

**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

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Final

1. Name

historic Oakland Iron Works/United Iron Works, and the Remillard Brick Co. OHP
and/or common same

2. Location

street & number 552-592 Second St., Jefferson to Clay Sts. N/A not for publication
city, town Oakland N/A vicinity of congressional district 8
state California code 06 county Alameda code 001

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 type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Terranomics Development Corporation
street & number 50 California St. Suite 1235
city, town San Francisco N/A vicinity of state California

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Alameda County Court House
street & number 1225 Fallon St.
city, town Oakland state California 94612

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Oakland Heritage Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date Fall 1982, Spring 1983 federal state county local
depository for survey records Oakland City Planning Dept., City Hall
city, town Oakland state California

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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The next three building sections, 572-552 Second St., originally belonged to the Remillard Brick Co., but appear to have been altered when the United Iron Works acquired the property c1920. There are two gable-roofed sheds, one of brick and one clad in wood drop-siding. The brick structure is labeled as a stables on the 1889-1901 Sanborn map. A segmental arched opening in the upper part of the gable end has a hoist beam above it indicating a hay mow. Openings on the ground floor have been altered except for one window which retains its segmental relieving arch. On the interior, the side walls have been retained but altered; the rear wall has been removed making the space continuous with the rest. The adjacent wood, gable-roofed building has two metal doors on tracks, but appears to have been altered. The interior of this building has been removed so that it now forms one space with the rest of the structure. Presumably this alteration was also performed when the United Iron Works acquired the property. This section of the buildings was not constructed until some time after 1911, according to the Sanborn maps.

The building at the corner of 2nd and Clay Sts. was also originally owned by the Remillard brick yard. The 1889-1901 Sanborn maps show a small corner building of two stories with a wall construction of wood studs infilled with brick. This building was evidently enlarged c1918 to include a section running half-way down the block toward 3rd St. The interior stud frame is infilled with wood, not brick, for most of the building. It is not possible to date the exterior of the part of the building at the corner with precision. This is a flat-roofed, rectangular structure (it may have once been a low-pitched gable roof) with a raised parapet on 2nd St. treated as a simplified mansard roof. The minimal entablature has a blank frieze and simple wood brackets at the corners and on either side of the three windows. The ground floor once had an entrance door, now sided over. There are two double-hung windows with wood sash and paired, 12-light windows in a continuous band along the Clay St. elevation. The interior is without distinction and has been altered over time. Various partition walls define small spaces that may have been offices or drafting spaces on both floors. The original walls, now on the interior, have been cut away in places to enlarge the main space.

In summary, the exterior of the complex has a remarkably high integrity considering that the interior was extensively remodelled over time and also destroyed by fires periodically. Although the interior is representative of industrial structures from the turn-of-the-century into the 1910s and 1920s, the structural system has obviously been impaired in the course of time and as the result of alterations which seem not to have been considered permanent. The sections of the complex seem to have been pieced together rather than welded into a new framework.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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 c1882-c1925 Builder/Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The United Iron Works, a complex of structures originally under two ownerships, the Oakland Iron Works and the Remillard Brick Company, is significant under Criterion A, for having made a significant contribution to industry in the San Francisco Bay Area, and under Criterion C, as embodying the distinctive characteristics of 19th century industrial buildings. The complex, which dates from 1882 and perhaps earlier, contains both wood-frame buildings clad in wood and corrugated metal siding, and brick walled buildings. The interior, considerably altered over time, retains its industrial character in the exterior wall framing and wood truss ceilings as well as the portions of the older brick buildings which were encased within the structure as the machine shop operations and castings were expanded. The whole complex, originally two firms which both were pioneering operations in the East Bay, testifies to the history of industrial evolution in the manufacturing of brick and cast iron machinery in Oakland. Both the Oakland Iron Works, which became the United Iron Works in 1904, and the Remillard Brick Company were among the earlier manufacturing concerns located in Oakland. The property, bounded by Second, Jefferson, Third, and Clay Streets, is a rare survivor from the iron and brick age of 19th century manufacturing.

Founded by Ives Scoville in 1871, the Oakland Iron Works began operation in a small building between Washington and Clay Streets near the present location. In 1882, Scoville took T.H. Eichbaum into the business and moved the works to the corner of 2nd and Jefferson Streets where; according to contemporary accounts, the company erected a building with 100' frontage on both streets. About 60 workers were employed to produce all kinds of machinery including steam engines and castings for machinery from the foundry. Scoville, an inventor, had patented the Climax Side Hill Plow in 1878, Scoville's new Hoisting Gear in 1886, and a washing machine in the early 1880s. In 1886, mining machinery was added to the line of products. The company had many large commissions, such as all the castings for the Central Gas Works of San Francisco. In 1887-88, the company was sold and reincorporated under the ownership of George Cottrell, T.L. Armstrong, Ed. Clark, E.B. Norton, Thomas Jones, and with Charles Booth in charge. At that time the inventory included 20-horse-power engines, 4 iron lathes, a boring bar for large cylinders, 3 improved planes, 2 cupola furnaces, and a pattern shop with equipment valued at \$15,000. In 1889, the buildings were heavily damaged by fire, but were rebuilt. In 1893, the company purchased one half of the block at 2nd and Jefferson opposite the works and built an iron and brass foundry, a pattern shop, and a machine shop. These buildings no longer exist, but are visible in the 1895 historic view attached to this form. In 1894, another fire damaged the original works' foundry and machine shop, but the structure was soon replaced and modernized. In 1904, the company was re-named the United Iron Works and continued under this name until 1955. Some time between 1918 and 1921, the United Iron Works acquired the structures which had belonged to the Remillard Brick Co. and expanded their operations remodeling the interior and possibly adding other portions of the building, woodframe and metal-sided sheds, that no longer exist.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Oakland, Facts and Figures of Alameda County. G.W. Calderwood & G.T. Loofbourow, No. 1896.
 Oakland, 1852-1938, Some Phases of Social, Political, and Economic History of Oakland.
 Volume 2, Edgar Hinkel, Wm E. McCann, eds. WPA-1939, pub. by Oakland Library
 Oakland: Daily Evening Tribune, Jan. 20, 1887, p. 18.
 Past and Present of Alameda County, Vol. 1, Jos. E. Baker, Ed., Chicago, 1914, p. 389.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property .18 1:24000
 Quadrangle name Oakland West Quadrangle scale 7.5 minute

UMT References

A	1 0	5 6 3 5 8 0	4 1 8 3 3 9 0	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification The southern boundary runs 300' along Second St. from Jefferson to Clay St.; the northern boundary is the same through the middle of the block. The eastern and western boundaries run 100' each along Jefferson and Clay Streets. Boundaries are based upon integrity and encompass the remaining historic values.

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sally B. Woodbridge, Architectural Historian
 organization none date Nov. 3, 1982
 street & number 2273 Vine St. telephone (415) 848-4356
 city or town Berkeley 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. Allen*
 title State Historic Preservation Officer date 6/20/83

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
 Entered in the
 National Register date 8/25/83
 Keeper of the National Register
 Attest:
 Chief of Register

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

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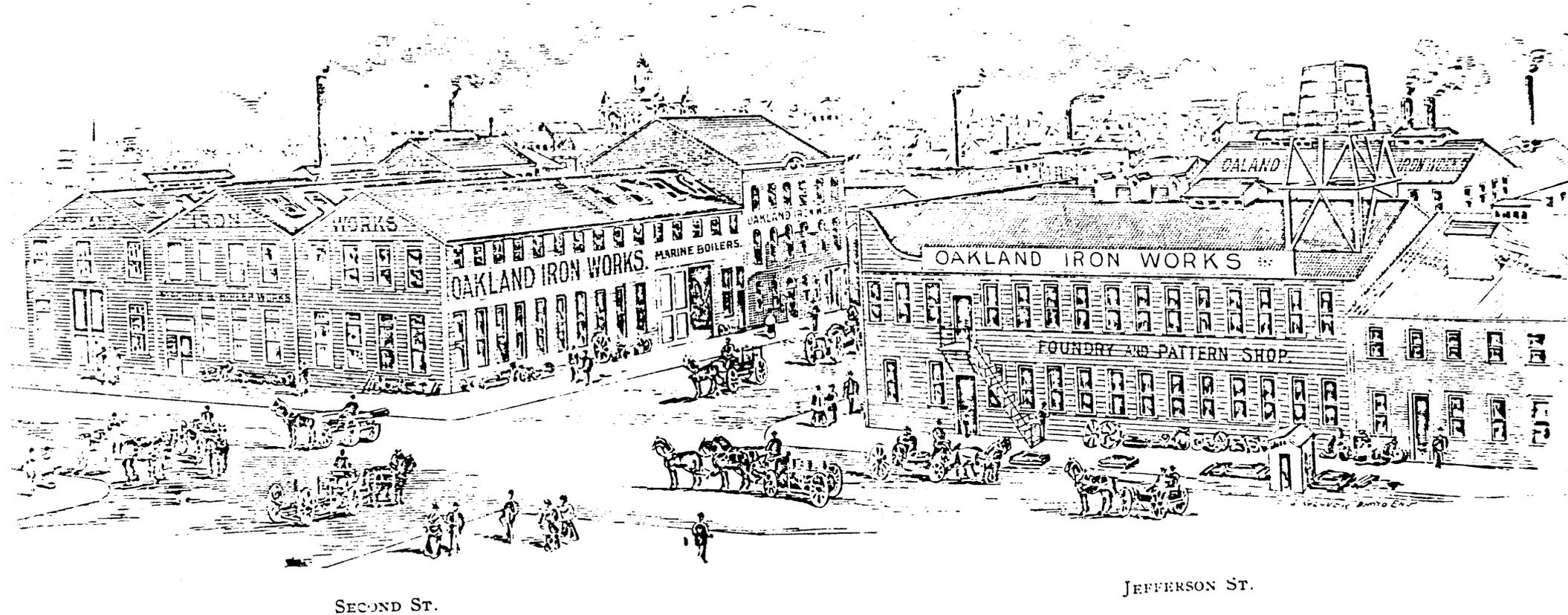
CONTINUATION SHEET

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The Remillard Brick Company, incorporated in 1879, was a family business of considerable prestige in the East Bay. The company had at least three brickyards of which the one occupying the buildings now 552-572 Second Street in Oakland was probably erected in the early 1880s. (The structures are shown on the 1889 Sanborn Map.) The compound first consisted of a stables, 572-568 Second St., and a small corner office building, now 552 Second St. The rest of the lot was occupied by a hay barn and a lot for storage of lime and cement. Between the stables and the office building the land was unbuilt. At a later date, probably between 1918 and 1921 when the United Iron Works purchased the property, the corner office building was enlarged, and a wooden shed, now 560-64 Second St., was built on the vacant lot on Second St. The enlarged office building took over the storage lot for lime and cement. Under the ownership of United Iron Works the hay barn was apparently demolished and replaced by the present structure across the back of the complex. It is not possible to date these changes with precision, but the complex that exists today appears to have assumed its form c1920, being made up of pieces of the older buildings. The exterior of the buildings numbered 580 Second St. remains much as it was shown in the 1895 historic view, and it appears from examining the structures on the rest of the block, that the Remillard buildings were incorporated with various changes into the expanded structure of c1920.

Oakland Iron Works
552-592 Second Street
Oakland, Alameda County, California

1894 View



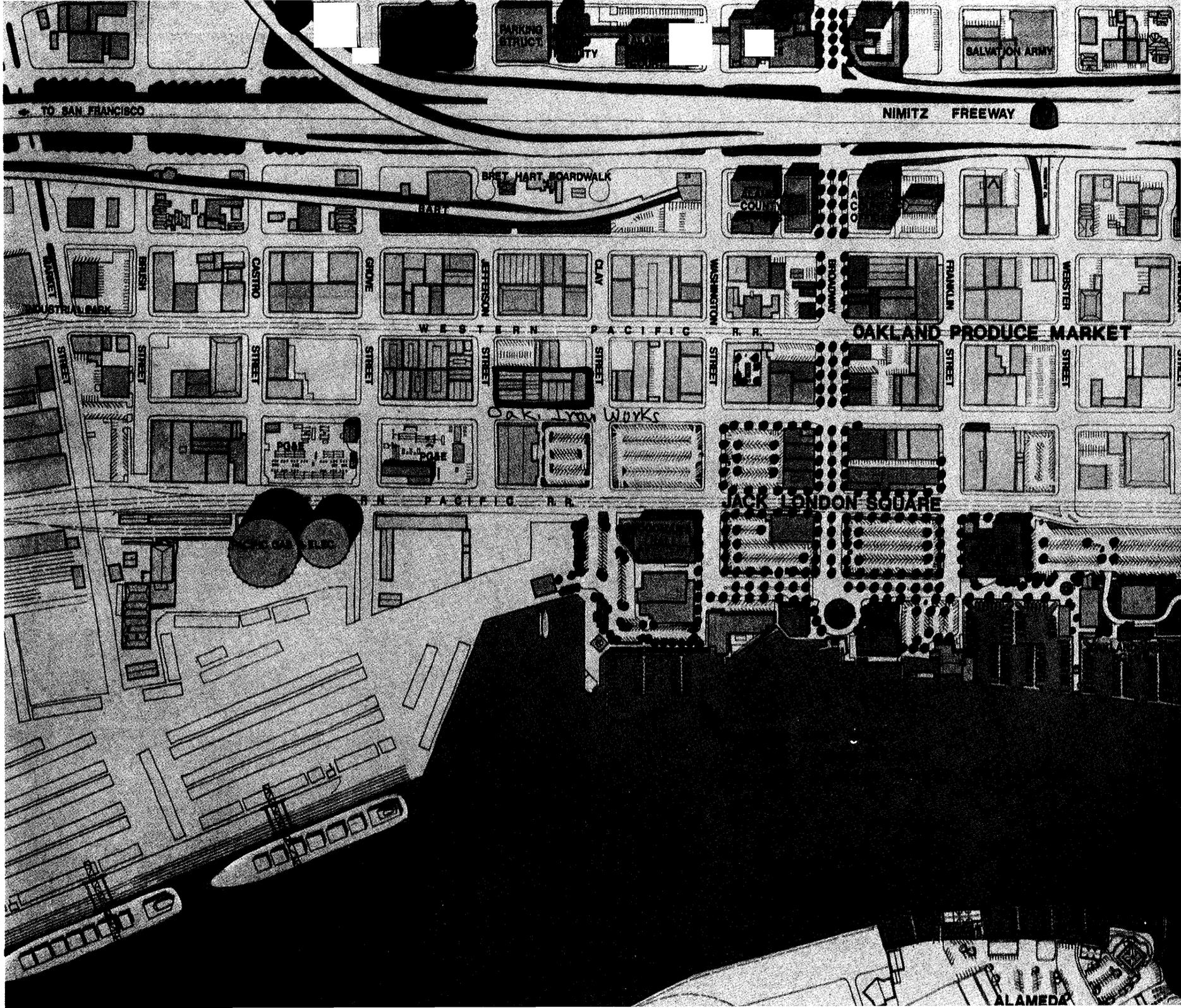
SECOND ST.

JEFFERSON ST.

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