UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK 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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**NAME**  
HISTORIC  
BROADWAY THEATER AND COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

**LOCATION**  
STREET & NUMBER  
300-849 South Broadway

CITY, TOWN  
Los Angeles

STATE  
California

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**CLASSIFICATION**  
CATEGORY  
X.DISTRICT  
_ BUILDING(S)  
_ STRUCTURE  
_ SITE  
_ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP  
_ PUBLIC  
X PRIVATE  
X BOTH

STATUS  
X OCCUPIED  
_ UNOCCUPIED  
_ WORK IN PROGRESS  
ACCESSIBLE  
X YES: RESTRICTED  
X YES: UNRESTRICTED  
_ NO

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

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**OWNER OF PROPERTY**  
NAME  
Multiple Ownership (see list)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN  
STATE

---

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**  
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Los Angeles County Hall of Records

STREET & NUMBER  
320 West Temple Street

CITY, TOWN  
Los Angeles

STATE  
California

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**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**  
TITLE  
California Historic Resources Inventory

DATE  
July 1977

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
Office of Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN  
Los Angeles

STATE  
California
The Broadway Theater and Commercial District is a six-block complex of predominantly commercial and entertainment structures done in a variety of architectural styles. The district extends along both sides of Broadway from Third to Ninth Streets and exhibits a number of structures in varying condition and degree of alteration. General styles include a variety of commercial buildings in Classical and Commercial styles, Art Deco, Moderne, and others, and many theaters in more flamboyant designs. The area is highly built up and somewhat homogeneous in streetscape, spotted by several parking lots and a few structures built after 1930. Most of the structures range in construction date from 1894 to 1931, although several have received new facades since the latter date.

Buildings contributing to the character of the district:

1. Bradbury Building (304 S. Broadway): 1893; five-story brick and stone commercial structure designed by George Wyman; has ornate iron balconies and elevators now famous; completely restored (on National Register).

2. Trustee Building (340 S. Broadway): 1905; 4-story brick and concrete shop and office structure by Parkinson & Bergstrom; tiled facade has been altered and part of cornice removed.

3. O.T. Johnson Block (350 S. Broadway): 1895; 3-story brick and iron structure by R.B. Young; Italianate design with fluted columns and arched windows; parapet with ballast removed.

4. O.T. Johnson Building (356 S. Broadway): 1902; 7-story brick structure in Romanesque design by John Parkinson; glazed pressed-brick facade with little alteration.


7. Chester Williams Building (215 W. 5th Street): 1926; 12-story reinforced concrete on steel frame structure by Curlett & Beelman with ornamental bands and a rounded corner, glazed cotta facade designed to look like cut stone.

8. Jewelry Trades Building (220 W. 5th Street): 1912; 8-story concrete structure by Morgan, Walls and Morgan; Romanesque design with terra cotta facade and ornamentation including arched windows and heavy cornice.
### Property Owners

1. Western Management Corp.  
   448 S. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA  90013

2. Homero & Belinda Meruelo  
   322 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA  90012

3. Canada Shoe Mexicana, Inc.  
   304 S. Broadway, Rm. 414, Los Angeles, CA  90012

4. True Acceptance Company  
   P.O. Box 3201, Hollywood, CA  90028

5. System Auto Parks, Inc. & Phillip L. Cullen  
   P.O. Box 3201, Hollywood, CA  90028

6. Abe Wiess, et al.  
   121 N. Flores St., Los Angeles, CA  90048

7. Cornelia R. Possart & Haim Mizrahi  
   348 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA  90013

8. Eli & Lillian Sasson  
   724 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA  90013

9. Eli & Lillian Sasson  
   724 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA  90013

10. Title Insurance & Trust Co.  
    433 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA  90013

11. 424 Broadway Company  
    409 Santa Monica Blvd., #201, Santa Monica, CA  90401

12. Consolidated Drug  
    68457 Highway 111, Rm. 7, Palm Springs, CA  92262

13. Intracal Properties, Inc.  
    P.O. Box 38015, San Francisco, CA  94138

    P.O. Box 38015, San Francisco, CA  94138

15. Intracal Properties, Inc.  
    P.O. Box 38015, San Francisco, CA  94138
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<td>16. Michael Manno</td>
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<td>512 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90013</td>
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<td>17. Herbert E. Edwards, et al.</td>
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<td>24. David &amp; Sherry Gold</td>
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<td>28. Desmond's Building Company</td>
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32. Title Insurance & Trust Company
   433 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90014

33. Crocker National Bank, tr.
   P.O. Box 54427, Los Angeles, CA 90014

34. Downtown Center Building
   219 W. 7th St., Rm. 01117, Los Angeles, CA 90014

35. Downtown Commercial Center, Ltd.
   219 W. 7th St., Rm. 500, Los Angeles, CA 90014

36. John J. McAndrews & Roger M. Sullivan
   1200 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90017

37. Southern California Petroleum Corp.
   4250 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90005

38. Eli & Lillian Sasson
   728 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90013

   4401 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90010

40. Metropolitan Theater Corp. & S. Broidy
   8727 W. 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90048

41. Chapman Investment Co.
   P.O. Box 17777, Irvine, CA 92713

42. G. Krowl & H.S. Russell
   1201 E. California Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91109

43. Jack & Annette Needleman
   120 E. 8th St. Floor 5, Los Angeles, CA 90014

44. Corwin Theater Corp.
   8727 W. 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90048

45. Jack & Annette Needleman
   120 W. 8th St., Floor 5, Los Angeles, CA 90014

46. George Srere Estate Co.
   820 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90014
47. Jack & Annette Needleman
120 E. 8th St., Floor 5, Los Angeles, CA 90014

48. Jack & Annette Needleman
120 E. 8th St., Floor 5, Los Angeles, CA 90014

49. Jack Needleman
120 E. 8th St., Floor 5, Los Angeles, CA 90014

50. Jack & Annette Needleman
120 E. 8th St., Floor 5, Los Angeles, CA 90014

51. Eastern Columbia, Inc.
800 W. 1st St., #200, Los Angeles, CA 90012

52. Eastern Columbia, Inc.
800 W. 1st St., #200, Los Angeles, CA 90012

53. Eastern Columbia, Inc.
800 W. 1st St., #200, Los Angeles, CA 90012

54. United States Steel & Carnegie Pension Fund
801 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90014

981 Whittier Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210

56. Issacs Brothers Co.
9441 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90212

57. Prudential Ins. Co. 2049 Century Park East, Rm. 2550
Los Angeles, CA 90067 & Issacs Bros. Co. 888 7th Ave.,
New York, New York 10019

58. Al Stillman 619 N. Canon Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210

59. 731 South Broadway Venture
619 N. Canon Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210

60. Issacs Bros. Co., 9441 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90212
&Dwight & George Whiting, 609 S. Grand Ave., Rm. 617, Los Angeles, CA 90014
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<td>61.</td>
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| Arthur Letts, % Security Pacific Bank  
P.O. Box 60802 Terminal Annex, Los Angeles, CA  90060 |
| 62. | 4 |
| United California Bank Trust, et al.  
P.O. Box 55011, Los Angeles, CA  90055 |
| 63. | 4 |
| Hollenbeck Home for the Aged  
P.O. Box 55011, Los Angeles, CA  90055 |
| 64. | 4 |
| Walter J. Thompson Co., Ltd.  
3278 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA  90010 |
| 65. | 4 |
| J.A. Mackey, et al.  
950 Casiano Rd., Los Angeles, CA  90049 |
| 66. | 4 |
| J.A. Mackey, et al.  
950 Casiano Rd., Los Angeles, CA  90049 |
| 67. | 4 |
| Tennessee Ravenwood Properties, Inc.  
P.O. Box 17, Nashville, Tenn.,  37202 |
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| Prudential Insurance Co. of America  
2049 Century Park East, Rm. 2550, Los Angeles, CA  90067 |
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| Francis H. Lindley, et al, tr.  
530 W. 6th St., Rm. 310, Los Angeles, CA  90014 |
| 74. | 4 |
| O.H. Churchill Company  
448 S. Hill St., #1110, Los Angeles, CA  90013 |
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| Crocker National Bank, Tr.  
P.O. Box 54410, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles, CA  90054 |
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| Walter J. Thompson Co., Ltd.  
3278 Wilshire Blvd., Rm. 302, Los Angeles, CA  90054 |
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 7

P.O. Box 60802, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles, CA 90054

93. J.M. Seiroty 849 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90014

94. Morton Wexler & Misayo Akita
251 S. Main St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

95. Morton Wexler
251 S. Main St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

96. Helen Cowan
1477 S. Canfield Ave., Apt. 203, Los Angeles, CA 90035

97. Max I. Mosler, et al.
225 S. Rodeo Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90212

315 S. Broadway, #604, Los Angeles, CA 90013

99. Million Dollar Theater Building
307 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90013

Parking Lots Within the District:

A. 312 S. Broadway Central Theater Corporation
620 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90014

B. 332 S. Broadway Joshua D. Mason, Admin. for
Deceased Estate of Sarett Russo
1350 Avenue of the Americas, NY, NY 10019

C. 400 S. Broadway Allright Cal Inc.
707 Brown Bldg., Austin, Texas 78701
C/o Robert Hudspeth
400 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90013

D. 420 S. Broadway Title Insurance & Trust Co.
433 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90013

E. 826 S. Broadway Jack & Annette Needleman
120 E. 8th St., Los Angeles, CA 90014

F. 843 S. Broadway Eastern Columbia Inc.
800 W. 1st St., #200, Los Angeles, CA 90012

20. Roxie Theater (518 S. Broadway): 1931; 2-story concrete and brick theater with shops on facade flanks; designed in Art Deco style by J.M. Cooper with floral patterns and grillwork on facade; marquee is new.

21. Cameo Theater (528 S. Broadway): 1910; 2-story brick and concrete theater by A.F. Rosenheim; facade features a large rounded pediment above entrance; remodeled in 1924 and some alterations since then.


23. Arcade Building (540 S. Broadway): 1924; 12-story concrete office structure with two wings connected by inner connection by Kenneth MacDonald; designed to resemble Burlington Arcade in London.

24. Hubert-Thorn McAn Building (546 S. Broadway): 1900; 3-story brick building in Italianate style with decorative arched windows by John Parkinson, facade is of pressed brick, alterations include removal of original parapet.


26. Finney's Cafeteria (217 W. 6th Street): 1904; 4-story brick structure with very plain facade; interior redesigned in 1913 by Plummer and Feil to Dutch motif with tiles by Ernest Bachelder.

27. Walter P. Story Building (610 S. Broadway): 1908; 11-story office building of reinforced concrete by Morgan & Walls; terra cotta facade with heavy cornice, decorative bands, arched windows, etc.

28. Desmond's Building (614 S. Broadway): 1924; 6-story concrete structure in Spanish Baroque styling by A.C. Martin; has a polychrome terra cotta facade with twisting columns, balconies, and ornamental pediment.

30. Palace Theater (636 S. Broadway): 1910; 5-story brick and concrete theater and office structure by G. Albert Landsburgh in French Renaissance styling; terra cotta facade features arched windows, heavy cornice, and carved figures.

31. Forrester Building (638 S. Broadway): 1907; 8-story concrete structure by C.F. Whittlesey with terra cotta and stone facade including heavy cornice and arched windows; facade covering on first three stories.

32. J.E. Carr Building (644 S. Broadway): 1908; 8-story concrete structure by R.B. Young with enamelled terra cotta and brick facade featuring heavy cornice and arched windows, facade covering extends across lower four floors.

35. Lankershim Hotel (700 S. Broadway): 1902; 9-story brick hotel by R.B. Young; three sections with stone and pressed brick facade; most ornamentation removed.

36. Yorkshire Hotel (710-14 S. Broadway): 1909; 6-story brick and concrete structure by Parkinson & Bergstrom with facade of pressed brick and terra cotta with tile; has tile cornice and arched windows.

37. Parmelee Building (716 S. Broadway): c. 1907; 6-story concrete structure with facade stuccoed but potentially restorable; cornice and other features removed.

38. Barker Brothers Building (722 S. Broadway): 1909, 7-story concrete and brick structure by R.B. Young; original pressed-brick facade features cornice and lugsills but these were removed and building is now plain but restorable.

40. Globe Theater (744 S. Broadway): 10-story concrete theater and office building with stone and brick facade by Morgan, Walls, & Morgan, and many ornamental features such as arched windows, cornice, and ornamental bands with gargoyles.

41. Chapman Building (756 S. Broadway): 1911, 13-story concrete structure with three sections above first two floors by Ernest McConnell, terra cotta and brick facade has fluted columns, ornamental moldings, heavy cornice, and ornamental bands.

42. Tower Theater (802 S. Broadway): 1927; 4-story theater building with shops on 8th St. side by S. Charles Lee in French Renaissance styling, terra cotta facade includes many details such as urns, stained-glass window, and a large clock tower on corner.

43. Singer Building (806 S. Broadway): 1922; 7-story concrete structure in Italian Renaissance style by Meyer & Holler; has a terra cotta and pressed-brick with little alteration.
44. Rialto Theater (812 S. Broadway): 1917, 2-story theater building with pink stucco facade, by O.P. Dennis; has many alterations including removal of original triangular pediment and interior remodeling.

45. Apparel Center Building (814 S. Broadway): 1923; 12-story concrete structure in Spanish Renaissance styling by Walker & Eisen, colorful terra cotta facade with decorative cornice and arched windows; alterations to first floor.


50. Ninth and Broadway Building (NW 9th & Broadway): 1929; 13-story concrete structure in Zig Zag Moderne style by Claude Beelman with terra cotta facade and very little alteration.

51. Eastern Columbia Building (849 S. Broadway): 1930; 14-story concrete structure in Moderne styling with terra cotta exterior of turquoise with gold trim; designed by Claude Beelman with a large clock tower that is still operative.

54. May Company (SW 8th & Broadway): 1906; 5-story department store of concrete with terra cotta ornamentation, designed by A.F. Rosenheim in Classical styling with a heavy cornice and decorative garlands; the major addition on the south side of the structure (1929) is of the same style with two additional stories; there have been many alterations to the interior.

55. Merritt Building (301 W. Eighth Street): 1914; 5-story concrete structure with stone facade by the Reid Brothers (San Francisco); Italian Renaissance style with Ionic columns and heavy cornice; many alterations on first two levels.

57. Issacs Building (737-47 S. Broadway): 1913; 8-story concrete structure with Gothic details and a glazed and molded terra cotta facade; has a large facade covering on most of the northern half and other alterations to first floor.

59. Cheney Block (731 S. Broadway): 1913; 4-story brick and concrete structure with a remodeled facade of the 1940's; blends very well with the district.
60. Woolworth's (719 S. Broadway); 1920; 3-story reinforced concrete structure by Weeks & Day, facade altered to an Art Deco-Zig Zag Moderne style in 1941 and building next door added to it.


62. Bullock's (641 S. Broadway): 1906; 7-story brick structure by Parkinson & Bergstrom with terra cotta facade details including a heavy cornice; has several additions and the interior has been completely remodeled.

63. Bullocks-Hollenbeck (639 S. Broadway): 1912; 10-story brick and concrete structure by Morgan & Walls with a brick and terra cotta facade that is almost identical to Bullocks next door.

64. Mailing's (617-19 S. Broadway): 1930; 2-story concrete structure in French Renaissance design by S. Charles Lee that was the southern flank of the Los Angeles Theater next door; alterations to street level.

65. Los Angeles Theater (615 S. Broadway): 2-story theater of concrete and terra cotta in French Renaissance design by S. Charles Lee; features fluted columns with urns, eagles, etc.; has a new marquee.

66. Norton Building (601-5 S. Broadway): 1906; 6-story brick and concrete office building; the facade was completely altered in 1940 with new design but the structure blends very well with the district and is not out of the time period.

67. Wood Brothers Building (315 W. 6th Street): c. 1922; 3-story concrete and brick structure with terra cotta decoration which blends very well with the district.

68. Swelldom Building (NW 6th and Broadway): 1920; 3-story retail building in Italian Renaissance design by Pierpont and Walter S. Davis, reinforced concrete with glazed terra cotta facade; cast iron roof trim removed.

69. Metropolitan Annex (553 S. Broadway): c. 1923; 6-story concrete and brick structure with terra cotta details; alterations to the street-level frontage.

70. Hartfields (537 S. Broadway): 1931; 6-story reinforced concrete and brick structure in Art Deco styling; very little alteration.

71. Reed's (533 S. Broadway): 1931; 2-story reinforced concrete structure features a "marble" facade with reliefs; little apparent alteration.
Addendum: Description of additional buildings comprising the Bullock's complex. The buildings are all united by historical function and internal circulation.

Buildings comprising the complex are coded under the number (62) assigned to the original Bullock's Building in the National Register nomination. The added letters are assigned in the order in which the buildings were acquired by Bullock's as part of its department store operations. The earliest expansion was into the adjacent Hollenbeck Building, already designated as #63 in the district nomination. Subsequent additions, in order, are as follows:

62A. Pease Building (1906) Hudson/Munsel

Originally used as a furniture store, this 8 story building was acquired by Bullock's in 1917. A bridge was constructed over St. Vincent Place and a tunnel beneath at that time to connect the building with the Hollenbeck Building (#63).

62B. Eshman Building (1909) Morgan/Walls

This 7 story building in characteristic Beaux Arts 3-part vertical division became part of Bullock's in or before 1919.

62C. Bridge (1921) ———

The bridge was constructed to connect the Eshman Building with the original Bullock's Department Store. It spans St. Vincent Place, connecting the upper 6 stories of both buildings, creating internal circulation between the two on all levels. Stylistically it repeats the design of the earlier Bullock's building, creating the appearance of a skillfully integrated addition. A tunnel below St. Vincent Place also connects the two buildings.

62D. Gennet Building (1922) Parkinson/Hubbard

The next addition to the Bullock's complex was this tall, slender Beaux Arts building—10 stories tall and only two bays wide. The lower two stories were remodeled in 1934 to create the appearance of a unified design with the adjacent Mackey Building.

62E. Hart Building/Hart '24 (1924) Parkinson/Parkinson

This building duplicated the nearby Gennet Building in height, width and styling. It is now indistinguishable from the adjacent 1928 Hart Building.

62F. Hart Building/Hart '28 (1928) Parkinson/Parkinson

The design of the earlier 1924 Hart Building was expanded to fill out the block by adding five more bays on the Hill Street side and four bays on Seventh Street in Beaux Arts styling. Fenestration is dominated by 3-part Chicago windows.
62G. Mackey Building (1934) Parkinson/Parkinson

The upper six stories of the Mackey Building repeat the appearance of the adjacent Gennet Building. The lower two floors are Moderne in styling; this design was expanded across the base of the Gennet Building, uniting the two buildings visually in 1934. Internal circulation exists between the buildings.
80. Broadway Interiors (529 S. Broadway): c. 1928; 5-story brick and concrete building with a flat facade and some remaining terra cotta ornamentation; street-level frontage modification.

83. Remick Building (517-19 S. Broadway): c. 1902; 6-story brick structure with decorative facade including arched windows and twisting columns between window openings.

84. Fifth Street Store (501-515 S. Broadway): 1927; 11-story concrete structure with terra cotta and brick facade by A.E. Curlett; a minor amount of ornamentation has been removed.

85. Metropolitan Building (315 W. Fifth Street): 1913; 9-story concrete and terra cotta structure by Parkinson & Bergstrom with ornamental features including a heavy cornice, etc.; major alteration to street-level frontage on both sides.

88. Wilson Building (431 S. Broadway): c. 1909; 3-story brick and concrete structure with massive alteration in 1932; facade ornament includes heavy cornice with brackets, columns topped by capitals, and floral designs on the surface.

90. Broadway Mart Center (401-23 S. Broadway): 1913; 10-story concrete structure by Parkinson & Bergstrom with a brick and terra cotta facade including many ornamental details.

91. Nelson Building (355 S. Broadway): 1897; 7-story brick and plaster structure originally by Frank Van Trees with a mass of ornamentation; alterations removed all ornament and left flat plaster surface with a rounded corner; still blends with the district although very plain now.

94. Karl's (341-45 S. Broadway): 1903; originally a four-story brick structure by A.M. Edelman, the building was altered to two stories but much of the original terra cotta decoration remains.

98. Grand Central Market (315 S. Broadway): 1897; Broadway elevation is a 6-story brick structure with terra cotta ornamentation including heavy cornice and arched entrance; large facade covering now hides much of it; Hill St. addition by Thornton Fitzhugh in 1905 is 8 stories with little alteration to it, mostly concrete with brick.

Nonconforming Intrusions Detracting From the Integrity of the District:

2. Blackstone Building (318-322 S. Broadway): c. 1907; originally a 5-story and basement reinforced concrete and brick structure, now three stories with much alteration and most ornament removed; is potentially restorable.


5. MGM Photographia (336 S. Broadway): 1-story cement structure in gold with an awning; very recent origin.

7. Judson's (346-8 S. Broadway): c. 1907; 1-story brick building divided in half; facade completely cluttered with signs.


14. (Food Stand) (444 S. Broadway): one-story structure of contemporary style.


16. Gebhard Building (450 S. Broadway): c. 1900; 2-story brick structure by R.B. Young with a new facade that completely covers the original.

33. Cliftons Cafeteria (648 S. Broadway): c. 1916; 4-story brick building with arched windows and reliefs on facade; facade now completely covered by metal grate but should be relatively easy to remove.

34. Haas Building (660 S. Broadway): 1914; a 12-story concrete structure originally with a mass of terra cotta ornamentation by Morgan, Walls, & Morgan; alteration in 1974 left the building completely "modernized" with typical tile and glass facade.


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56. Hartfield's (749 S. Broadway): c. 1912; 4-story brick structure with a very modern stucco facade.

58. Rowley Building (735 S. Broadway): c. 1908; 4-story brick building with a very modern "marble" facade.

64. Hoffman Building (635-37 S. Broadway): c. 1906; 4-story brick business building, although facade is fairly new it is potentially restorable and still similar to the original.

65. Baker Building (633 S. Broadway): c. 1911; 4-story brick structure with a newer facade that blends very well with the district.

66. C.H. Baker's (629 S. Broadway): c. 1911; northern half of the Baker Building, 4-story brick and concrete structure with facade completely remodeled in contemporary design.


69. Eastman's (611 S. Broadway): 1930; part of the northern flank of the Los Angeles Theater, 2-story concrete with facade of recent vintage.

71. Young Age Shop (609 S. Broadway): 1930; part of northern flank of Los Angeles Theater, 2-story concrete with new facade.

76. Barry's (543 S. Broadway): c. 1901; 4-story brick structure with 2 modern facades, 1 on each side.

78. Emperor Building (535 S. Broadway): c. 1903; 5-story brick structure with a contemporary, flat facade.

81. Reeves Building (525 S. Broadway): 1903; 5-story brick building by John Parkinson with a glazed metal and synthetic stone facade; very little original ornament which included a balcony and pediment was removed but facade is potentially restorable.

82. "Levis" (521 S. Broadway): c. 1903; 2-story brick structure with a flat stucco facade of recent origin.

87. Zody's (437 S. Broadway): c. 1942; 3-story structure with a flat stucco facade of recent design.

89. Wise Shop #2 (425 S. Broadway): 3-story brick building with flat, modernized facade.


93. (Building) (347-9 S. Broadway): c. 1908; 2-story brick structure with a flat stucco facade of recent origin.

95. Wise Shop (337-39 S. Broadway): c. 1900; 2-story (originally 4) brick structure with facade stuccoed over the original ornamentation removed.

96. Jacoby Brothers Building (333 S. Broadway): c. 1900; originally a 4-story brick structure with decorative cornice, this building was altered to two stories and some of the facade stuccoed flat; it is still similar to the original however and blends somewhat with the district.

97. Broadway Market (329 S. Broadway): c. 1900; 3-story brick building that originally had an ornamental facade including arched window openings and a heavy cornice; altered in recent years to a flat stucco facade.
The Broadway Theater and Commercial District is a six-block thoroughfare containing the vestiges of the Los Angeles theater and commercial center developed from the early 1890's to the early 1930's. The area is significant not only for this activity, but also for the high concentration of important architectural creations which document the development of both commercial and theater growth in Los Angeles, and the evolution of progressive design for these types of structures.

Prior to the turn of the century the commercial center in Los Angeles was located near the intersection of Spring and First Streets. The area of Broadway below Third Street was primarily residential until small businesses located there in the 1890's. Construction of the new city hall in the late 1880's on Broadway between Second and Third Streets was a primary impetus in turning the commercial district southward to take advantage of the close proximity of municipal headquarters. By 1900, several large business structures including the Bradbury Building (1893), the Grand Central Market (Homer Laughlin Block in 1897), the Nelson Building (Grant Building in 1897), and several smaller blocks, the O.T. Johnson Building (1895), the Hubert-Thorn McAn Building (1900), and the Jacoby Brothers store (1900) began to change the Broadway skyline and pulled the business center further south.

The 1900-1910 period was a decade of rapid development in Los Angeles, as well as all of southern California. Broadway was a perfect example of this growth along just one street. Although many small blocks were built to about Sixth Street at this time, including the large O.T. Johnson Building (1902), Finney's Cafeteria (Gebhart Building in 1904), the Reeves Block (1903), the Remick Block (1902), Karl's Shoes (1903), and a number of small brick structures, the dramatic turning point in this development was the announcement that Hamberger's (now the May Company) was going to build a large department store at Broadway and Eighth Street, then generally considered too far south of the business district. This statement by one of the city's largest retailers was met with skepticism by local businessmen. However, as construction of Hamberger's began in 1905, many investors followed suit so that before the end of the decade a number of important structures were added to the district including the Trustee Building and O.T. Johnson Building #2 in 1905, the Judson-Rives, Bumiller, Hoffman, Norton, and Bullock's buildings in 1906, the Blackstone, Forrester, and Parmelee buildings in 1907, the W.P. Story and J.E. Carr structures in 1908, and the Barker Brothers and Wilson Buildings in 190
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Assessment Records of Los Angeles County, 1900-1940. Los Angeles County Archives.

Building Permits. Department of Buildings & Safety. Los Angeles City Hall.

Greene and Behrendt Photograph Collections. Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History Archives. (see continuation sheet)

GEORGICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY  27+

QUADRANGLE NAME

UTM REFERENCES

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QUADRANGLE SCALE

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See Continuation Sheet)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

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FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Tom Sitton Curatorial Assistant

ORGANIZATION
Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History

STREET & NUMBER
900 Exposition Blvd.

CITY OR TOWN
Los Angeles

STATE
California

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL __ STATE X 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

DATE SEP 7 1978

NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE}

GPO 921-803
The Lankershim Hotel (1902) and the Yorkshire Hotel (J.D. Hooker Building in 1909) were built during this period to help support the district. By 1910, Broadway was the commercial and retail thoroughfare of the city.

In the next decade still more new structures appeared which increased retail trade and office space in the district. The Chapman Building and Baker Building (1911), the Jewelry Trades Building and Bullock's-Hollenbeck (1912), the Metropolitan, Issacs, Cheney, and Broadway Mart Center buildings (1913), and the Merritt Building (1914) provided additional growth in this area. Clifton's Cafeteria (Boos Brothers Restaurant in 1916) was also built at this time, as were many of the theaters that eventually made Broadway the theatrical center of Southern California.

The real estate and building boom of Southern California in the 1920's is probably best illustrated in the further development of Broadway during this decade. A number of notable structures including Silverwood's, Woolworth's, and the Swelldom Building (1920), the Singer and Wood Brothers buildings (1922), the Metropolitan Theater Annex and the highly colorful Apparel Center Building (originally the Wurlitzer Building) in 1923, Desmond's (1924), the Chester Williams Building (1926), the Anjac Fashion Building and the Fifth Street Store (1927), and the Ninth & Broadway and Eastern-Columbia buildings (1929-30) were all completed during this decade. Along with the Broadway Cafeteria (1928) and several more theaters, the district as it appears today was substantially complete by 1930. Other than Hartfield's and Reed's (1931), the only major changes since that time have been a number of facade alterations and the addition of several intrusions which include parking structures and small food stands.

As the commercial center of the Southland, the Broadway district continued to function in this capacity until well after World War II. As suburban shopping centers began to increase in number and popularity, major retailers along Broadway found it convenient to place regional stores in these centers to attract customers living a good distance from downtown Los Angeles. Along with other factors, the increase of these shopping centers diminished the trade that once came to Broadway. The area now serves a clientele that, for the most part, resides in and near the downtown area.

The development of Broadway as a commercial district coincides with its emergence as the theatrical center for the Southland. At the turn of the century the major theaters of Los Angeles (the Merced, Grand Opera House, and the Burbank) were located along Main Street. In 1903 the Mason Opera House (now demolished) opened on Broadway and began the accelerated development of the theatrical district on this street. The Orpheum (now the Palace),
Clune's (now the Cameo), and the Pantages (now the Arcade) opened in 1911 and were the first theaters to locate within the present district. Following these pioneers were the Morosco (Globe) in 1912, the Rialto in 1917, the Million Dollar in 1918, Loew's State Theater (United Building) in 1920, the Metropolitan in 1923, the new Orpheum in 1925, the Tower in 1928, the Los Angeles in 1930, and finally the Roxie in 1931. Of these, only the Metropolitan has since been razed.

The importance of the theater district in the home of the motion picture industry is clearly evident. The theaters provided drama, comedy, and vaudeville presentations until full-length motion pictures became popular. Thomas Tally, Sid Grauman, Oliver Morosco, and others vied for the honor of city impresario as the theaters along Broadway became larger and more numerous. Theater architecture was more flamboyant than commercial styles and the influx of theatrical structures helped to provide variety for the Broadway streetscape. In all, theater development along Broadway provided a major source of revenue and a location for premieres for the movie industry, an important form of entertainment for Southern Californians, and a variety of architectural designs which gave a unique character to Broadway.

The xenith of the Broadway theater district was in the 1920's. In 1922 the Egyptian Theater was built on Hollywood Boulevard in the midst of movie studios, and in 1926 Sid Grauman's Chinese Theater opened further down the street. The major theater chains were now beginning to establish Hollywood as the center for motion picture theaters. Although several Broadway theaters were built as late as 1931, the new trend had already been clearly established.

It is surprising now that so many of the theaters built on Broadway have survived even though the theatrical center moved so long ago. The structures that remain on Broadway, typically flamboyant in design both inside and out, are still viable movie houses from both economic and functional standpoints. As older theatrical sections of many cities have since been leveled for new use, the Broadway theater network continues to provide motion picture entertainment in buildings that are remarkably intact considering their uninterrupted use over so many years.

Architecturally, the Broadway district contains some of the best examples of commercial and theater architecture in Southern California. The Bradbury Building, Million Dollar Theater, and Eastern-Columbia Building are well-known, and the Los Angeles Theater is considered to be the best example of theater architecture in the entire Southland. The district is represented by a number of important styles including American Commercial, Sullivanesque, Italianate (O.T. Johnson Block), Romanesque (Jewelry Trades Building and the
O.T. Johnson Building, Spanish Renaissance (United Building, Apparel Center Building, Million Dollar Theater, etc.), French Renaissance (Tower and Los Angeles theaters), Italian Renaissance (Merritt Building and Swelldom Building), Spanish Baroque (Desmond's), Gothic Revival (Anjac Fashion Building and Issacs), Art Deco (Woolworth's, Hartfield's, and the Roxie Theater), and Zig Zag-Moderne (Eastern-Columbia and Ninth & Broadway buildings), among others. Architects from New York (Schultze & Weaver), Seattle (B. Marcus Priteca), Oakland (Weeks & Day), and San Francisco (G. Albert Landsburgh, and Kenneth MacDonald, and the Reid Brothers), as well as local architects Morgan & Walls, R.B. Young, George Wyman, A.F. Rosenheim, A.C. Martin, A.M. Edelman, Meyer & Holler, J.M. Cooper, C.R. Aldrich, Walker & Eisen, Curlett & Beelman, S. Charles Lee, C. F. Whittlesey, and others have contributed to the architectural integrity of the street. Although not always consistent in scale, Broadway as a whole contains some of the best examples of commercial and theater architecture in Southern California that could possibly be integrated in such a compact area.

Los Angeles Daily Journal, October 4, 1895, 8; October 11, 1895, 8; May 7, 1897, 4; October 22, 1900, 4; November 2, 1900, 4.

Los Angeles Evening Express, November 21, 1927, p. 8.

Los Angeles Herald, January 1, 1894, p. 7.

Los Angeles Times, 1894-1977. (Articles on specific buildings are too numerous to list. See individual site survey sheets available at the California State Office of Historic Preservation or at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.)

Exhibitor's Herald, April 28, 1928, p. 86; May 12, 1928, p. 123.

Southwest Contractor & Manufacturer, May 11, 1912, p. 40; June 1, 1912, p. 40; June 1, 1912, p. 22; April 3, 1915, p. 8.


Architectural Digest, V, no. 2 (1926), 82-3; VI, no. 3 (1928), 31-3; VII, no. 2 (1929), 125; VIII, no. 2 (1931), 56-9.

Architect & Engineer, September 1911, pp. 34-50; May 1918, pp. 80-6; February 1923, pp. 60-70; June 1926, pp. 18-20, 67; July 1927, p. 77.


"In Winter's Outdoor Land," Sunset, XX, n. 3 (January, 1908), 212-58.


Western Architect, Vol. 33, no. 9 (September, 1924), 105-6.
CONTINUATION SHEET


Scott, J.E. Los Angeles, the Old and the New. Los Angeles: Western Insurance News, 1911.


An irregular area in the downtown business district generally following both sides of Broadway beginning at the intersection of Broadway and Third Street, extending 186' eastward along Third St., 170' southward, 44' westward, 79.6' southward, 23' eastward, 363' southward to Fourth St., then 39' westward to Frank Court, to Fifth St., then 31' westward, then 100' southward, then 35' eastward then 165' eastward to Spring St., then 120' southward on Spring St., then 117' southward to Sixth St., then 15' westward, then southward along an alley to Ninth St., then westward along Ninth St. to a point 165' west of Broadway, then 236' northward to Eighth St., then 212' Eastward along Eighth St., then 116' northward then 50' westward, then 470' northward to 7th St., then 10' eastward, then 80' northward to Sixth St., then 125' northward, then 138' eastward, then 80' northward to Sixth St., then 29' eastward to Lindley Place, then north along Lindley Place to Fifth St., then 200' northward, then 165' westward to Hill St., then 41' northward, then 165' eastward, then 120' northward, then 42' westward, then 39' eastward, then 80' northward, then 16' westward, then 39' northward, then 42' eastward, then 80' northward, then 16' westward, then 122' northward to Fourth Street, then 39' eastward, then 123' northward, then 40' westward, then 240' northward, then 166' westward to Hill St., then 121' northward, then 132' eastward, then 120' northward to Third St., then 194' eastward to the original point.
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION (Revised 12/26/85)

(Note: All changes in direction are at a right angle from the previous direction.)

The boundary encompasses an irregular area in the downtown business district generally following both sides of Broadway beginning at the southeast corner of the intersection of Broadway and Third Street, extending 185.53' eastward along Third Street, then approximately 161' southward, 44.4' westward, 79.6' southward, 23' eastward, approximately 365' southward to Fourth Street, then continuing 60' southward across Fourth Street to Frank Court, then continuing southward along Frank court to the south side of Fifth Street, then 40' westward, then 100' southward, then 40' eastward, then 260' southward, then 165' eastward to Spring Street, then 119.6' southward on Spring Street, then 165.18' westward, then 120.5' southward to Sixth Street, then continuing southward 60' across Sixth Street, then continuing southward along an alley to the northern edge of Ninth Street, then westward approximately 163' along Ninth Street, then continuing 80' across Broadway, then continuing 165' westward, then approximately 235' northward, then 159.5' westward to Hill Street, then 363.5' northward along Hill Street to Eighth Street, then 212' eastward along Eighth Street, then 185.6' northward, then 50' westward, then approximately 550' northward to intersection of the northern edge of Seventh Street and St. Vincent Court, then approximately 158.5' westward to Hill Street, then 312' northward along Hill Street, then 138.4' eastward to St. Vincent Court, then 74.44' northward, then 138.37' westward, then 125' northward, then 158.34' eastward, then 140' northward to northern edge of Sixth Street at its intersection with Lindley Place, then northward along Lindley Place to northern edge of Fifth Street, then continuing approximately 201' northward, then 165.18' westward to Hill Street, then 41.87' northward, then 165.18' eastward, then 120.4' northward, then 12.82' westward, then 0.9' northward, then 13.71' westward, then 39.34' northward, then 42.41' eastward, then 79.56' northward, then 16.19' westward, then 0.14' northward, then 79.32' westward, then 123.6' northward, then 78.99' eastward, then 60' northward across Fourth Street, then 40.09' eastward, then approximately 124' northward, then 39.96' westward, then approximately 239' northward, then 165.88' westward to Hill Street, then 121.34' northward, then 132.5' eastward, then 120.36' northward to Third Street, then approximately 279' eastward to the point of beginning.
ARCHITECTS

MACKEY
GENNET
PEASE
HART '24
HART '28
ESHMAN
Earl
HOLLENBECK

Parkinson / Parkinson
Parkinson / Hubbard
Hudson / Munsel
Parkinson / Parkinson
Parkinson / Parkinson
Morgan / Walls
Parkinson / Bergstrom
Parkinson / Bergstrom

EXHIBIT "A"
### ST VINCENT SQUARE
(formerly Bullock's Department Store)

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**Fig. 1**
1. Farmers & Merchants Bank - 1882
2. Farmers & Merchants Bank - 1905
3. Los Angeles County Bank - 1885
5. First National Bank of L.A. - 1901
6. University Bank - 1893
7. City Bank - 1893
8. American Savings Bank - 1906
9. German American Savings Bank - 1890
10. German American Savings Bank - 1894
11. Union Bank of Savings - 1906
12. Commercial Bank - 1899
13. Commercial Bank - 1901
14. Security Savings & Trust - 1889
15. Security Savings & Trust - 1896
16. Security " - 1904
17. Security " - 1907
18. Temple & Workman Bank - 1871
19. Farmer's & Merchants Bank Bldg. - 1898
20. American Nat'l Bank prior to 1905
22. Equitable Savings Bank - 1903
23. Los Angeles Savings Bank - 1883
25. Title Ins. & Trust - 1897