

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.")

Sacramento LGBTQ+ Experience History Project Historic Context Statement (LGBTQ+ HCS)

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record
 Archaeological Record District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record
 Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List): _____

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 6 *NRHP Status Code 3CS, 5S3

*Resource Name or # 2215 P Street

B1. Historic name: Gay Alternative Coffeehouse

B2. Common name: _____

B3. Original Use: Residential

B4. Present use: Residential

*B5. Architectural Style: Queen Anne Free Classic

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

2215 P Street was built in 1900. In 2009, a permit was issued for reroofing the rear porch with composite shingles.¹ In 2022, two permits were issued: the first to convert the second story of the main residential building to an ADU, and the second to construct a detached ADU at the rear of the property.² Windows appear to have been replaced with vinyl sash and a new concrete staircase was constructed at an unknown date. (Refer to continuation sheet, Page 4.)

*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Out & Proud: Development of Visible Sacramento LGBTQ+ Community Area Sacramento, California
Period of Significance 1971-1972 Property Type Residential Applicable Criteria 1/i

Historic Context:

Gay Alternative Coffeehouse

The intersection of P and 22nd streets was a hub for local LGBTQ+ activity in the late 1960s and early 1970s. In 1971, the first known LGBTQ+ coffeehouse opened at a building around the corner from the Pink Fairy Palace at 2215 P Street. The coffee shop was located in Apartment #2, which was the apartment of a man named Edgar, who was a writer for *Gay Voice Sacramento*, one of the first LGBTQ+ newsletters in Sacramento. Edgar was likely Edgar Carpenter, a student at Sacramento State College (now California State University, Sacramento and also known as Sacramento State University or CSUS) at the time and a leader in the gay liberation group, the Society for Homosexual Freedom (SHF), that was founded at the college. SHF held its early meetings at the coffeeshop in 1971.¹⁴⁹ It also hosted a series of gay community potluck dinners.

The coffeeshop, appropriately known as the Gay Alternative Coffeehouse, was created as space for young gay people to socialize outside the gay bar scene. It operated from approximately 1971-1972. According to a piece written by Edgar in *Gay Voice Sacramento* around the time the coffee shop opened:

The reason the coffeehouse has been started is that there is no gay scene in Sacramento outside of the bars (no gay scene for those of us under twenty-one) where we are charged exorbitant prices for drinks in a noisy, impersonal, meat-rack atmosphere which is the opposite of the atmosphere of community and brotherhood/sisterhood.³

To furnish the coffeehouse, *Gay Voice Sacramento* solicited donations of pillows, rugs, artwork, other décor items and a refrigerator.⁴ In 1972, the Gay Alternative Coffeeshop moved to another apartment building at 1516 29th Street (extant).⁵

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

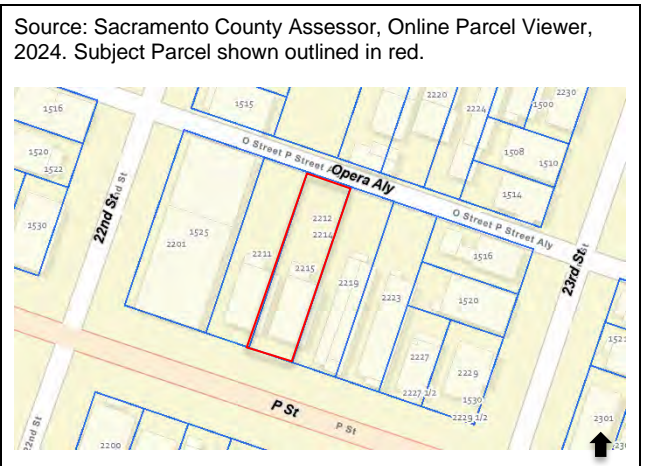
*B12. References: Refer to footnotes

B13. Remarks: N/A

*B14. Evaluator: Page & Turnbull, Inc.

*Date of Evaluation: October 8, 2024

(This space reserved for official comments.)



¹ City of Sacramento, Community Development Department. Permit #9800095. Sacramento, California: June 16, 2009.
² City of Sacramento, Community Development Department. Permit #RES-2204147. Sacramento, California: February 24, 2022; City of Sacramento, Community Development Department. Permit #ADR-2200078. Sacramento, California: March 8, 2022.
³ *Gay Voice Sacramento*, No. 1, 1971.
⁴ *Gay Voice Sacramento*, No. 1, 1971.
⁵ *Gay Voice Sacramento*, No. 2, undated.

***P3a. Description: (Continued)**

The subject property is two stories in height with a hipped roof and hipped dormers on the south, east, and west facades. The primary north façade features a two-story wood frame porch with simple Tuscan columns and wood baluster. The second story of the porch is accessed from a set of concrete stairs with metal railings. The east façade is partially visible and features a bay window at the second floor and double-hung windows. The west and rear north facades are mostly obscured from view (**Figure 3**). At the rear of the property, there is a two-story ADU with hipped roof (under construction as of August 2024). (**Figure 4**).



Figure 1. Primary south facade, view northeast.



Figure 2. Oblique view of south and east facades, view north.



Figure 3. Partial view of the rear façade and detached ADU, view southwest.



Figure 4. Context view of detached ADU, view southwest.

***B6. Construction History (continued):**

Sanborn Insurance maps from 1915 and 1950 show that the subject property consisted of two residential flats with a two-story full-width front porch (**Figure 5**). By 1950, the overall building footprint of the main residential building had remained mostly unchanged, apart from an extension to the rear porch and removal of a detached garage facing Opera Alley (**Figure 6**).

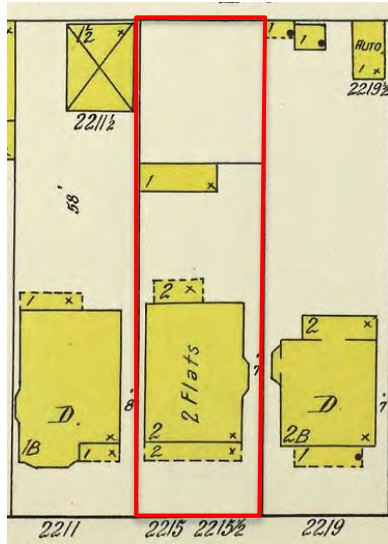


Figure 5: Sanborn Map Company fire insurance map of Sacramento, 1915. Volume Two, Page 123. Subject property outlined in red. Source: Historical Information Gatherers, San Francisco Public Library. Edited by Page & Turnbull.

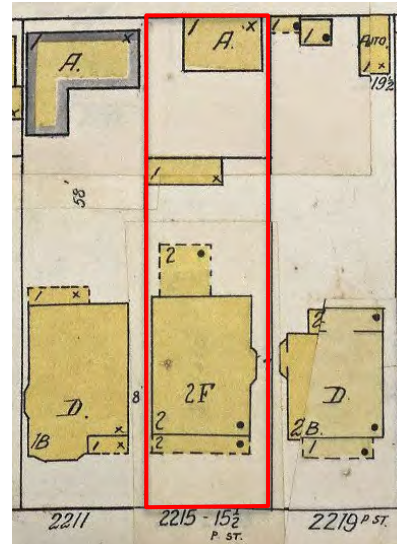


Figure 6: Sanborn Map Company fire insurance map of Sacramento, 1950. Volume Two, Page 123. Subject property outlined in red. Source: Historical Information Gatherers, San Francisco Public Library. Edited by Page & Turnbull.

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 - d. Properties that are primarily commemorative in intent are eligible if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value invests such properties with their own historical significance.
 - e. Properties achieving significance within the past 50 years are eligible if such properties are of exceptional importance.

California Register Criterion 1/Sacramento Register Criterion i (Events): Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.

The property at 2215 P Street appears eligible under Criterion 1/i as the location of the Gay Alternative Coffeehouse, a gay-owned and LGBTQ+-friendly coffee shop that opened in 1971 during an important transitional period in the development of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community. The coffee shop served as an alternative gathering space for Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community outside of the bar scene, particularly for young people under the age of 21. Despite operating at 2215 P Street for only one year before moving to another location, the establishment of the Gay Alternative Coffeehouse played an early role within the broader community effort to create new and alternate LGBTQ+ owned and friendly spaces for social connection outside of the gay bar scene. Thus, the property is significantly associated with establishing, supporting, and increasing the visibility of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community and is eligible under Criterion 1/i.

California Register Criterion 2/Sacramento Register Criterion ii (Persons): Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.

The property at 2215 P Street does not appear to be individually eligible under Criterion 2/ii. While the property is potentially associated with Edgar Carpenter, a writer for *Gay Voice Sacramento* and a leader in the gay liberation group the Society for Homosexual Freedom, research did not definitively confirm that the "Edgar" associated with the coffee shop is the same as Edgar Carpenter. Therefore, it is not possible at this time to confirm an association with Carpenter. No other important individuals with significant association to the subject property were identified. For these reasons, the property is not eligible for listing under Criteria 2/ii.

California Register Criterion 3/Sacramento Register Criteria iii-v (Architecture): Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.

The property at 2215 P Street does not appear to be individually eligible under Criterion 3/iii-v. The subject property has not been identified as the work of a notable architect or builder and does not possess high artistic merit. The building is a modest residential building designed in the Queen Anne "Free Classic" style with horizontal wood siding, Tuscan columns, hipped roof, and

replacement vinyl windows. The building is not a distinctive or exemplary representation of the style. Therefore, it is not eligible for listing based on its architectural design under Criterion 3/iii-v.

California Register Criterion 4/Sacramento Register Criterion vi (Information Potential): Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

The property at 2215 P Street does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register or Sacramento Register under Criterion 4/vi as a building or property that has the potential to provide information important to the prehistory or history of the City of Sacramento, state, or nation. It does not feature construction or material types, or embody engineering practices that would, with additional study, provide important information. Evaluation of this property was limited to age-eligible resources above ground and did not involve survey or evaluation of the subject property for the purposes of archaeological information.

Integrity

2215 P Street retains all seven aspects of integrity (setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). The building remains in its original location and continues to be surrounded by a variety of residential properties that were present during its period of significance (1971-1972). While the property has undergone alterations to the exterior including window replacements and the construction of a rear ADU, the building would still be recognizable to someone who visited the coffee shop while it was in operation.

Character-defining Features of 2215 P Street

Character-defining features of 2215 P Street that reflect its period of significance (1971-1972) include but are not limited to the following features:

- Two-story height
- Horizontal wood siding
- Hipped roof with boxed wood eaves and asphalt roofing
- Wood frame full-width front porch with Tuscan columns
- Double-hung windows and dormer window.

Conclusion

The property at 2215 P Street appears to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register and the Sacramento Register under Criteria 1/i (Events) for its association with the gay-owned and gay-friendly coffee shop Alternative Gay Coffeehouse. The coffee shop was an important gathering place for members of the LGBTQ+ community during the early years of its development in Sacramento in the 1970s and provided an alternative third space outside of the gay bar scene. 2215 P Street appears to retain all seven aspects of historic integrity from its period of significance. California Historical Resource Status Code (CHRSC) of "3CS, 5S3" has been assigned to the property, meaning "Appears eligible for CR as an individual property through survey evaluation" and "Appears to be individually eligible for local listing or designation through survey evaluation."⁶

References

Advertisement. *Sacramento Bee*. 16 September 1976: D6.

Building permit records. City of Sacramento.

California, U.S., Divorce Index, 1966-1984. Ancestry.com.

"City Building Permits." *Sacramento Bee*. 23 June 1974: E13.

Classified ads. *Sacramento Bee*. 11 October 1975: C5.

"Fitzgerald, Paul Neeson." *Sacramento Bee*. 22 January 2012: B5.

"Gay State Employees Have a Voice." *Mom...Guess What...!*. 1 September 1979.

Graham, James K. "Gay Business...Right Here in River City." *Mom Guess What...!*. April 1979.

Macias, Chris. "Celebrating Inclusion." *Sacramento Bee*. 5 September 2015: B1, B6.

"Marriage Licenses." *Record Searchlight* (Redding, CA). 12 September 1964.

⁶ California State Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks and Recreation, *Technical Assistance Bulletin #8: User's Guide to the California Historical Resource Status Codes & Historical Resource Inventory Directory*, Sacramento, November 2004.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

Page 7 of 7

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

Resource Name or # 2215 P Street

*Date October 8, 2024 Continuation Update

"New Club." *Sacramento Bee*. 1 April 1 1983: C7.

"Public Notice No. 632." *Sacramento Bee*. 2 November 1977: E6.

Sacramento City Directories. 1978-1994. Sacramento Public Library.

Sacramento County Assessor. Assessor Parcel Viewer. Accessed September 4, 2024,
<https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html#>.

Wiegand, Steve. "Tree-Planting with a Twist." *The Sacramento Bee*. March 16, 1992.

U.S. Public Records Index, 1950-1993, Volume 2, Ancestry.com.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code _____

Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 6 *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) 2565 Franklin Boulevard

P1. Other Identifier: The Blue Moon

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

*a. County Sacramento and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Sacramento East, CA. Date 2021 T 8N; R 5E; of Mt. Diablo of Sec 00; B.M.

c. Address 2565 Franklin Boulevard City Sacramento Zip 95818

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone __, __ mE/ __ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

*P3a. **Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries) 2565 Franklin Boulevard (APN 010-0247-040) is a one-story, 2,554-square-foot brick masonry commercial building located in the Curtis Park neighborhood of Sacramento on the east side of Franklin Boulevard between Broadway to the north, 2nd Avenue to the south, and State Highway 99 to the east. The building was constructed in 1925 and has a rectangular footprint with a low-pitched hipped roof with built-up roofing that is surrounded on the north, south, and east sides by a flat parapet wall and on the west (front) side by a projecting false hipped roof with red clay tile roofing and boxed wood eaves. The west and south façades are clad with vertically scored red facing bricks laid in a running bond, while the north façade is clad with smooth bricks laid in a common bond. The west (front) façade faces Franklin Boulevard and has two bays. The main entrance is centered in a recessed opening in the right (south) bay and consists of a flat metal door with a diamond-shaped peephole window (**Figure 1**). The facade appears to have originally had large storefront window openings, which were infilled at an unknown date with vertically grooved plywood cladding. A vinyl picture window with flat wood trim is located in the plywood infilled opening to the left (north) of the entrance (Continued on Page 3).

P5a. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



*P3b. **Resource Attributes:** (List attributes and codes) HP6. 1-3 story commercial building

*P4. **Resources Present:**

Building Structure Object
 Site District Element of District Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) View northeast of 2565 Franklin Blvd., taken August 25, 2024.

*P6. **Date Constructed/Age and**

Source: Historic Prehistoric Both
1925. Source: LoopNet.

*P7. **Owner and Address:**

Campus Plaza Assoc. Care Of
Brocchini Partners,
3801 W. Pacific Ave. Ste. A
Sacramento, CA 95820

*P8. **Recorded by:** (Name, affiliation, and address) Page & Turnbull, Inc., 1007 7th Street, #404, Sacramento, CA 95814

*P9. **Date Recorded:** October 8, 2024

P10. **Survey Type:** (Describe) Intensive

*P11. **Report Citation:** (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.")

Sacramento LGBTQ+ Experience History Project Historic Context Statement (LGBTQ+ HCS)

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record

Archaeological Record District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record

Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List): _____

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 6 *NRHP Status Code 3CS, 5S3

*Resource Name or # 2565 Franklin Boulevard

B1. Historic name: The Blue Moon

B2. Common name: _____

B3. Original Use: Commercial

B4. Present use: Commercial

*B5. Architectural Style: 20th-Century Commercial

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

2565 Franklin Boulevard was constructed in 1925 for property developers Anderson-Govan Company by an unknown architect and builder. Research did not uncover any historic photographs of the building. A fire insurance map published by the Sanborn Map Company in 1950 shows the building as a masonry building with a roughly rectangular footprint with an angled front façade aligned with Franklin Boulevard. At the time, the building contained two commercial units and its south façade faced 1st Avenue (now a surface parking lot). The building's earliest known tenant was a lighting and ornamental iron work designer and manufacturer in 1931. By 1935, the building was in use as Leejo's Tavern, a Prohibition-era bar that was raided for possessing an illegal cache of untaxed alcohol in a secret cabinet behind sliding doors.¹ Various bars, including the lesbian bar The Blue Moon from 1985 to 1990, occupied the building through 2021, when the interior of the building was remodeled to convert it into a drive-in style restaurant.

*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Out & Proud: Development of Visible Sacramento LGBTQ+ Community Area Sacramento, California
Period of Significance 1985-1990 Property Type Commercial Applicable Criteria 1/1

Historic Context:

Lesbian Bars in Sacramento (ca. 1969-2000)

Gay white men were historically, and continue to be, the most visible and recognized LGBTQ+ subgroup both in Sacramento and the broader LGBTQ+ population nationwide. As in other cities, lesbians in Sacramento often felt angered, embittered, and alienated by the treatment they received from gay men and the lack of recognition or representation they often received. Some gay businesses and organizations explicitly did not welcome lesbians. Many gay bars, which catered to a majority white male clientele, did not welcome and often rejected lesbian patrons. The practice of “carding” lesbians and LGBTQ+ persons of color to discourage their presence was not uncommon. If carded, those seeking admission would have to produce multiple forms of personal ID to secure entrance, making it difficult if not impossible for them to be admitted.² As a result, lesbians in Sacramento were forced to establish their own safe spaces, social gathering places, clubs, and organizations where they could openly and comfortably express themselves. Known lesbian bars that operated in the City of Sacramento during the formative period of the LGBTQ+ community's development from the late 1960s to approximately the year 2000 included the Crescent Moon at 1704 Broadway (extant but extensively altered), the Blue Moon (the subject property), the Buffalo Club at 1831 S Street (demolished), The Mirage at 601 15th Street (extant, primarily a bar for Black lesbians), and Jammin' Jo's Sports and Dance Bar at 2721 Broadway (extant). (Refer to continuation sheet, Page 4.)

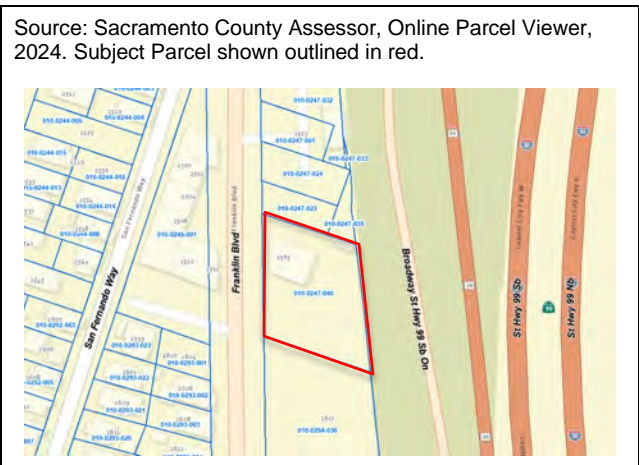
B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

*B12. References: Refer to footnotes

B13. Remarks: N/A

*B14. Evaluator: Page & Turnbull, Inc.

(This space reserved for official comments.)



¹ “Caches Uncovered in Liquor Raids,” *Sacramento Bee*, 8 March 1935: 5.

² Carson Anderson, “Comments on Draft LGBTQ HCS,” July 9, 2024.

***P3a. Description (continued):**

The south façade faces a large surface parking lot and has another large window opening that is infilled with plywood cladding and a vinyl picture window (Figure 2 and Figure 3). An exit door with a metal security door is at the east end of the façade. The north façade is clad with brick laid in a common bond and has iron ties across the upper courses (Figure 4). The rear (east) façade is not visible from the street. 2565 Franklin Boulevard is zoned C-2 (General Commercial).



Figure 1. South facade, view northeast.



Figure 2. Parking lot south of the building, view north.



Figure 3. North facade, view southeast.

***B6. Construction History (continued):**

Building permit records document few exterior alterations to the building over time aside from the installation of various exterior signs, reroofing in 1991, and the installation of new concrete paving in 1999.³ Based on visual observations made during an August 2024 site visit, additional exterior alterations include infilling large storefront window openings at the front (west) and south facades with vertically grooved plywood siding and vinyl picture windows and installing hanging metal pendant lights from the projecting hipped roof at the front façade.



**Figure 4. 1950 fire insurance map by the Sanborn Map Company, showing the subject building.
Source: Library of Congress.**

***B10. Significance:**

Historic Context (continued)

The Blue Moon (1985-1990)

A lesbian bar called The Once Upon a Blue Moon, more commonly known as the Blue Moon, opened around 1985 at 2565 Franklin Boulevard. The bar was owned and operated by Shannon Morgan, an out lesbian and local blown-glass artist who played in the local women's sports leagues. Lesbian residents of Sacramento have described that Sacramento historically could only support one lesbian bar at a time. If a new bar opened, it would pull patrons away, and the previous lesbian bar would close soon after. The Blue Moon was the only lesbian bar in Sacramento for much of the 1980s and became one of the most prominent and popular social gathering places for Sacramento's lesbian community during that decade.

Members of the local women's slow and fast pitch softball leagues and other sports teams often gathered at the bar after weekly Sunday games to socialize.⁴ Morgan was a member of the local women's rugby team the River City Ruggers, which also gathered at the Blue Moon after games and practices for food, entertainment, and socializing. The first Ms. Leather Sacramento competition, a leather title competition that was a feeder to the International Leather Competition in Chicago, was held at the Blue Moon in 1987 and annually until the bar closed in 1990.⁵

³ Building permit records, 2656 Franklin Boulevard, City of Sacramento Planning Department.

⁴ Jolanne Tierney, conversation with Clare Flynn and Henry Feuss, August 7, 2024, Sacramento, CA.

⁵ Haines Criss-Cross Directory, Sacramento, 1990, Sacramento Public Library.



Figure 5. Artwork from an advertisement for The Blue Moon (1986).
Source: *The Patlar Gazette*, January 1986.

Statement of Significance:

In order for a property to be considered eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), or the Sacramento Register as a landmark, the property must possess significance and retain integrity to convey that significance. Refer to the *Sacramento LGBTQ+ Experience History Project Historic Context Statement (LGBTQ+ HCS)* and *Survey Methodology & Framework* for evaluative criteria of each theme.

California Register of Historical Resources Evaluation

The California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) is an inventory of significant architectural, archaeological, and historical resources in the State of California. The evaluative criteria used by the California Register for determining eligibility are closely based on those developed by the National Park Service for the National Register of Historic Places.

In order for a property to be eligible for listing in the California Register, it must be found significant under one or more of the following criteria:

1. (Events): Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
2. (Persons): Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.
3. (Architecture): Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.
4. (Information Potential): Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

Sacramento Register of Historic and Cultural Resources

The Sacramento Register of Historic and Cultural Resources (Sacramento Register) is the City of Sacramento’s official inventory of historic and cultural resources. In order to be listed as a local landmark, historic district, or contributing resource to a historic district, a building, structure, site, or feature must meet the following criteria and requirements for listing on the Sacramento Register, as outlined in Chapter 17.604.210 of the City’s municipal code:

- A. **Listing on the Sacramento Register—Landmarks.** A nominated resource shall be listed on the Sacramento Register as a landmark if the city council finds, after holding the hearing required by this chapter, that all of the requirements set forth below are satisfied:
1. Requirements.
 - a. The nominated resource meets one or more of the following criteria:

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____

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Resource Name or # 2565 Franklin Boulevard

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

*Date October 8, 2024 Continuation Update

- i. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of the history of the city, the region, the state or the nation;
 - ii. It is associated with the lives of persons significant in the city's past;
 - iii. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction;
 - iv. It represents the work of an important creative individual or master;
 - v. It possesses high artistic values; or
 - vi. It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in the prehistory or history of the city, the region, the state or the nation;
 - b. The nominated resource has integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. Integrity shall be judged with reference to the particular criterion or criteria specified in subsection A.1.a of this section;
 - c. The nominated resource has significant historic or architectural worth, and its designation as a landmark is reasonable, appropriate and necessary to promote, protect and further the goals and purposes of this chapter.
2. Factors to be considered. In determining whether to list a nominated resource on the Sacramento register as a landmark, the factors below shall be considered.
- a. A structure removed from its original location is eligible if it is significant primarily for its architectural value or it is the most important surviving structure associated with a historic person or event.
 - b. A birthplace or grave is eligible if it is that of a historical figure of outstanding importance and there is no other appropriate site or structure directly associated with his or her productive life.
 - c. A reconstructed building is eligible if the reconstruction is historically accurate, if the structure is presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and if no other original structure survives that has the same association.
 - d. Properties that are primarily commemorative in intent are eligible if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value invests such properties with their own historical significance.
 - e. Properties achieving significance within the past 50 years are eligible if such properties are of exceptional importance.

California Register Criterion 1/Sacramento Register Criterion i (Events): Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.

The property at 2565 Franklin Boulevard appears eligible under Criterion 1/i as the location of The Blue Moon, a lesbian bar that opened in 1985 when Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community became a visible and recognizable part of the city's population for the first time. During this formative period, gay bars served as the center of social life for many in the LGBTQ+ community and were the place where people went to form social and sexual connections, exchange news, share life experiences, discuss important topics to the community, and openly express themselves at a time when being gay was still not generally accepted by mainstream society. Rejected from most of the gay bars and spaces in Sacramento, which catered primarily to gay white men, lesbians in Sacramento were forced to establish their own spaces, including their own lesbian bars, where they could socialize safely and openly. According to numerous community members, Sacramento typically only had one lesbian bar at a time. During the 1980s—a highly potent era in the development of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community when many LGBTQ+ businesses, clubs, and organizations were founded—the Blue Moon was the most prominent, and perhaps the only, lesbian bar in the city. The bar was the place where lesbian social groups and organizations, including local women's sports teams, gathered and the annual Ms. Leather competition was held. As such, it became an important incubator and connective force for Sacramento's lesbian community. The property, thus, is significantly associated with establishing, supporting, and increasing the visibility of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community and is eligible under Criterion 1/i.

California Register Criterion 2/Sacramento Register Criterion ii (Persons): Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.

The property at 2565 Franklin Boulevard does not appear to be eligible under Criterion 2/ii for association with an individual of historic significance to local LGBTQ+ history. The owner of the Blue Moon, Shannon Morgan, was well-known within the lesbian community for her connection to the bar and was active socially in local women's sports leagues and as an artist. However, research did not indicate that she was personally recognized as a leading figure in the establishment and development of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community. As such, the property is eligible under Criteria 2/ii.

California Register Criterion 3/Sacramento Register Criteria iii-v (Architecture): Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.

The property at 2565 Franklin Boulevard does not appear to be individually eligible under Criterion 4/vi. The subject property has not been identified as the work of a notable architect or builder and does not possess high artistic merit. The building is a modest and undistinctive commercial building built in the early 20th century. The building is not exemplary representation of an architectural style. Therefore, it is not eligible for listing based on its architectural design under Criterion 3/iii-v.

Criterion 4/vi (Information Potential): Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

The property at 2565 Franklin Boulevard does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register or Sacramento Register under Criterion 4/vi as a building or property that has the potential to provide information important to the prehistory or history of the City of Sacramento, state, or nation. It does not feature construction or material types, or embody engineering practices that would, with additional study, provide important information. Evaluation of this property was limited to age-eligible resources above ground and did not involve survey or evaluation of the subject property for the purposes of archaeological information.

Sacramento Register Factor e.: Factor e. for consideration of properties for listing on the Sacramento register states that properties that achieved their historic significance less than 50 years ago should be of exceptional significance. The subject property was constructed in 1925 and is over 50 years old. However, its historic association with the LGBTQ+ community began in 1985, less than 50 years ago at the time of this evaluation. The property is exceptionally significant for its cultural importance to the LGBTQ+ community. Based on a reconnaissance-level survey of properties identified through the Sacramento LGBTQ+ Historic Experience Project in 2024, relatively few properties remain that have a strong individual association with the development of the City of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community, particularly outside the Midtown area, and that retain sufficient historic integrity. Additionally, only a handful of lesbian bars existed in the City of Sacramento during the formative period of the community's development from the late 1960s to approximately 2000, several of which have been extensively altered. Properties that were significant as community social gathering spaces that were not gay bars are also rare. Therefore the property meets consideration Factor e.

Integrity

2565 Franklin Boulevard retains all seven aspects of integrity (setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). The building remains in its original location and continues to be surrounded by a variety of commercial, residential, and mixed-use development, most of which was present during its period of significance (1985-1990). The building appears to have undergone minimal exterior alterations since the closure of The Blue Moon in 1990, primarily consisting of re-roofing and the installation of new concrete paving. The building would still be recognizable from the street to someone who visited the bar while it was in operation in the 1980s.

Character-defining Features of 2565 Franklin Boulevard

Character-defining features of 2565 Franklin Boulevard that reflect the period of significance (1985-1990) include but are not limited to the following features:

- One-story height
- Fluted and smooth brick masonry cladding
- Hipped false parapet roof with overhanging boxed wood eaves and red clay tile roofing
- Recessed front entrance

Conclusion

The property at 2565 Franklin Boulevard appears to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register and the Sacramento Register under Criteria 1/i (Events) for its association with the lesbian bar The Blue Moon. The bar was one of the most popular and well-known social gathering places for lesbians in Sacramento during the 1980s, when the LGBTQ+ community became a visible and recognizable part of Sacramento's population for the first time. It was the location of many social gatherings for local lesbian groups that fostered connections within the community and played an integral role in the community's development. 2565 Franklin Boulevard appears to retain all seven aspects of historic integrity from its period of significance. California Historical Resource Status Code (CHRSC) of "3CS, 5S3" has been assigned to the property, meaning "Appears eligible for CR as an individual property through survey evaluation" and "Appears to be individually eligible for local listing or designation through survey evaluation."⁶

References

Anderson, Carson. "Comments on Draft LGBTQ HCS." July 9, 2024.

Building permit records. City of Sacramento.

"Caches Uncovered in Liquor Raids." *Sacramento Bee*. 8 March 1935: 5.

⁶ California State Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks and Recreation, *Technical Assistance Bulletin #8: User's Guide to the California Historical Resource Status Codes & Historical Resource Inventory Directory*, Sacramento, November 2004.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary # _____
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Trinomial _____

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Resource Name or # 2565 Franklin Boulevard

*Recorded by Page & Turnbull, Inc.

*Date October 8, 2024 Continuation Update

California State Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks and Recreation. *Technical Assistance Bulletin #8: User's Guide to the California Historical Resource Status Codes & Historical Resource Inventory Directory*. Sacramento, November 2004.

Sacramento City Directories. 1978-1994. Sacramento Public Library.

Sacramento County Assessor. Assessor Parcel Viewer. Accessed September 4, 2024,
<https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html#>.

Tierney, Jolanne. Conversation with Clare Flynn and Henry Feuss. August 7, 2024. Sacramento, CA.

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code _____

Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 6 *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) 7042 Folsom Boulevard

P1. Other Identifier: Bo Jangles

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

*a. County Sacramento and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Sacramento East, CA. Date 2021 T 8N; R 5E; _ of Mt. Diablo _ of Sec 00; _ B.M.

c. Address 7042 Folsom Boulevard City Sacramento Zip 95826

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone __, __ mE/ __ mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, decimal degrees, etc., as appropriate)

*P3a. **Description:** (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries) 7042 Folsom Boulevard (APN 079-0222-034) is a one-story, 4,266-square-foot commercial building located on the south side of Folsom Boulevard between Brighton Avenue to the west, State University Drive to the west, and U.S. Highway 50 to the southeast in the East Sacramento neighborhood of Sacramento. The building was constructed in 1940 and has an irregular footprint. Approximately two-thirds of the front of the building has a hipped parapet roof with overhanging boxed eaves and standing seam metal roofing. The rear third of the building has a flat roof. The building is clad with stucco. The front (north) façade faces Folsom Boulevard and contains the main entrance to the building, which is covered with plywood (**Figure 1**). The east façade contains a secondary entrance, consisting of two metal doors (**Figure 2**). The west façade features two fixed window openings and another door opening. One of the windows and the door opening are covered with plywood. The rear (southeast) facade is not visible from the public right-of-way but appears to face a rear patio that is enclosed by a stucco-clad wall. The building is located on a 0.75-acre triangular parcel that is enclosed by a metal chain link fence. A small patio surrounded by a wood board fence with concrete and wood posts is located in front of the main entrance. Paved surface parking lots flank the building on its east and west sides. 7042 Folsom Boulevard is zoned C-2 (General Commercial).

*P3b. **Resource Attributes:** (List attributes and codes) HP6. 1-3 story commercial building

P5a. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



*P4. **Resources Present:**

Building Structure Object
 Site District Element of District
Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) View southeast of 7042 Folsom Blvd., taken August 25, 2024.

*P6. **Date Constructed/Age and Source:** Historic Prehistoric Both
1940, Source: Sacramento County Assessor.

*P7. **Owner and Address:**
Malkah J LLC
6236 Mahala Dr.
Carmichael, CA 95608

*P8. **Recorded by:** (Name, affiliation, and address) Page & Turnbull, Inc., 1007 7th Street, #404, Sacramento, CA 95814

*P9. **Date Recorded:** October 8, 2024

P10. **Survey Type:** (Describe) Intensive

*P11. **Report Citation:** (Cite survey

report and other sources, or enter "none.")

Sacramento LGBTQ+ Experience History Project Historic Context Statement (LGBTQ+ HCS)

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record
 Archaeological Record District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record
 Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List): _____

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 6 *NRHP Status Code 3CS, 5S3

*Resource Name or # 7042 Folsom Boulevard

B1. Historic name: Bo Jangles

B2. Common name: _____

B3. Original Use: Commercial

B4. Present use: Commercial

*B5. Architectural Style: Vernacular

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

The building at 7042 Folsom Boulevard was constructed in 1940.¹ Research did not reveal its original owner or builder. The earliest known photographs of the building consist of aerial photographs from the 1950s and 1960s, which show the building with a rectangular footprint and low-pitched gabled roof (**Figure 3** and **Figure 4**). The building has had numerous uses over the course of its existence, but has most frequently been used as a bar, nightclub, or music venue. From the late 1960s to early 1970s, the building was occupied by the Pink Tiger Tavern, a go-go dance club. In 1966, three large windows were broken and the interior was damaged after burglars set off an explosion inside the building.² One week later, someone threw a stone through glass in the front door and poured flammable liquid along 10 feet of the rear wall and set it on fire, causing smoke damage.³ In 1976, an addition for a card room was constructed. The addition is visible in an aerial photograph taken in 1981 (**Figure 5**) (Refer to continuation sheet, Page 4.)

*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features: None

B9a. Architect: Unknown b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Out & Proud: Development of Visible Sacramento LGBTQ+ Community Area Sacramento, California
Period of Significance 1976-1986 Property Type Commercial Applicable Criteria 1/i, 2/ii

Historic Context:

Early Gay Bars in the City of Sacramento

Through the late 1960s and into the early 1970s, as much of the gay community remained closeted and being publicly “out” could still put one at risk of arrest, losing one’s job, and being ostracized from family, friends, and coworkers, gay and lesbian individuals continued to meet in secret. Gay bars—which had covertly served a vital role as some of the only places LGBTQ+ individuals could openly express their sexual identities since the first decades of the 20th century—blossomed into the public center of LGBTQ+ life in the decades after the late 1960s. Gay bars became not just places to meet sexual partners; they developed into the de facto center of gay life, where LGBTQ+ individuals received and exchanged news, formed lasting friendships and romantic relationships, and organized social, professional, and political groups, clubs, and events.

While some gay bars existed in Sacramento’s Central City grid prior to the late 1960s, California’s anti-sodomy laws, which had been used to harass and imprison LGBTQ+ individuals for over 100 years, and the City of Sacramento’s strict enforcement of those laws, prevented the formation of any recognizable concentration of gay-owned or gay-friendly establishments within the boundaries of the City of Sacramento until the state laws were repealed in the 1970s. In 1975, Assembly Bill 437, which ended California’s sodomy laws, passed both houses of the California state legislature and was signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown, Jr.⁴ (Refer to continuation sheet, Page 4.)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

*B12. References: Refer to footnotes

B13. Remarks: N/A

*B14. Evaluator: Page & Turnbull, Inc.

*Date of Evaluation: October 8, 2024

(This space reserved for official comments.)

Source: Sacramento County Assessor, Online Parcel Viewer, 2024. Subject Parcel shown outlined in red.



¹ Sacramento County Assessor, Assessor Parcel Viewer, accessed September 4, 2024, <https://assessorparcelviewer.saccounty.gov/jsviewer/assessor.html#>.

² “After-Hours ‘Visitors’ To Bar Take Coins and Then Really Have a Blast,” *Sacramento Bee*, 22 September 1966: D1.

³ “Pink Tiger Is Target Again – Flames, Stone,” *Sacramento Bee*, 29 September 1966: A11.

⁴ Donna J. Graves and Shayne E. Watson, “Citywide Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ History in San Francisco,” 2016 227-228.

***P3a. Description (continued):**



Figure 1. North facade, view southwest.



Figure 2. East facade, view southwest.

***B6. Construction History (continued):**

LGBTQ+ entrepreneur, community leader, and philanthropist Myron “Terry” Sidie purchased the property in 1976 and remodeled it into a popular gay dance club called Bo Jangles. The rear patio appears to have been added around this time. Permit records describe the installation of a new door to the patio and outdoor fireplace in 1977. In 1980, the building had another fire that damaged approximately 20 percent of the building.⁵ The damage was repaired. City directory listings indicate that Bo Jangles closed around 1986, but building permit records show that the property continued to be owned by Sidie through at least 1990. From the mid-1980s through 2007, the property was used as a live music venue, known for primarily hosting alternative rock bands and musicians. The venue went by several different names during this time period, including Club Me!, The Cattle Club, and The Library. Additional fires resulted in unspecified damage to the building in 1998 and again in 2002. A fire protection system was installed in 2005.⁶ Three windows in the north (front) façade were repaired in 2007. The Library closed in 2007, after a gang fight resulted in the accidental death of a 20-year-old student who was sitting in her car outside the bar. Bisla’s Sports Bar subsequently occupied the building from 2009 to 2013. Google Street View shows that the front façade was modified around 2014 as part of remodeling the building into a barbeque restaurant, Fahrenheit 451. A new outdoor patio seating area with wood and concrete posts was constructed at the front of the building at this time, and three fixed windows at the front façade were replaced with glazed doors that opened to the patio. Chain link fencing was added around the property around 2022.⁷ The only other exterior alterations that are documented in building permit records consist of the installation of signs for the various tenants that have occupied the building.⁸



Figure 3. 1966 aerial photograph. The subject building is indicated by a white arrow. Source: HistoricAerials.com. Edited by Page & Turnbull.



Figure 4. 1971 aerial photograph. The subject building is indicated by a white arrow. Source: Cartwright Aerial Surveys, Flight CAS-3069, 1971, UC Santa Barbara FrameFinder. Edited by Page & Turnbull.



Figure 5. 1981 aerial photograph. The subject building is indicated by a white arrow. Source: Cartwright Aerial Surveys, Flight CAS-81081, 1981, UC Santa Barbara FrameFinder. Edited by Page & Turnbull.

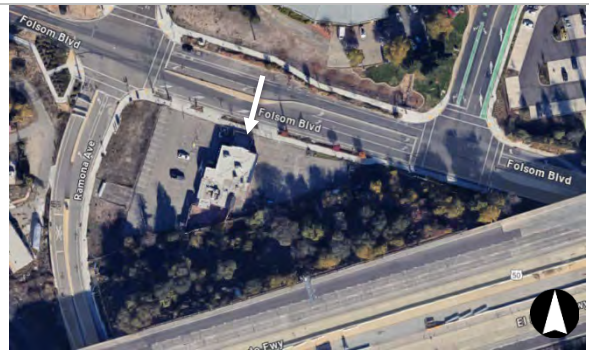


Figure 6. 2024 aerial photograph. The subject building is indicated by a white arrow. Source: Google Maps. Edited by Page & Turnbull.

⁵ “Bojangles Bar Burns,” *Sacramento Bee*, 28 October 1980: B3.

⁶ Building permit records, City of Sacramento.

⁷ Google Street View, accessed September 18, 2024.

⁸ Building permit records, City of Sacramento.

***B10. Significance:**

Historic Context (continued)

The impact of the repeal of the state's sodomy laws is visible in the pattern of development of gay bars and gay-friendly establishments in the Sacramento area. Locations where queer people could openly gather and interact were initially scattered throughout the city, though the largest concentrations remained across the Sacramento River in the City of West Sacramento through the mid-1970s. The Damron Guides recorded only two queer-friendly establishments in Sacramento from the publication of the first issue in 1965 through 1970: the Topper Club and Mark Twain Hotel bar located along the cruising area on the K Street Mall in downtown Sacramento.

Over the course of the 1970s and 1980s, however, the number of gay bars and queer-friendly establishments steadily increased and spread throughout the City of Sacramento as policing of sexual activities decreased. A small number of new establishments emerged within the city in the early 1970s. The first, though short-lived, gay bar on 21st Street that was listed in the Damron Guides was Raye's Inn at 1617 21st Street in 1971. A few years later, the Cruz'in/Y-Not bar was located a few blocks to the north at 2026 I Street near the intersection of 21st and I streets. By 1973, the Corker Club (later Bob and Frank's Underpass and Corral/Broadway Limited) at 1946 Broadway.⁹ The Topper Club and Mark Twain Hotel were demolished at an unknown date. The building at 2026 I Street has been replaced with contemporary infill housing, while the exterior of 1946 Broadway has been extensively altered beyond recognition.

Bo Jangles (1976-1986)

Many of the most popular and successful early gay bars within the boundaries of the City of Sacramento opened in outlying neighborhoods outside the Central City in the 1970s. In 1976, Wisconsin-native Myron "Terry" Sidie opened his first of several gay bars and businesses in Sacramento, a dance club called Bo Jangles at 7042 Folsom Boulevard (extant) just outside the campus of California State University, Sacramento in East Sacramento. However, despite the growing visibility of gay men and lesbians in Sacramento, anti-gay discrimination and violence remained a constant reality. In 1979, four patrons at Bo Jangles were wounded when someone fired a gun into the crowded patio outside the bar from nearby Highway 50. No arrests were recorded in the *Sacramento Bee's* reporting.¹⁰ Despite the continuing threat of violence and harassment, Bo Jangles was an important social outlet for the community. The bar was a popular spot for young people due to its proximity to the campus of Sacramento State University and the fact that most of the bar was open to people under the age of 21.¹¹ Bo Jangles became a place where many members of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community first publicly came out, had their first openly LGBTQ+ experiences, or first met others in the LGBTQ+ community. Jolanne Tierney, known by her DJ-ing name Jammin' Jo, remembered the bar as the first place where she publicly came out. When she walked into Bo Jangles for the first time as a high school student in 1979, she said it "was the first time [she] knew she wasn't alone," adding, "It felt like home."¹² City directories list Bo Jangles until 1986, after which the property was primarily used as a live music venue.

Myron "Terry" Sidie

Born and raised on a farm in Wisconsin, Terry Sidie left home at the age of 19 to live with an aunt in Detroit, where he came out as gay. He later moved to Los Angeles, where he worked as a private-duty nurse before enlisting in the military in 1971. Though hoping "to see the world," he was stationed at the hospital at Mather Air Force Base in the Sacramento area. During the evenings, he moonlighted as a bartender at bars in Sacramento and West Sacramento, gaining experience with the local gay bar scene. After opening Bo Jangles in 1976, Sidie became one of the most successful and influential figures in Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community, opening several other bars, restaurants, and establishments, and supporting community clubs and organizations through donations and fundraisers. In 1985, he purchased the building that contained another early gay bar, K Street Station, located at 2000 K Street (extant), and reopened it as a new gay dance club called Faces, which continues in operation. Sidie envisioned Faces as a destination for dancing and a luxurious alternative to the typical dive bar. Sidie wished to combat the exclusionary attitude of the gay community and the bar scene in the 1970s by creating a place that welcomed everyone. Under Sidie's leadership, Faces became akin to a community center. The success of the bar has often been credited by community



Figure 7. Advertisement Bo Jangles (ca. 1980). Source: *Mom...Guess What...!* Lavender Library.

⁹ Mapping the Gay Guides, accessed August 14, 2024, <https://mappingthegayguides.org/viz/map/>.

¹⁰ "Shots Fired at Bar Crowd," *Sacramento Bee*, 29 July 1979: A26.

¹¹ Alan LoFaso, conversation with Clare Flynn, September 13, 2024, Sacramento, CA.

¹² Jolanne Tierney, conversation with Clare Flynn and Henry Feuss, August 2, 2024, Sacramento, CA.

members, business and political leaders as a catalyzing force in the development of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ neighborhood, Lavender Heights.¹³

In addition to Bo Jangles and Faces, at one point, Sidie also owned Club 21, a restaurant called Head Hunters, the Verona Village Resort in Sutter County, and a farm in his home state of Wisconsin. Sidie used the success of his business endeavors to benefit and empower Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community. Faces became a hub for the community and arguably the most well-known and recognizable landmark for the LGBTQ+ life in Sacramento. In addition to its regular business, the bar hosted events such as voter drives for the Sacramento chapter of the gay political advocacy group the Stonewall Democratic Club, fundraisers for LGBTQ+ friendly politicians, and the first meeting of the Sacramento Gay and Lesbian Softball League.¹⁴ In 1987, Sidie helped start the Rainbow Festival with Hamburger Mary's owner Richard Boriolo. The festival, which is held annually as a fundraiser for local LGBTQ+ charities and organizations, was Boriolo's idea and continues to use Faces as its main hub.¹⁵ In reflecting on Sidie's impact on the community, Reverend Jerry Sloan, founder of the Lambda Community Center (now the Sacramento LGBT Community Center), stated, "'A lot of people and groups, including myself, have certainly gone to him and said, 'Terry, we need,' and he never hesitates. And we're talking thousands of dollars, not 20 bucks.'"¹⁶ By 1997, Sidie, himself, estimated he had given \$120,000 to local LGBTQ+ charities and organizations.¹⁷

Sidie has also been a leader in other important LGBTQ+ organizations in Sacramento. He helped found the Lambda Community Center (now the LGBT Community Center) in 1986 and was crowned Emperor XIII and XXXVII of the Imperial Court of Sacramento (also known as the Court of the Great Northwest Imperial Empire, or CGNIE), a local chapter of the drag social club and charitable organization the International Court System. He was named Emperor I of the Americas, one of the two highest ranked people in the International Court System in 2020.¹⁸ Sidie's prominence in the Imperial Court System has given Sacramento power and distinction within the drag community worldwide.¹⁹



Figure 8. Terry Sidie at Faces (2015). Source: Paul Kitagaki for *The Sacramento Bee*.

Statement of Significance:

In order for a property to be considered eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (California Register), or the Sacramento Register as a landmark, the property must possess significance and retain integrity to convey that significance. Refer to the *Sacramento LGBTQ+ Experience History Project Historic Context Statement (LGBTQ+ HCS)* and *Survey Methodology & Framework* for evaluative criteria of each theme.

¹³ Chris Macias, "Celebrating Inclusion," *Sacramento Bee*, 5 September 2015: B1, B6.

¹⁴ Macias, "Celebrating Inclusion."

¹⁵ Jolanne Tierney, conversation with Clare Flynn and Henry Feuss.

¹⁶ Macias, "Celebrating Inclusion."

¹⁷ Macias, "Celebrating Inclusion."

¹⁸ "History," Sacramento LGBT Community Center, accessed April 11, 2024, <https://saccenter.org/history>; "Imperial Court Emperors and Empresses," The United Courts of CGNIE, accessed August 24, 2024.

¹⁹ "Official Message from Queen Mother 1 of the America's, Nicole the Great," International Court System, August 26, 2019, accessed August 24, 2024, <https://internationalcourtsystem.org/official-message-from-queen-mother-1-of-the-americas-nicole-the-great/>.

California Register of Historical Resources Evaluation

The California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) is an inventory of significant architectural, archaeological, and historical resources in the State of California. The evaluative criteria used by the California Register for determining eligibility are closely based on those developed by the National Park Service for the National Register of Historic Places.

In order for a property to be eligible for listing in the California Register, it must be found significant under one or more of the following criteria:

1. (Events): Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.
2. (Persons): Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.
3. (Architecture): Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.
4. (Information Potential): Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

Sacramento Register of Historic and Cultural Resources

The Sacramento Register of Historic and Cultural Resources (Sacramento Register) is the City of Sacramento's official inventory of historic and cultural resources. In order to be listed as a local landmark, historic district, or contributing resource to a historic district, a building, structure, site, or feature must meet the following criteria and requirements for listing on the Sacramento Register, as outlined in Chapter 17.604.210 of the City's municipal code:

- A. **Listing on the Sacramento Register—Landmarks.** A nominated resource shall be listed on the Sacramento Register as a landmark if the city council finds, after holding the hearing required by this chapter, that all of the requirements set forth below are satisfied:
1. Requirements.
 - a. The nominated resource meets one or more of the following criteria:
 - i. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of the history of the city, the region, the state or the nation;
 - ii. It is associated with the lives of persons significant in the city's past;
 - iii. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction;
 - iv. It represents the work of an important creative individual or master;
 - v. It possesses high artistic values; or
 - vi. It has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in the prehistory or history of the city, the region, the state or the nation;
 - b. The nominated resource has integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. Integrity shall be judged with reference to the particular criterion or criteria specified in subsection A.1.a of this section;
 - c. The nominated resource has significant historic or architectural worth, and its designation as a landmark is reasonable, appropriate and necessary to promote, protect and further the goals and purposes of this chapter.
 2. Factors to be considered. In determining whether to list a nominated resource on the Sacramento register as a landmark, the factors below shall be considered.
 - a. A structure removed from its original location is eligible if it is significant primarily for its architectural value or it is the most important surviving structure associated with a historic person or event.
 - b. A birthplace or grave is eligible if it is that of a historical figure of outstanding importance and there is no other appropriate site or structure directly associated with his or her productive life.
 - c. A reconstructed building is eligible if the reconstruction is historically accurate, if the structure is presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and if no other original structure survives that has the same association.
 - d. Properties that are primarily commemorative in intent are eligible if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value invests such properties with their own historical significance.
 - e. Properties achieving significance within the past 50 years are eligible if such properties are of exceptional importance.

California Register Criterion 1/Sacramento Register Criterion i (Events): Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States.

The property at 7042 Folsom Boulevard appears eligible under Criterion 1/i as the location of Bo Jangles, one of the earliest openly gay bars and nightclubs within the limits of the City of Sacramento. Opened in 1976 at a time when the LGBTQ+ community still remained primarily hidden and underground, Bo Jangles was an important social gathering place and outlet for personal expression for the LGBTQ+ community, where people came out publicly for the first time, met and made meaningful connections with other LGBTQ+ people, and freely expressed themselves. The property, thus, is significantly associated with establishing, supporting, and increasing the visibility of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community and is eligible under Criterion 1/i.

California Register Criterion 2/Sacramento Register Criterion ii (Persons): Associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history.

The property at 7042 Folsom Boulevard appears to be eligible under Criterion 2/ii for its association with prominent gay entrepreneur, business owner, and philanthropist Myron "Terry" Sidie. Bo Jangles was the first of several gay bars and other businesses Sidie opened. Starting with Bo Jangles, he realized his vision of creating spaces where the LGBTQ+ community felt safe and welcome to be themselves. Sidie's businesses, many of which have been located near the intersection of 20th and K street, played a critical role in the development of Lavender Heights into Sacramento's recognized LGBTQ+ neighborhood. Sidie used the success from his businesses to support the LGBTQ+ community through donations to LGBTQ+ groups, causes, and organizations and fostering the development of the annual Rainbow Festival. He has also been a leader in several local LGBTQ+ organizations. Through his businesses, beginning with Bo Jangles, and his philanthropic work, Sidie has contributed in numerous ways to the establishment of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community from its formation in the 1970s to the present. As such, the property is eligible under Criteria 2/ii.

California Register Criterion 3/Sacramento Register Criteria iii-v (Architecture): Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values.

The property at 7042 Folsom Boulevard does not appear to be individually eligible under Criterion 3/iii-v. The subject property has not been identified as the work of a notable architect or builder and does not possess high artistic merit. The building is a vernacular commercial building that does not display the characteristics of any particular architectural style or important building type. Therefore, it is not eligible for listing based on its architectural design under Criterion 3/iii-v.

California Register Criterion 4/Sacramento Register Criterion vi (Information Potential): Has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation.

The property at 7042 Folsom Boulevard does not appear to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register or Sacramento Register under Criterion 4/vi as a building or property that has the potential to provide information important to the prehistory or history of the City of Sacramento, state, or nation. It does not feature construction or material types, or embody engineering practices that would, with additional study, provide important information. Evaluation of this property was limited to age-eligible resources above ground and did not involve survey or evaluation of the subject property for the purposes of archaeological information.

Sacramento Register Factor e.: Factor e. for consideration of properties for listing on the Sacramento Register states that properties that achieved their historic significance less than 50 years ago should be of exceptional significance. The subject property was constructed in 1940 and is over 50 years old. However, its historic association with the LGBTQ+ community began in 1976, less than 50 years ago at the time of this evaluation. The property is exceptionally significant for its cultural importance to the LGBTQ+ community. Based on a reconnaissance-level survey of properties identified through the Sacramento LGBTQ+ Historic Experience Project in 2024, relatively few properties remain that have a strong individual association with the development of the City of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community, particularly outside the Midtown area, and that retain sufficient historic integrity. Operating as Bo Jangles, 7042 Folsom Boulevard possesses a high level of intangible cultural and social significance as a place where many people had their first or formative public experiences, both individually and collectively, as members of the LGBTQ+ community. The building holds a meaningful place in the memories of many and had a lasting role in fostering the establishment of the community. Therefore, the property meets consideration Factor e.

Integrity

7042 Folsom Boulevard retains all seven aspects of integrity (setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). The building remains in its original location and its setting continues to be characterized by surface parking lots and its proximity to Folsom Boulevard, U.S. Highway 50, and the campus of Sacramento State University, all of which were present during Bo Jangles' years of operation. The building appears to have undergone limited exterior alterations since the closure of Bo Jangles in 1986, primarily consisting of the conversion of three windows at the front façade into a door opening and the construction of an exterior seating area in 2014. Although the alterations to the front façade have modified its appearance somewhat, the building retains the same overall form, footprint, massing, and roofline from the early period of Terry Sidie's ownership and, therefore, retains enough of its design, materials, and workmanship from its period of significance (1976-1986) to remain recognizable to someone who visited the bar while it was in operation. As such, the building retains integrity of feeling and association with the development of early gay bars within the City of Sacramento.

Character-defining Features of 7042 Folsom Boulevard

Character-defining features of 7042 Folsom Boulevard that reflect its period of significance (1976-1986) include but are not limited to the following features:

- One-story height
- Stucco cladding
- Hipped parapet roof with overhanging boxed wood eaves
- Rear patio surrounded by stucco wall

Conclusion

The property at 7042 Folsom Boulevard appears to be individually eligible for listing in the California Register and the Sacramento Register under Criteria 1/i (Events) and 2/ii (Persons) for its association with Bo Jangles, a prominent early gay bar and nightclub within the boundaries of the City of Sacramento, and its owner, Terry Sidie. Bo Jangles was an important gathering place for members of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community as it became increasingly open and visible in the 1970s through the 1980s and was the first business opened by Sidie, an important figure in the development of Sacramento's LGBTQ+ community through his work as a businessman, entrepreneur, and philanthropist. 7042 Folsom Boulevard appears to retain all seven aspects of historic integrity from its period of significance. California Historical Resource Status Code (CHRSC) of "3CS, 5S3" has been assigned to the property, meaning "Appears eligible for CR as an individual property through survey evaluation" and "Appears to be individually eligible for local listing or designation through survey evaluation."²⁰

References

"After-Hours 'Visitors' To Bar Take Coins and Then Really Have a Blast." *Sacramento Bee*. 22 September 1966: D1.

"Bojangles Bar Burns." *Sacramento Bee*. 28 October 1980: B3.

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"Shots Fired at Bar Crowd." *Sacramento Bee*. 29 July 1979: A26.

Tierney, Jolanne. Conversation with Clare Flynn and Henry Feuss. August 2, 2024. Sacramento, CA.

²⁰ California State Office of Historic Preservation Department of Parks and Recreation, *Technical Assistance Bulletin #8: User's Guide to the California Historical Resource Status Codes & Historical Resource Inventory Directory*, Sacramento, November 2004.