

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 6 *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) UC Theater

P1. Other Identifier: Stark Hotel

*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 Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted *a. County Alameda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 2018-2036 University Ave. City Berkeley Zip 94704
d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10S; 564207mE/ 4191820mN
e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)
Assessor's Parcel Number: 57-2025-15;
south side of University Avenue between Shattuck Avenue and Milvia Street.

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

Berkeley's oldest surviving theater building with a mostly intact façade, the UC Theater is a Berkeley City Landmark. The building is two stories in height, and a two-part horizontal composition with the Theater façade and entry at the east end of the building, and a vernacular commercial façade common to the 1910s along the western portions of the site that front the theater auditorium to its rear.

The UC Theater is part of a setting of mostly historic buildings that are linked to the primary corridor of commercial buildings in Downtown Berkeley that line Shattuck Avenue. These buildings along University Avenue line the primary vehicular gateway to the University of California and its link to the bay.

(Continued on next page, DPR523L)

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP10. Theater

*P4 Resources Present: Building Structure Object Site District Element of District Other (Isolates, etc.)



P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #)

View facing southwest,
February 2015.

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

1916-1917, 99 years old, based
on COB permit files and
Architect & Engineer Feb.
1919

*P7. Owner and Address:

Property Owner
2909 McClure St.
Oakland, CA 94069

*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: Sept. 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)

Page 2 of 6 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) UC Theater

*Recorded by Franklin Maggi, Leslie Dill, & Sarah Winder *Date 9/15/2015 Continuation Update

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The Art Deco characteristics of the theater façade are early for the style, but reflect evolving theater marquee design in the years before World War I when motion picture venues were evolving throughout America. The UC Theater was built with an auditorium wing to the west set back from the street and fronted with small commercial storefronts.

While the upper façade of the theater entry is ornamented with a high parapet, elaborate cornice with shields and bullseyes, fasces window frame, a cast crest with twin initials of UC, the original façade is said to originally have had a brick finish. The marquee is modern, and the entry was under remodeling at the time of this recording.

The commercial storefronts to the west of the theater entry have brick clad upper walls with a low parapet, classical cornice, and patterned brickwork. The storefronts originally had transoms, with some remaining and other covered with signage. This commercial section has six storefronts, and an entry to the upper residential studios. The windows above the storefronts are one over one replacement windows with upper fixed sash. The entry appears to be fairly original with an upper transom, although the glass and door are replacements.

Character-defining features include: upper ornamented wall of theater entry, some storefront elements of the commercial portions of the building, the upper brickwork and window openings, and the framework at the entry to the studio apartments.

The historic elements of the building appear in excellent condition.



Upper façade at theater entry, viewed facing south.

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Entry to studio apartments, viewed facing southeast.



West end of façade with storefronts and upper residential windows, viewed facing southwest.