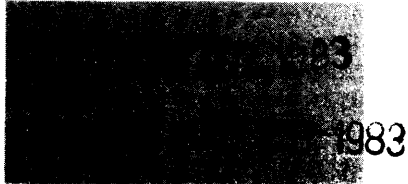


United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Southern Counties Gas Co.

RECEIVED  
AUG 31 1982

and/or common Handlebars Saloon

OHP

2. Location

street & number 207 West 2nd Street N/A not for publication

city, town Santa Ana N/A vicinity of congressional district 38th

state CA code 06 county Orange code 059

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Santa Ana Investment Properties Mark II

street & number 22952 Alcalde Drive

city, town Laguna Hills N/A vicinity of state CA 92653

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Orange County Records Office

street & number 630 N. Broadway

city, town Santa Ana state CA

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Santa Ana Historic Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 11/12/80  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Office of Historic Preservation

city, town P.O. Box 2390 Sacramento state CA

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

---

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This Colonial Revival style building with Palladian and Federal influences was built in 1923. The symmetry and formality of the building indicate the Colonial influences while the Palladian windows and dormers compliment the uprightness and strong vertical divisions typical of the Federal style.

The building is built on a rectangular plan and consists of a two-story wing in the front and one-story section on the rear half of the building. A gabled roof is located over the two-story section while the rear portion incorporates a flat roof. The building is constructed of brick with a smooth fired variegated colored brick used on the front half of the building and rough fired brick on the rear half. The brick work is contrasted by plaster pilasters and bulkhead on the front of the building.

The front wing rises to two stories in height and results in a side-facing gable roof with raised parapets articulating the upper gable faces. Three projecting dormers with six-over-six sash windows and rounded window hoods are present on the front of the upper story. An ornamental iron grate originally lined the roof ridge but has since been removed. \*

The lower portion of the front facade is comprised of three bays separated by plaster pilasters with mock Corinthian capitals. The connecting frieze above the pilasters supports the "Handlebars Santa Ana Saloon" sign (not original) and a classical cornice with dentils. Each of the bays is defined by a modified Palladian enrichment; the central Palladian treatment defines the entry door while the outer bays feature the Palladian treatment as a window.

What is now a double entry (first through the facade and then through the inner alcove) was originally a single entry flush with the front facade. The newer entry has not compromised the exterior architecture. The Palladian treatment remains the same and includes a large keystone reliever arch with an internal fanlight transom of moulded wood and a smaller mullioned glass transom. The sidelights feature etched glass while the transom above is of stained glass. Slender pilasters support the Palladian arch.

The entry alcove which is not original was made to look Victorian and features lath on the lower half of the walls and ornamental pressed tin above. The door is of moulded wood and includes an ornamental brass escutcheon and a Victorian door frame with rosettes in the corners. Half-sized sidelights with etched glass are on either side of the door. The floor below is sheathed in small tiles with "Handlebars" spelled out in black tiles against a white background.

The Palladian windows on either side of the main entry feature the identical architectural treatment as the entry except that the original sidelights have been removed. Large fixed pane windows are still present, but the full-sized sidelights are now gone. \*\*

The west side of the building on the front half features two keystone arched windows like those on the front. While the original recessed panes are still present one of the windows has had an outer wire glass pane added and the other has been stuccoed over. An exterior vent pipe which runs along the side of the window has also been stuccoed.

\* and \*\*: These alterations have been reversed subsequent to the submission of this application. The exterior of the building has been restored to its historic appearance. (See photo #8 of 8, showing restored exterior.)

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The remaining portion of the west side features several rectangular windows at odd intervals. The windows are primarily recessed with reliever arches. Wire glass outer windows have been added here also. The east and rear sides of the building have no windows, just the brick sheathing. The added two sections on the rear of the building were built as a garage for servicing and storing the Gas Co. vehicles.

The shell of the building interior on both the first and second stories remain in their original state. The second story originally served as the employee lounge; today it is unused and empty but the interior architecture with the dormer light wells and built-in closet are still intact. The first story is also structurally intact, but much superficial Victoriana has been added. The significant original features include the wide moulded exposed wood beams and the floor to ceiling connecting posts also of moulded wood and with classical treatment. At the time that Handlebars Saloon was installed in the building, a lot of Victorian pieces were imported into the building including a bar and considerable fret work which was placed on top of, and in addition to, the original structure. These Victorian additions are not original nor are they germane to the history or style of the building.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below				
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)	

**Specific dates** 1923 **Builder/Architect** Arch: Walker & Eisen (Los Angeles)  
 Builder: Clark Brothers (Los Angeles)

**Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)**

The Southern Counties Gas Co. building was constructed in 1923 for a cost of \$50,000. It was the Orange County District office and contained executive offices, a clubroom and company garage with room for 36 service vehicles. This was one of twenty-six gas company offices in Southern California.

The building was built on the site of the Santa Ana Gas and Electric Light Works which was located on the site from 1891 on and contained 10,000 cubic foot gas storage tanks. In 1911 the Southern Counties Gas Co. bought the local gas utility and operated its offices at various locations until 1923 when the company built its own office structure. The utility moved to 207 West Second from 501 North Sycamore Street.

The structure is significant primarily for its colonial revival influenced architecture. It is the only pure colonial revival commercial building in Santa Ana and appears to be the only significant colonial revival commercial building extant in Orange County. The structure was built by a Los Angeles Architectural firm, Walker and Eisen and was constructed by the Clark Bros., a Los Angeles contractor. This was unusual as local architects such as Frank Lansdown, H. Newton Thornton, Fred Eley and Horace Austin were responsible for most of the city's structures. The structures slate roof and large palladian influenced windows were unique in Santa Ana and gave the building local prominence.

The structure is unaltered on the exterior and has no irreversible alterations on the interior. The Gas Company remained at this location until the mid-1960's, when the building was bought for a restaurant in 1969. At that time the interior was augmented with extensive added victorian in a misguided historical remodeling. The structure retains its historical integrity and unique architectural presence in Santa Ana.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Santa Ana Daily Register - 9-13-23, 9-27-23  
 City of Santa Ana Building Permit #9826  
 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps - 1887, 1888, 1891, 1895

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .223 ac  
 Quadrangle name Tustin

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UMT References**

A 

1	1	4	1	9	5	6	0	3	7	3	4	2	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

  
 C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

  
 E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

  
 G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

  
 D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

  
 F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

  
 H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

**Verbal boundary description and justification :** Western part of Lots 1, 4, 5 in Block 5 of the Town of Santa Ana, in the City of Santa Ana, County of Orange, State of California as per map recorded in Bk 2, pg 51, of Misc. Records of Los Angeles Co. CA The structure occupies the entire parcel. Boundaries are shown

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries on attached map.

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state		code	county		code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Harold Thomas  
 organization Heritage Orange County date 8-20-82  
 street & number 206 W. 4th Street telephone 714-835-7287  
 city or town Santa Ana state CA

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature K. M. Ellison

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 5/10/83

**For HCRS use only**  
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

J. Melores Piquero Entered in the National Register date 7/28/83  
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief of Registration

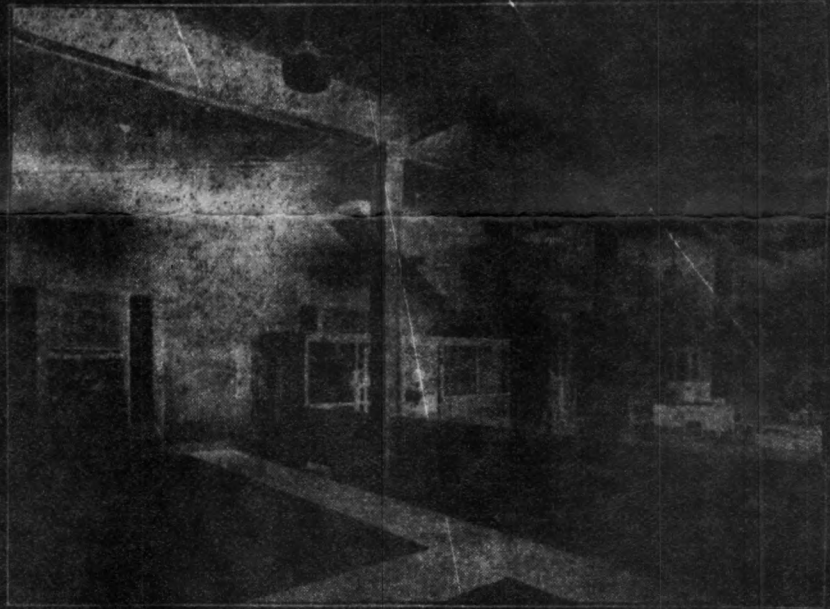
# HOME SOON

\$50,000 Southern Counties Gas Company Building to Open Monday

The grand opening of the new \$50,000 Southern Counties Gas Company building will be held Monday, Sept. 10, at 10 o'clock. The building is located on the corner of Main and Commercial streets, and is a fine example of modern architecture. It will be used for the company's headquarters and for the storage of gas cylinders. The building is a two-story structure with a brick facade and a gabled roof. It features three large arched windows on the ground floor and three smaller arched windows on the second floor. The building is a fine example of modern architecture.



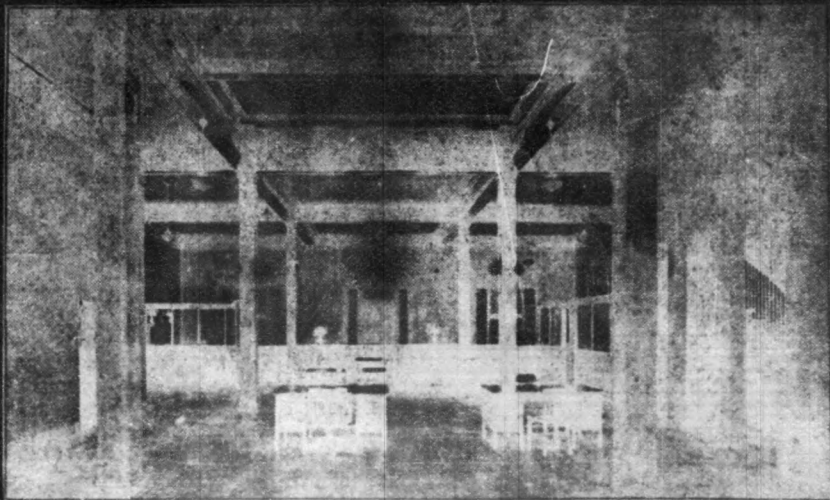
## FIELD BIG FOR HOME LOANS SAYS SECTY



WE'LL ANSWER ANY ROOFING QUESTION

If you will visit our booth at the Fair—Section A, Booth 22.

We are demonstrating "Pacific Made"



Foley, Father Ryan To Escort of Girl Hurt

Playing dead as a safety device is common among epistors

Southern Counties Gas Co  
 207 West Second St  
 Santa Ana Orange CA  
 A# # 398-267-04

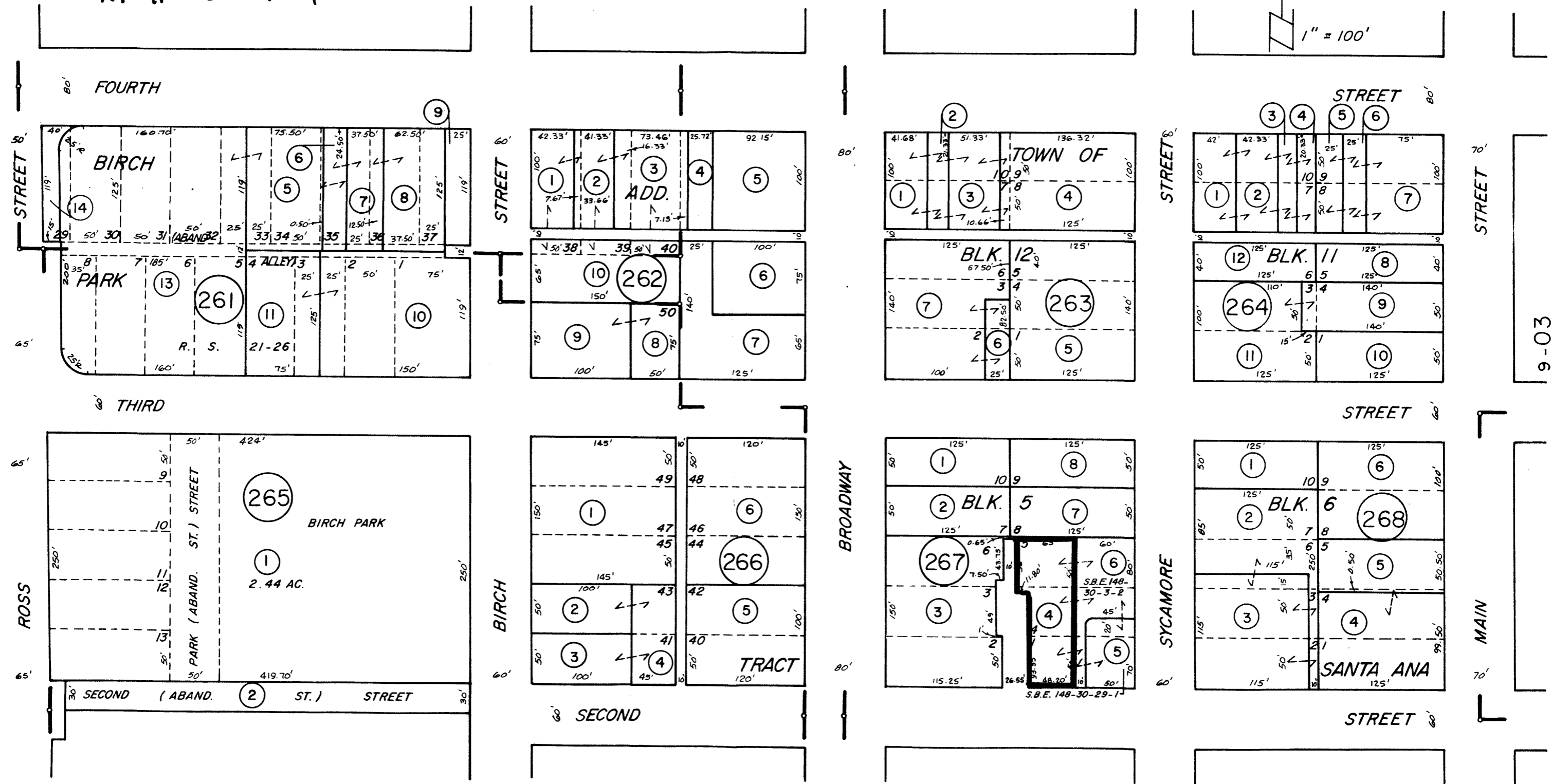
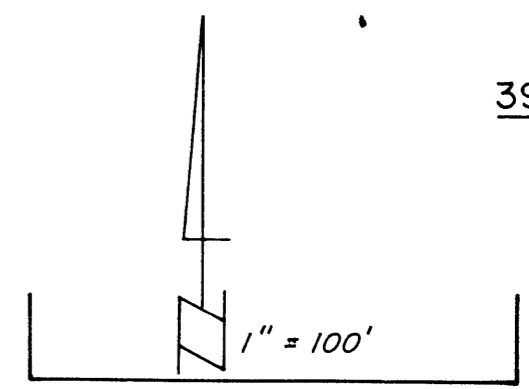
POR. S.E. 1/4, SEC. 12, T. 5 S., R. 10 W.

398-26

25

22

9-03



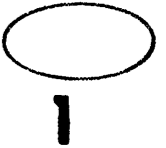
MARCH 1981

TOWN OF SANTA ANA  
 BIRCH ADD.  
 PARK TRACT

L. A. 1 - 8  
 L. A. 1 - 32  
 R. S. 1 - 30

NOTE - ASSESSOR'S BLOCK &  
 PARCEL NUMBERS  
 SHOWN IN CIRCLES

ASSESSOR'S MAP  
 BOOK 398 PAGE 26  
 COUNTY OF ORANGE



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