

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) Martha Sell Building

P1. Other Identifier: Swedberg Furniture

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted *a. County Alameda
 and (P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)
 *b. USGS 7.5' Quad Oakland West Date 1993 Township & Range No data
 c. Address 2154-2160 University Ave. City Berkeley Zip 94704
 d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10S; 564451mE/ 4191874mN
 e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)
 Assessor's Parcel Number: 57-2034-12;
 South side of University Avenue between Shattuck Avenue and Oxford Street.

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

The building at 2154-2160 University Ave. is a City of Berkeley Landmark building. Constructed during the second decade of the twentieth century, this building is a five-bay one-story commercial storefront with an internal mezzanine. The lot has a frontage on University Avenue of 100 feet, and the building is offset on the lot to the west with a driveway to the rear along the east property line. A warehouse addition, built about two years after the main building completion, extends the building to the rear property line behind the two westerly bays. The west most of these bays has a remodeled façade that appears to have been constructed in 1963. The framework of the building is poured-in-place concrete. The southwest corner of the building faces Terminal Place, but is separated by a thin rear extension of the lot to west (Heron Building), which wraps the rear bulb of this alley.

(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 southwest, March 2015.

*P6. Date Constructed/Age & Sources: Historic Prehistoric Both

1911-1912, 103+ years old, based on COB permit files.

*P7. Owner and Address:

University of California
 1111 Franklin St. 6
 Oakland, CA 94607

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

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

*P9. Date Recorded: March 30, 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)

Page 2 of 6 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Martha E. Sell Building

*Recorded by Franklin Maggi & Sarah Winder *Date 3/30/2015 Continuation Update



Detail view



West remodeled portion of street façade, viewed facing south.

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*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder)

Martha E. Sell Building

*Recorded by Franklin Maggi & Sarah Winder *Date 3/30/2015

Continuation Update

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Rear view from Terminal Place
(rear addition visible at right), viewed facing north.

The four easterly bays of this building have the original façade above two original and what are likely two modified storefronts. The building is a classically inspired design by architect George Anderson. The upper façade is topped by a parapet that steps up at the front and is trimmed with a three-layered square molding that wraps and terminates at the northeast corner of the building at the driveway. Below the parapet is an applied entablature. Braced by corbel blocks above engaged columns that separate the bays of the storefronts, the composition consists of a cantilevered cornice sandwiched with corona topped by a cyma recta molding separated by a bank of gold leaf recessed trim. This unit sits above a dentil and segmented bed-molding.

What appear to be the two original storefront units at the east end of the building have solid plaster bases, large glazed windows, and vertical seven-lite transoms with the outer windows openable casements. The storefront under the center bay is narrower and deeply recessed, and the storefront to its west, also narrow, has been modified with a contemporary recessed glazing and door system. Determining the original configuration of these two storefronts will require additional discovery of historic photos.

The most westerly storefront and its façade above is a distinctly different modern design clad with a mix of horizontal and vertical wood boards, aluminum window frame with board trim, and a recessed entry, and boxed signs, both attached and cantilevered. It was not determined as a part of this study what had existed at this location prior to the 1960s remodeling.

The building appears to be in very good condition.