

**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 SACRAMENTO BANK BUILDING

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 3418 Broadway ___ not for publication

city, town Sacramento ___ vicinity of congressional district 3

state California code 06 county Sacramento code -67

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 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Wille A. Bell

street & number 1409 28th Street

city, town Sacramento ___ vicinity of state California 95816

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Sacramento County Recorder

street & number 901 G Street

city, town Sacramento state California

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

ORIGINAL APPEARANCE

The Sacramento Bank Building was constructed in the early twentieth century as a commercial branch bank for the Oak Park neighborhood of Sacramento, California. It is a one-story triangular-shaped structure built on its present property line and lot measuring 100' x 124.74' x 77.94'.

The bank building is constructed of reinforced concrete, cement plaster, with a steel-framed roof and wooden columns. Architectural detail throughout is neo-classical. The corner entrance is defined by a rounded portico supported by two fluted Ionic columns, with four-sided volutes. The doorway is arched with medallions above the arch, commemorating the founding date for the Sacramento Bank (1867) and the structure's date of construction (1914). The entablature above these columns extends along each street elevation. The frieze is Doric, although the triglyphs and metopes are somewhat unevenly spaced; the frieze above the portico is blank, doubtless indicating a signage space. The projecting cornice is supported by mutules, generally spaced above every third triglyph. The original structure included five tall, narrow windows on each street elevation, with decorative keystones above the central windows and window heads above the far windows. As originally designed, the structure included a copper dome above the entrance portico. When this dome was in place above the curved portico corner entrance, the structure was reminiscent, in simplified form, of Albert Pissis' Hibernia Bank in San Francisco.

PRESENT APPEARANCE

Major changes to this structure were carried out in 1947 by the Bank of America, owner of the structure since 1928. The copper dome above the two columns was removed. The rear wall was removed and the building was extended 24' to the rear. The entire interior was renovated, with new counters and banking partitions. Heating and air conditioning were installed. A 3 foot wide border of 6 x 6" black tiles were added to the lower perimeter of the structure. These changes, particularly the removal of the dome, detract from the integrity of the original design. Fortunately, the level of classical detail of the original structure was quite high and the structure clearly retains its capacity to convey its design intent.

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 type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1914 Builder/Architect Gideon Holt/James Seadler

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

Built in 1914, the Sacramento Bank Building is significant for its neo-classical design and for its contribution to the commercial development of the Oak Park neighborhood.

Architecturally, this structure is representative of its type and period of construction, an early twentieth century bank, built in a time of resurgent interest in the classical forms in the construction of monumental buildings and as symbols of permanence and solidity, useful for public and commercial structures. As noted in Section 7, the Sacramento Bank Building exhibits a careful attention on the part of its architect to an historically accurate use of classical features, and this high level of detail accounts for the structure's ability to convey its design intent despite substantial alterations. The Bank is the only significant example of its type in Oak Park and one of the better privately-owned neo-classical structures in Sacramento.

It is significant to note that the bank's architectural statement expresses the role the Sacramento Bank would play in the emerging community of Oak Park. Between 1900 and 1911, Oak Park saw substantial population and commercial growth, becoming Sacramento's first modern suburb. Beginning in the late 1890s with John Steen's Saloon on 35th and Cypress (4th) Avenue, business enterprise developed rapidly. By 1911 such enterprises presented the image of a prosperous, comfortable small town that included: ten groceries, ten saloons, three restaurants, several dentists, doctors, druggists, teachers, printers, building contractors, hardware and jewelry stores, theaters, shoemakers, etc. Such services made Oak Park's eight thousand residents virtually self-sufficient in relation to "downtown" Sacramento.

The search for solutions to a growing number of problems, however, such as the lack of adequate water and sewage facilities, fire protection, police protection, and high commercial insurance rates, led to the annexation of Oak Park to the City of Sacramento in September, 1911. Undoubtedly, the construction of many new commercial buildings there between 1911 and 1915, along with the readiness of residents to support bond issues to improve the physical environment of the area, reinforced the image of a community "on the move," bustling with business activity. In this context, the Sacramento Bee of January 2, 1915 confidently asserted that the bank "stands as a certainty of the Oak Park business community." Such boosterism, confidence, and profit-making prospects combined to establish the historical context in which the Sacramento Bank Building can be viewed as a significant contribution to the architectural and economic development of this area of Sacramento.

The structure continued to serve as a key banking facility for forty-five years, although ownership changed several times. In 1920, it became the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bank, in 1923 the United Bank and Trust Company, in 1928 the United Security Bank and Trust Company. Again, in 1928, the Bank was acquired by the

9. Major Bibliographical References

Pam McGuire, Kenneth Owans, et al, "Historic Overview for the Oak Park Redevelopment Area" (1980)
 Sacramento Bee, 3/19/12; 3/28/14; 1/2/15; 1/5/15; 3/16/17
 Bank of America Archives # 3218, San Francisco, California

10. Geographical Data

AGRICULTURE
 UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property 33
 Quadrangle name Sacramento East

Quadrangle scale 7.5 min.

UMT References

A

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

B

Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

Zone	Easting				Northing									

E

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property nominated is a triangular lot 100' x 124.74' x 77.94', bounded on the north by Boradway and by 3rd Street on the south. See attached site plan.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Willie A. Bell, Architect

organization

date May 22, 1981

street & number 1409 28th Street

telephone (916) 454-5562

city or town Sacramento

state California

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 Ellen

title S.H.P.O.

date 12.11.81

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 1/21/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

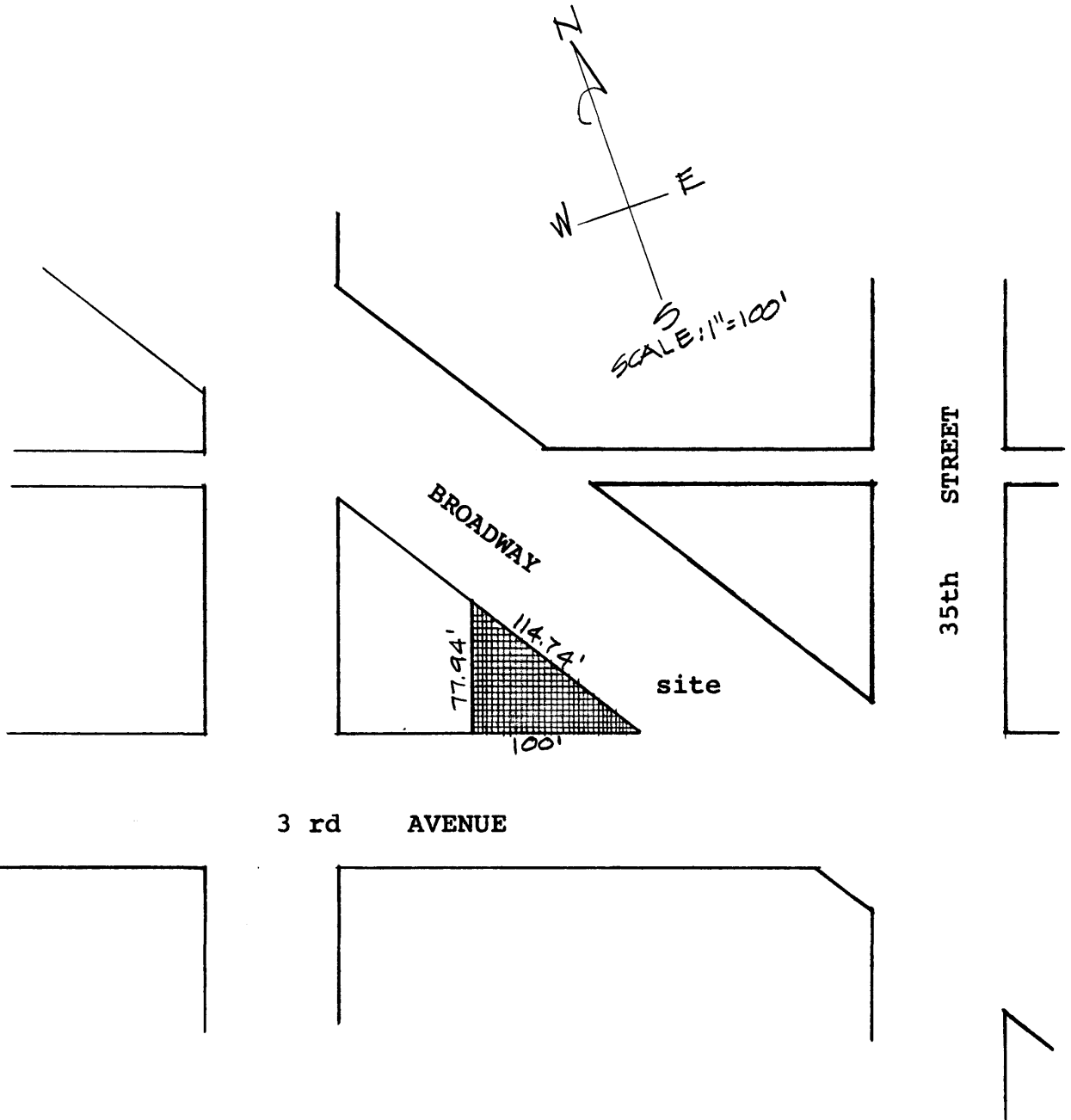
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 3 2 1981
DATE ENTERED JAN 2 1 1982

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

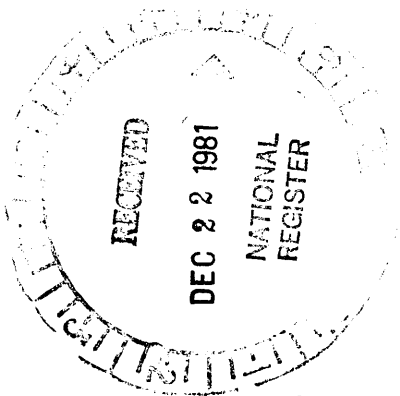
Bank of America, which continued to operate here until 1960. The present owner hopes to restore this structure to an appearance more nearly approximating the original, and to return this landmark structure to the useful life of the community.



SITE PLAN

SACRAMENTO BANK BUILDING
OAK PARK BRANCH

WILLIE A. BELL



JAN 21 1982