

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

Primary #
HRI #
Trinomial
NRHP Status Code 2S2

Other Listings
Review Code

Reviewer

Date

Page 1 of 5

*Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) F.W. Foss Co. Building

P1. Other Identifier: Martino's Restaurant; Wolfe's Jewelers; Sandwich Indulgence, Jupiter

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted
and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*a. County Alameda

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Oakland West Date 1993 Township & Range; No data

c. Address 2177-2183 Shattuck Ave. City Berkeley Zip 94704

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10S; 564412mE/ 4191628mN

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

Assessor's Parcel Number: 57-2031-7;

Easterly side of Shattuck Avenue between Center Street and Allston Way.

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

An early blend of commercial design features from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the F.W. Foss Company building is a Contributor to the Shattuck Avenue Downtown Historic District. Although altered more than once over time, the side-by-side paired brick buildings encompass two of the oldest structures in the downtown core. The two-story south wing, with its distinctive gable roof, and the one-story, flat-roofed north wing both incorporate the forms and internal structures of commercial design from the end of the nineteenth century. The current brick façades and wood windows represent an eclectic-revival style alteration so prevalent in Berkeley in the 1920s. This property has historical associations with a time when there were very few buildings on this block, and visual associations with the Eclectic Revival boom years of Berkeley, immediately before the Great Depression.

(Continued on next page)

*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 facing northeast, January 2015.

*P6. Date Constructed/Age & Sources:

Historic Prehistoric Both

1895/120 years old, based on *Berkeley Dispatch* 1/6/1896.

*P7. Owner and Address:

David J. & Marilyn R.
Martin Trs
2171 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94704

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address)

F. Maggi, L. Dill, & S. Winder
Archives & Architecture, LLC
PO Box 1332
San Jose CA 95109-1332

*P9. Date Recorded: May 15, 2015

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)

Intensive

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

Archives & Architecture LLC: Shattuck Avenue Commercial Corridor Historic Context and Survey, 2015.

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

DPR523A

*Required information

Page 2 of 5 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) F.W. Foss Co. Building

*Recorded by Franklin Maggi, Leslie Dill, & Sarah Winder *Date 5/15/2015 Continuation Update

(Continued from previous page)

The F.W. Foss Co. Building is part of a setting of mostly historic buildings that form the primary corridor of commercial buildings lining Shattuck Avenue and the transit center that connects the city with the University of California campus. From 1908 through 1938, the block of Shattuck between Addison and Center Streets faced an open square that housed the Southern Pacific tracks and the Berkeley train depot. The Foss property was developed when the station was built and active in the city.

The north and south façades are a unified composition that started as separate structures in the late-nineteenth century. The nineteenth-century façades reportedly featured false fronts that were removed in the 1920s. The design includes early-twentieth-century revival-era design elements; in particular, the clinker brick walls and residential-scale wood detailing give the façade its strong design associations.

The two-story south half of the composition, at 2181 Shattuck Ave., features a gabled roof with shallow wood fascia boards that return at the corners. Gabled roofs are not common in commercial buildings from the early part of the century but are part of the Berkeley design vocabulary of the 1920s. The clinker-brick upper wall is punctuated by two large wood focal windows. The window openings are topped by soldier courses forming flat arches and including brick sills. The windows are tripartite units, with a large fixed single-lite picture window flanked by multi-lite (2x4) side casements, all spanned by a multi-lite transom band. The first-floor storefront area appears as a later addition; it features crisply manufactured brick, in a slightly different color, which projects slightly forward of the upper wall, as though it were applied later. The lower brick wall is pierced by four arched windows that are not the size or placement of traditional commercial display windows. One of the arched openings is slightly wider than the other three; it has three fixed vertical sash. The three narrower openings have vertical windows with differing lite patterns. The ground-floor brick was built prior to 1978 when the building was first surveyed by Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association.

The one-story north portion of the façade at 2177 Shattuck Ave. is topped by a flat roof that extends into a wooden cornice that includes dentils. The clinker brick spans the top of the façade and forms the north-end pier adjacent to the storefront area. A large opening spans the full-width of the two ground-floor openings. The framework of the opening includes a full-width wood transom window; the south wall and center of the beams are supported by wood posts. The storefront is at the north half of the front wall. It is a replacement that includes non-original brick at the bulkhead. At the other opening is the open-air walkway that passes through the building; the pedestrian route connects Shattuck Avenue with the courtyards of Trumpetvine Court.

Character-defining features of the south building include: overall party-wall commercial building form; gabled roof with wood fascia; clinker-brick upper façade with two large window openings with brick headers and sills; tripartite wood focal windows with multi-lite transom band. Alterations include the brick first-floor storefront area and its arched windows.

Character-defining features of the north building include: overall simple box footprint that provides an outdoor courtyard at the rear and an open-air walkway through the center of the building; flat roof; wood cornice with dentils; clinker brick upper façade and north-end pier; full-width opening with full-width wood transom window; wood posts supporting the structural beams. Alterations include the replacement storefront.

This building serves pedestrian traffic that flows along Shattuck Avenue to related downtown urban uses. The buildings are offset parallel rectangles with angled front property lines, and the buildings are held back from the rear property line, creating an open courtyard currently used for outdoor dining and accessed as "Trumpetvine Court."

The building appears to be in excellent condition.

(Continued on next page)

Page 3 of 5

*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

F.W. Foss Co. Building

*Recorded by Franklin Maggi, Leslie Dill, & Sarah Winder

*Date 5/15/2015

Continuation

Update

(Continued from previous page)



Sidewalk view of front façade, viewed facing north.