

**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 Mesick ^{House} Residence RECEIVED
and/or common Pendergast House NOV 7 1980

2. Location

street & number 517 8th Street not for publication
city, town Sacramento vicinity of _____ congressional district 3rd
state California code 06 county Sacramento code 067

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Julian Camacho
street & number 1220 N Street, Room 409
city, town Sacramento vicinity of _____ state California 95814

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Recorder, County Courthouse
street & number Ninth and H Streets
city, town Sacramento, state California 95814

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title City of Sacramento; Charles Hall Page has this property been determined eligible? yes no
Residential Survey
date 1976 federal state county local
depository for survey records State of California, Office of Historic Preservation
city, town POB 2390 Sacramento state California 95811

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>circa 1894*</u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This 2½ story residence (with basement) is a fine example of the Second Empire Style, vertically proportioned with its tall, mansard roof. Hooded dormers elaborate the shingled mansard, over an essentially rectangular, Italianate wood frame house. Decorative motifs such as the bracketed cornice, angled bay with colonettes and keystones in segmental windows, as well as corner quoins and curving porch set above a shingled basement all contribute to the sculptural, three dimensional treatment of the design.

Sited on a 32'x80' lot, the building is set back from the street approximately 20 feet. The setting is typical of residential lots in this area known as "Alkali Flat". The Alkali Flat neighborhood, which was originally a residential neighborhood, is today a combination of residential, commercial, and office useage. For the most part, the integrity of setting of the Mesick Residence has remained intact, although changes to structures across the street (west side) have been substantial. These changes, however, do not effect the individual integrity of the Mesick Residence.

Elevations:

West (Facade) Elevation: Providing the major entrance to the residence, this assymetrical elevation is broken on the southwest corner by a 2 & 3/4 story angled bay which is capped by a dormered mansard. Except in the dormer, windows are tall and narrow, with segmental arches. The mansard is highlighted by decorative wood detailing and shingles in Fishscale and Feather Cut alternation. The remainder of the facade elevation repeats the features of the bay, without the projecting tower treatment. The entrance is a double door with curved fanlight set back from a curving 'steamboat porch' (porch is now partially enclosed). The cornice line of the porch and the mansard eave line provide, through their bracketed elaboration, a horizontal break to the distinctly vertical treatment of the three progressively recessed facade planes.

North Elevation: The north elevation of the Mesick Residence appears less "sculptural" than the facade, primarily due to the lack of such varied depths in the wall planes with only shallow central projections breaking the surface. The treatment of windows and the mansard repeats that of the facade, minus the elaboration of the bay tower.

East Elevation: The east elevation, or rear elevation, has been substantially destroyed due to a fire. The original condition would have been a repeat of motifs found on the north side elevation. At some time, a rectangular, two story addition was attached to the rear of the structure.

South Elevation: The south elevation, like the facade, is broken by an angled, projecting bay of lesser height than the facade tower. A brick chimney, attached to the southeast end of the structure, rises beyond the mansard roofline. The chimney, a later addition, was built leaving the dormer hood in place.

Alterations:

Alterations have occurred to the structure. The date of these alterations is unknown. A rear wood frame addition has been added, but burned in 1977, and remains in deteriorated condition. A visual analysis of the structure in comparison with other work by the "probable" architect, Nathaniel Goodell, suggests that the mansard roof was an addition by Goodell to an existing Italianate structure. The estimated date of such a conversion

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates late 1870's **Builder/Architect** partially attributed to Nathaniel Goodell

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

Summary of Significance:

The Mesick Residence achieves significance on a local level through its architectural design. This Italianate/Second Empire residence is one of four surviving examples of the mansard roof in Sacramento. While no figures of historical significance are known to have resided in the home, the design is attributed to a distinguished, local architect, Nathaniel Goodell, and as such, the Mesick Residence provides excellent documentation of the varied, and yet consistent work of this architect.*

Architectural Design:

Believed to be constructed in the late 1870's, the Mesick Residence retains to a remarkable degree the significant design elements which associate it with architect Goodell. The stylistic treatment of the home illustrates the popularity of the Second Empire vogue in the latter half of the nineteenth century and provides an example of the adaptation of that vogue to a local version of the Italianate.

The Second Empire style, the dominant feature being the use of the tall mansard roof, was named after the reign of Napoleon III (1852-1870) and was triggered by the popularity of the New Louvre. The mansard became popular in England in the 1850's and then the vogue passed to the United States. Numerous examples of the style throughout the country illustrate the ease with which it became popular as a means of updating the Italian Villa form. Indeed, the assymetrical mansard villa type is often considered "The Victorian House".¹

The Architect:

Architect Nathaniel Dudley Goodell came to California during the Gold Rush days and achieved local prominence in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Two of his designs are presently listed in the National Register of Historic Places; they are the Gallatin Mansion (known as the Governor's Mansion) and the Heilbron House. Goodell's career is illustrative of many nineteenth century "architects" who began as craftsmen and largely self-trained for the field of architecture/construction. Born in Belchertown, Massachusetts, 1814, Goodell was trained as a carpenter/joiner and later moved into the design field of construction.² To date, much information has been compiled on Goodell by local architectural historians. They are now able to identify the "trademark" motifs of Goodell's work and to establish a chronology of his development as an architect.³

* The California Architect and Building News and the "Sacramento Bee" list hundreds of buildings by Nathaniel Goodell during the 45 year span of his local career.⁴ Among the most noted are the California Governor's Mansion and the Heilbron House. The Stanford-Lathrop Memorial Home, listed in the Historic American Building Survey, was partially the

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acresage of nominated property 2560 square feet. (less than 1 acre)

Quadrangle name Sacramento (East)

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	0	6	3	1	2	8	0	4	2	7	1	7	2	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 All that certain real property situate, lying and being in the City of Sacramento, County of Sacramento, State of California, particularly described as follows: The North 32 feet of Lot 8 in the block bounded by E and F, 8th and 9th Streets, in the City of Sacramento according to the official map or plan thereof. 517 8th Street.

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 Carol Brañan, Technical Department

organization Sacramento Housing & Redevelopment Agency date November 1, 1980

street & number 630 I Street

telephone 916-444-9210 x. 226

city or town Sacramento

state California 95814

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 State Historic Preservation Officer date 10-26-81

For HCRS use only

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

Shelton Byers Entered in the National Register date 1/21/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

was probably in the late 1870's. Also a later addition would have been the "steamboat porch", added to give the structure a more classicizing treatment. This porch would have replaced the more typical rectangular Italianate porch of the design. Today, the top balustrade of the porch addition is missing, and the rear area within the entrance has been enclosed. Matching balusters which would have complemented those of the porch are now missing, as is the stairway. A chimney, on the south side of the structure has been added, leaving the decorative hood of the mansard dormer and the cornice line in place.

The interior of the Mesick Residence has been substantially altered with the addition of many partition walls to divide the structure into smaller apartment units. Few significant interior features remain, thus excluding it from this nomination.

Integrity of Design:

The original intention of the design is still quite evident, with the addition of the domered mansard and the steamboat porch, typical of modifications that occurred throughout the country. These changes achieve an evolutionary significance through the combining of Italianate and Second Empire Styles; and they provide visual documentation of the particularly adept blending of these two styles by a locally significant architect.

Extensive damage occurred during the fire in the rear addition; this damage continued into the framing structure of the roof with the most serious damage on the east end. Due to the nature of the mansard, the owner intends to restore the entire framing system of the roof in order to provide necessary stabilization and structural strength. Intentions are to restore the entire residence through the removal of added partition walls and the deteriorated rear addition. Through historical interpretation, the interior will be restored to the period of the 1880's-1890's. Exterior restoration will also occur through repair of deteriorated elements and removal of those additions which are clearly out of keeping with the Italianate/Second Empire Styles.

*
Although the Charles Hall Page Residential Survey conducted for the City of Sacramento dates the building to 1894, local historians knowledgeable about the work of Goodell, suggest, rather, that the structure was moved to the present site in 1894. City records do not show if, or when, the building was moved. However, the structure does appear in the tax records in 1894. The style of the structure is much earlier than 1894 and would have been a misfit in the stylistic development of Goodell if dated this late. Whatever the case may be, the building has been identified with its present site for at least 86 years.



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work of Goodell. Goodell applied major alterations to the original structure; these alterations consisted of the raising of the structure with the addition of a first floor ballroom and the addition of the mansard roof floor. Such an alteration is not unlike that which most likely occurred on the Mesick Residence.

History of the Residence:

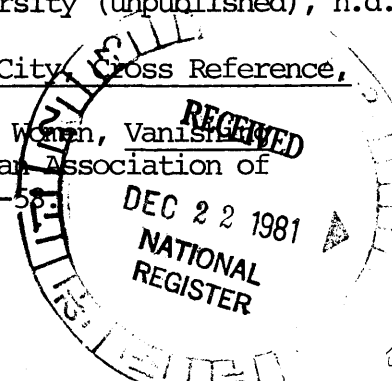
Mary Mesick, wife of Sutter's land claim defense lawyer, is the first documented owner of the house.⁵ As mentioned in the physical description of the structure, it is quite probable that the building was moved to the lot in 1894. Since the stylistic treatment would predate this move, it is quite possible that there were previous owners of the structure. Owen Pendergast acquired title to the building in 1989 after paying Mrs. Mesick's delinquent tax assessment.⁶

The location of the home at 517 8th Street, is one block from the Southern Pacific Railroad Yards, an area which was the center of Southern Pacific activity for many years. The home is located in the middle of an area known as Alkali Flat, historically a middle-class neighborhood which housed most of the railroad employees. Architectural design in the Alkali Flat area ranged between the Queen Anne and the Italianate, or versions of these two styles. Substantial demolition/decay has occurred in the area over the years since its initial development in the 1850's. A vacant lot sits to the south of the Mesick Residence while the alley bounds the north side of the structure. Behind the house is an old garage opening onto the alley. Across the street, on the west side of the house is a vacant lot and a substantially altered Italianate. The Mesick Residence is one of the more elaborate architectural designs of the neighborhood.

Footnotes:

1. Anthony Blunt, Art and Architecture in France 1500-1700, The Pelican History of Art Series, Harmondsworth, Middlesex, Penguin Books, 1970.
John J.-G. Blumenson & Nikolaus Pevsner, Identifying American Architecture, A Pictorial Guide to Styles and Terms, 1600-1945, Nashville, Tennessee, American Association for State and Local History, 1978, p. 52-53.
2. Paula Boghosian, "Rosebud Ranch" National Register Nomination, Washington, D.C., 1979.
Larry Micheli, Student Paper on Goodell, Sacramento State University (unpublished), n.d., p.1.
3. John Snyder, California Architect and Building News, Architect/City, Cross Reference, unpublished compilation, n.d.
Sacramento Branch of the American Association of the University Women, Vanished Victorians, A Guide to the Historic Homes of Sacramento, American Association of University Women, Sacramento, 1973, pp. 12-13, 43-46, 48-51, 55-58.
4. Micheli, Op. Cit.
Snyder, Op. Cit.

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5. Sacramento Branch of the American Association of University Women, Op. Cit., p. 12-13.
Paula Boghosian, Sacramento Assessment and Map Books, 1864-1898.
6. Boghosian. Op. Cit., 1898.



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Bibliographical References:

Blumenson, J.-G. & Nilolaus Pevsner, Identifying American Architecture, A Pictorial Guide to Styles and Terms, 1600-1945, Nashville, Tennessee, American Association for State and Local History, 1978.

Blunt, Anthony, Art and Architecture in France 1500-1700, The Pelican History of Art Series, Harmondsworth, Middlesex, Penguin Books, 1970.

Boghosian, Paula, "Rosebud Ranch" National Register Nomination, Washington, D.C., 1979.

Micheli, Larry, Student paper on "Goodell", unpublished paper, Sacramento State University, n.d.

Sacramento Branch of the American Association of the University Women, Vanishing Victorians, A Guide to the Historic Homes of Sacramento, American Association of University Women, Sacramento, 1973.

Snyder, John, California Architect and Building News, Architect/City, Cross Reference, unpublished compilation, n.d.

Stonier, Roger A., "Biographies of Architects Who Practiced in Sacramento, 1849-1915," unpublished student paper, University of California, Davis, 1964.

Thompson and West, History of Sacramento County, California, 1880, Howell-North Press reprint, 1960.

General Information: Sacramento City Directories, Sacramento Bee microfilm, Assessment Books.



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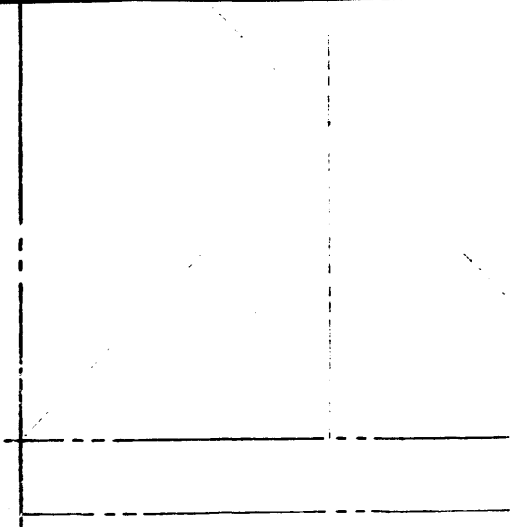
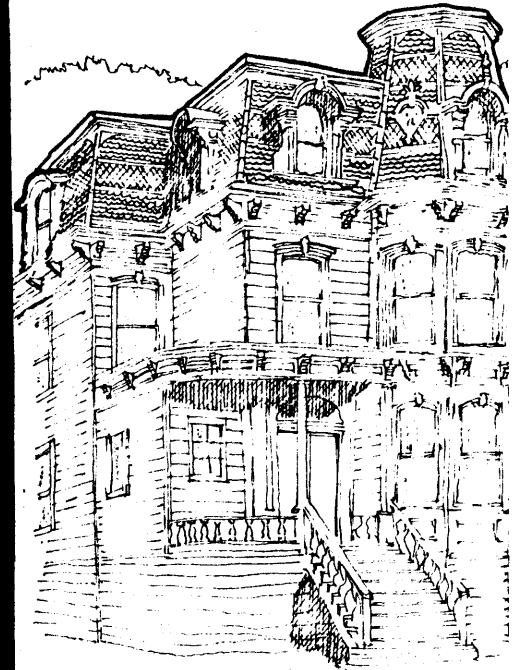
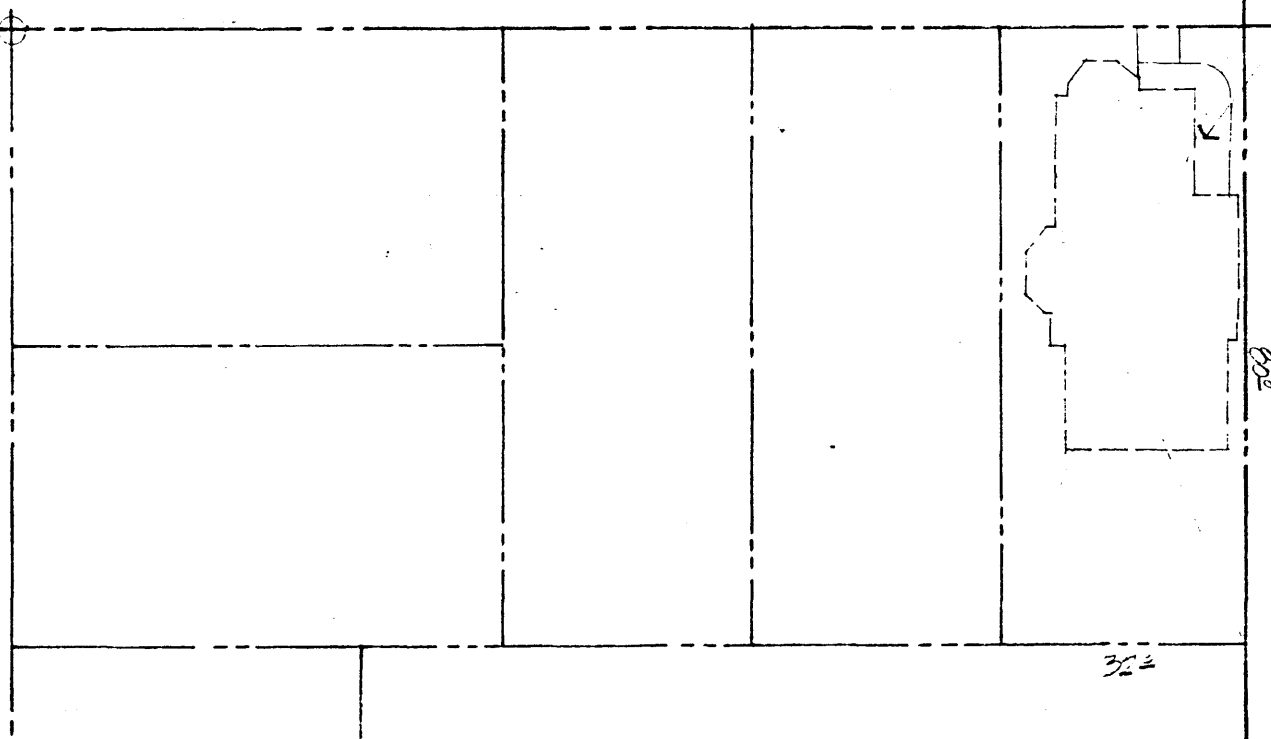
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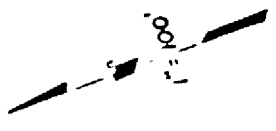


8th STREET

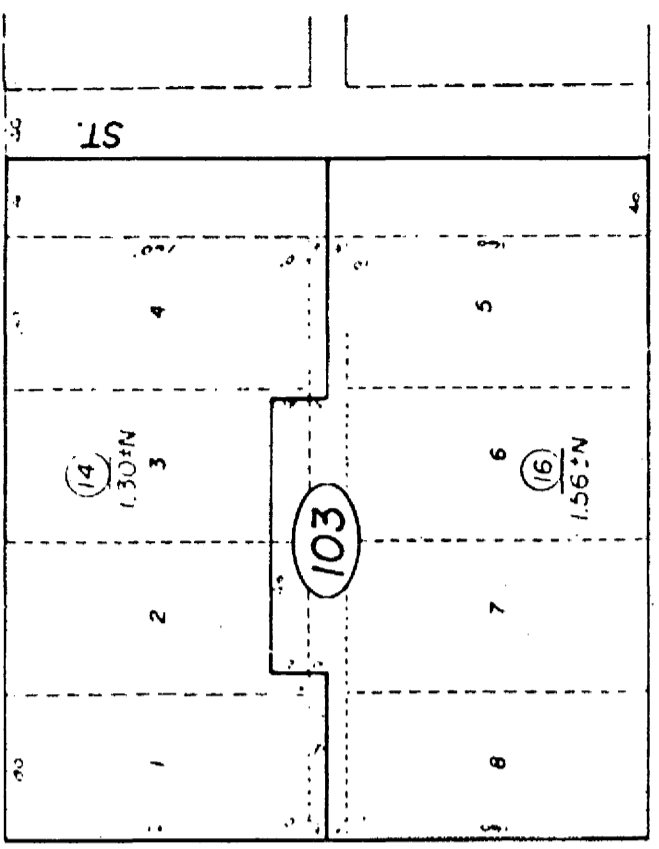
EXISTING SITE

11th STREET

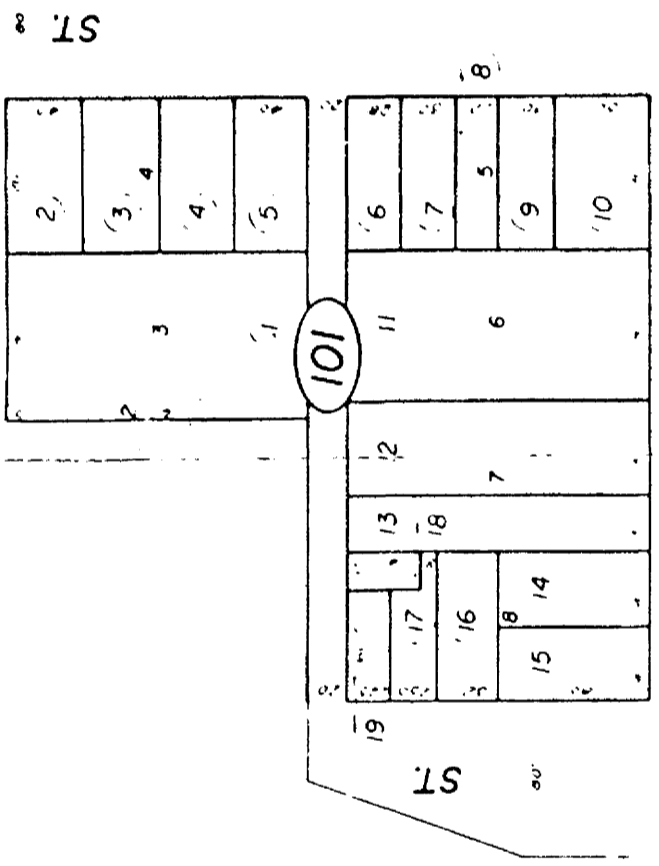




ST



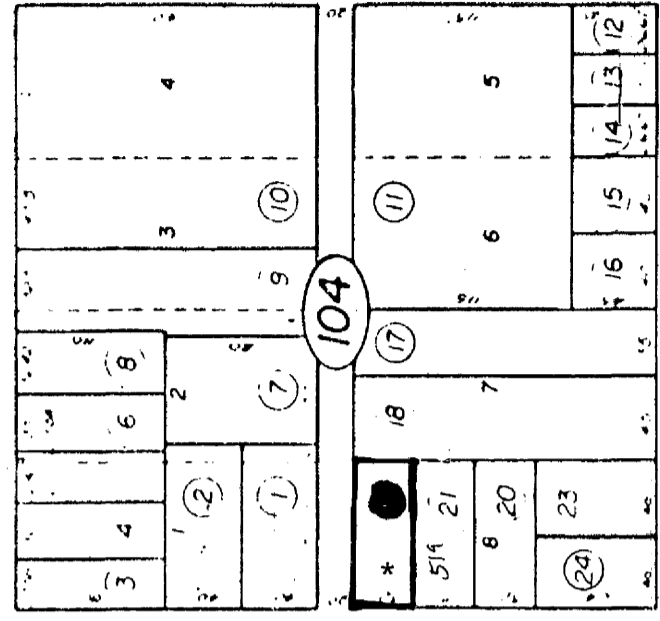
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101

11

ST



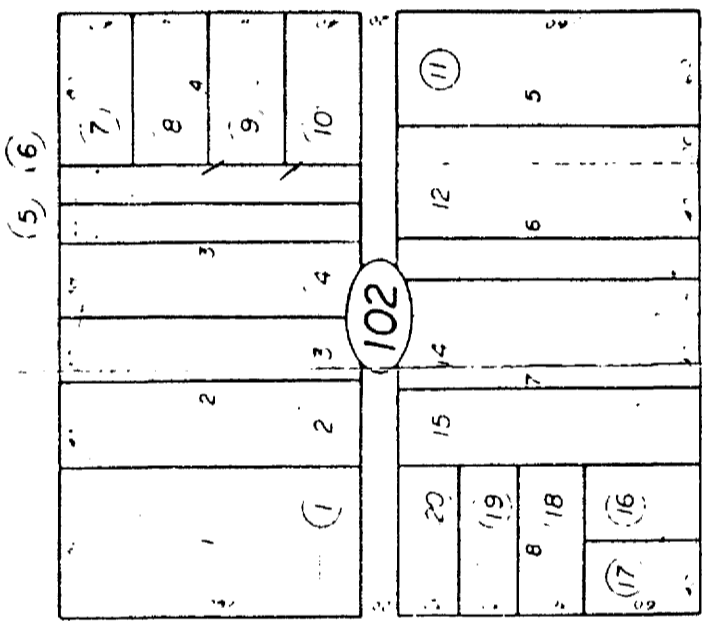
104

* 517 8th Street

E

101

PACIFIC

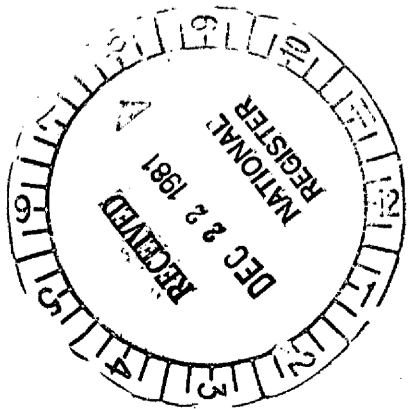


102

7th

SOUTHERN

Mesick Residence, Sacramento, Ca.
 Sacramento County, Sacramento
 517 8th Street
 Parcel Map; lot 8 Parcel 22
 County Records Office



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Nov. 1980

ST

CITY OF SACRAMENTO

Assessor's Map Bk. 2 -Pg.10
County of Sacramento, Calif.

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NOTE--Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses.
 Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles.

Nov. 1980

CHICAGO 446-6494
DAVE BODWELL
←446-1291→

811 F. ST.
VICTOR GRABLE 448-0514

519 8th ST
DAVIS, JACK F.
+ IKA O.
3682 MARSHALL WY.