

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PHO 684 902

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RECEIVED SEP 21 1978 NOV 30 1978  
DATE ENTERED

**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

PORTER BUILDING

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

501-511 Main Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Woodland

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th

STATE

California

CODE

COUNTY

Yolo

CODE

113

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

**OWNERSHIP**

**STATUS**

**PRESENT USE**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

James R. and Lois A. Lawson

STREET & NUMBER

742 First Street

CITY, TOWN

Woodland

VICINITY OF

STATE

California

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Yolo County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

725 Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Woodland

STATE

California

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None Known

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

## CHECK ONE

## CHECK ONE

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

UNALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE

GOOD

RUINS

ALTERED

MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Porter building built in 1913 is a good example of Second Renaissance Revival architecture. The commercial ground level is surmounted by a colossal order two stories high. Slightly projecting corner bays with their rusticated quoins add a stability to the building. The whole composition is topped off by heavy bracketed cornice large enough to successfully blend with the building below. The building is built of tan brick accented by white terra cotta Renaissance details. The heavy console brackets, keystone, and balustrade at the lobby entrance are especially well handled. By showing a distinction between the commercial ground level and the upper level offices, this style is especially well suited to commercial office development such as the Porter Building.

Exterior appears the same today as photos found from 1916 except for deterioration of wooden window sills and casings and the absence of awnings. Brick and marble appear to need only sand blasting or acid treatment to restore. The first floor facade has undergone some window and doorway alterations, as well as modern signage. Interior hallways and rooms appear to need only to have hardwood doors and woodwork stripped of old paint and then varnished. Some minor repairs of plaster needed and then painted. Extensive marble work needs acid treatment and polished. Marble stairway runs from Lobby Entrance to third floor with wrought iron topped with wood banisters. Most restroom fixtures are reusable with some plumbing needed.

Overall structure appears sound with very little needed in the way of structural reinforcement. Some modernization of wiring and lighting would be desirable.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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		

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SPECIFIC DATES 1913 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Earle Younger (builder)

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Porter Building is architecturally significant as a good example of a turn-of-the-century Second Renaissance Revival commercial building. Located at the corner of two key streets, Main and College, it is Woodland's largest downtown commercial/office building.

Historically the building has served a number of functions. It once housed the Woodland Medical Center; circa 1918 the Woodland Post Office occupied the first floor. The Porter Building still houses two of Woodland's oldest businesses, Dr. D.C. Fisher, Dentist, for the last 50 years, and Kidder and Kidder, Accountants, since the 1920's.

The building remains as a focal point in Woodland's downtown section, retains its original integrity, and makes a significant contribution to Woodland's sense of time and place.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

James R. Lawson  
 Mrs. Abby Lawson  
 Miss Mary Porter  
 Doctor D.C. Fisher

The Woodland Democrat  
 Woodland Chamber of Commerce  
 Yolo County Historical Society  
 Mrs. Ellard Younger

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.37

QUADRANGLE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

QUADRANGLE SCALE \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES

A 10 60,670,0 4,28,15,2,0  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B                    
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C                  

D                  

E                  

F                  

G                  

H                  

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Bounded on the South by Main Street, on the West by College Street, on the North by Dead Cat Alley and the Midtown Building and on the East by Wirth Furniture Co.

## 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

Marvin L. Johnson, Manager

ORGANIZATION

Lawson - Porter Building

DATE

7-14-78

STREET & NUMBER

511 Main Street - Third Floor

TELEPHONE

666-2707

CITY OR TOWN

Woodland

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*Knob McEllon*

TITLE

DATE

SEP 13 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*John Martin Alford*  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11-30-78

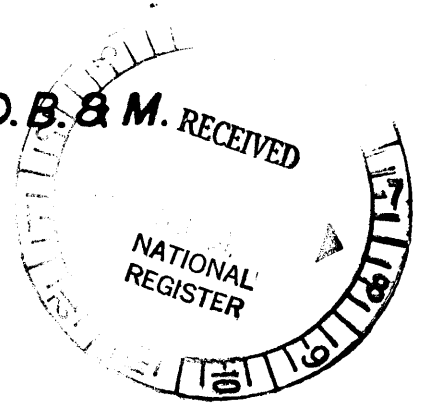
ATTEST:

*W. Ray Luce*  
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

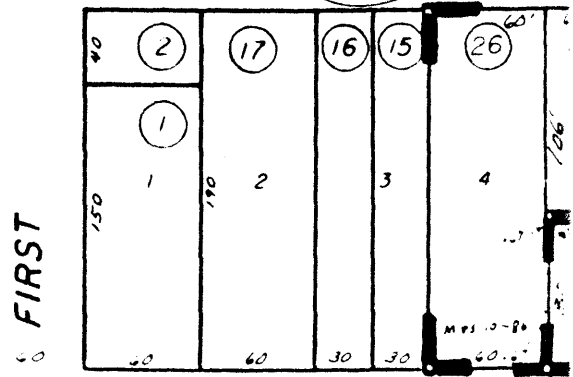
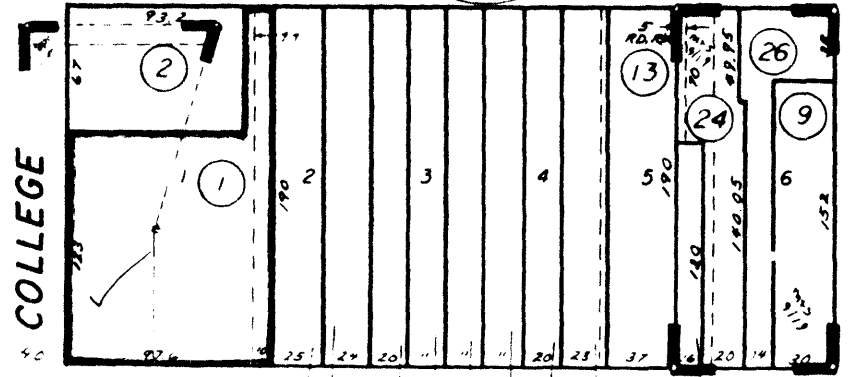
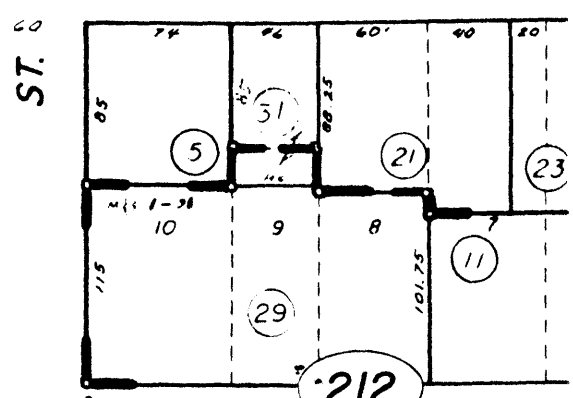
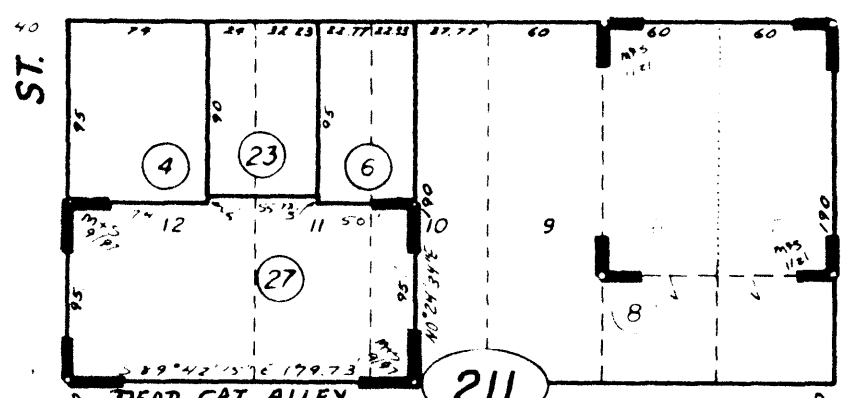
11-29-78

POR. SEC. 29, T.10N., R. 2 E., M.D.B. & M. RECEIVED



(20)

COURT



OR. SEC. 29, 30  
40' 40' 40' 40'  
MAIN

(21) (20) (18) (16) (14) (12) (A.K.A. U.S. HWY. NO. 99 W.)

Bk 6  
Pg 56

- M.&S. Bk. 9, Pg. 97 - Stanley Bender.
- M. Bk. 1, Pg. 40 1/2 - Call's Add.
- M.&S. Bk. 9, Pg. 19 - Block I, Freemans Woodland.
- M.&S. Bk. 1, Pg. 51 - Sec. 29, T. 10N., R. 2E., M.D.M.
- Deeds Bk. D, Pg. 722 - Freeman's Add.
- M.&S. Bk. 10, Pg. 86 - Leithold Bldg.
- M.&S. Bk. 8, Pg. 98 - Parking Lot no. 1, for City of Woodland
- M.&S. Bk. 1, Pg. 21 - Sec. 29, T. 10N., R. 2E., M.D.M., City of Woodland.
- M.&S. Bk. 1, Pg. 35 - Farmers & Merchants Bldg.

NOTE - Assessor's Block Number  
Assessor's Parcel Number