

**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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received **SEP 30 1982**
date entered

PAGE 1

1. Name

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JAN 26 1982

historic DUNSMUIR HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

OHP

and/or common

SAME

2. Location

*Roughly bounded by Sacramento and Shasta Aves.,
Spruce and Cedar sts.*

street & number

Block 11. Portions of blocks 10, 12, 24, 25, 26

NA not for publication (both sides)

city, town Dunsmuir

N/A vicinity of

congressional district 1 (one)

state California 96025

code 06

county Siskiyou

code 093

3. Classification

Category

☒ district
☐ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☐ private
☒ both

Public Acquisition

☐ in process
☐ being considered
☒ N/A

Status

☒ occupied
☒ unoccupied
☐ work in progress

Accessible

☐ yes: restricted
☒ yes: unrestricted
☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☒ commercial
☐ educational
☒ entertainment
☒ government
☐ industrial
☐ military

☒ museum
☐ park
☒ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☒ other: vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple ownership (List attached)

street & number

city, town Dunsmuir,

N/A vicinity of

state California 96025

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Siskiyou County Courthouse

street & number 311 Fourth Street

city, town Yreka

state California 96097

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date N/A

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

N/A

city, town

N/A

state

N/A

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date

N/A

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District includes the commercial core of Dunsmuir, located in Southern Siskiyou County. The town has a population of 2,373 (1980 census), and is midway between Redding and Yreka, and San Francisco and Portland, Oregon. Dunsmuir is situated at the base of the upper Sacramento River Canyon in the Klamath Mountain Range. The District is at an elevation of 2,325 Feet. The steep-sloping verdant flanks of Soda Creek Ridge, and Mt. Bradley, rise abruptly on the east and west, and provide a dramatic backdrop for the District, as well as the entire town. (See Figures I and II.) The dominating 14,161 foot volcanic cone of Mt. Shasta can be seen from points just north and south of the District. The jagged peaks of Castle Crags are an awesome geographic feature about five miles south of the District. Much of the surrounding forest land is included in the Shasta National Forest.

The Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District is located in Section 25, Township 39 North, Range 4 West, of the Mount Diablo Meridian. (See Figure II.) The District is located at the center of the original Dunsmuir town plat.

The Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District is a composite of roughly four blocks. (See Figures III and IV.) Sacramento Avenue and Dunsmuir Avenue, the District's two main streets, parallel the Sacramento River and the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks, and are oriented in a north-south direction. A grid pattern of streets in the District is superimposed on the sloping hillsides; Dunsmuir Avenue is approximately fifty feet above Sacramento Avenue, and cross streets are precipitous.

The 43 buildings included in the District are predominantly one and two stories in height, and constructed of brick or concrete. Construction dates represent two epochs in the history of the town. The majority of buildings on the lower Sacramento Avenue were erected in 1903 following a major fire, while those on Dunsmuir Avenue were constructed in the 1920s. Several building facades on Sacramento were updated during the 1920s. In 1982 the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District mirrors the town's boom years of growth between 1920 and 1930. The entire District is commercially zoned; and all buildings are used for commercial purposes with one exception--a single residential building at the north end of Dunsmuir Ave. predates the conversion of Dunsmuir Ave. to the main commercial street and remains in residential use. The majority of buildings in the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District front on either Sacramento Avenue or Dunsmuir Avenue (rather than the two cross streets), and stand on the front and side property lines. Those structures of greatest scale and visual impact are located at, or near, one of the District's four street intersections.

Various architectural styles are represented in the Historic District. Elements of Queen Anne, Richardsonian Romanesque, Beau Arts Classicism, Renaissance Revival, Mission style, and Moderne are found within the District boundaries. Many buildings display the influence of more than one style. The vernacular of Late Victorian design is found throughout the district. Buildings in the District are characterized by several common design features; parapets are predominant; facades along both Dunsmuir and Sacramento Avenues are in line; window and door openings are consistent in scale; smooth stucco wall surfaces are common; recessed entries are typical. The majority of buildings are similar in scale and materials. There are few vacant lots in the district. Dunsmuir Avenue, and to a lesser extent the west side of Sacramento Avenue, have a nearly unbroken linkage of buildings...

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

Specific dates 1917 - 1928

Builder/Architect Many

PAGE 3

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District meets the criteria for listing in the National Register for local significance. The District has been the focal point of activities related to the construction operation, and maintenance of the Shasta Route of Southern Pacific Railroad, and the development of the California State Highway. In addition, the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District is significant for its prominence as a regional center of commerce and local government. Several buildings in the District are historically significant for their association with persons instrumental in developing industry and commerce in Siskiyou County. A few individuals associated with the District during its prosperous years, were prominent in regional and local politics, and civic affairs. The District is a nearly unbroken ensemble of commercial buildings that share common elements of design, scale, and site relationship. The Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District conveys a strong sense of time and place. There are few intrusions within the District boundaries: approximately 75% of the buildings contribute to the 1920s character of the District. Selected buildings are representative examples of particular architectural styles, or designed by noteworthy California architects, or engineers.

The Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District owes its existence, and much of its historical significance, to its strong association with transportation in Northern California.

Efforts to connect California and Oregon by rail were initiated as early as 1863. Early surveys of the rugged terrain of the Siskiyou Mountains determined that the winding, deeply incised channel of the Sacramento River was the most viable route for making an inroad into the southern portion of this physical barrier that separated these neighboring states, and that isolated dozens of remote mountain valleys. Over two decades passed before construction of the Southern Pacific Railroad (previously the California-Oregon Railroad) reached Siskiyou County's southern border. About one mile south of the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District, a railroad camp named Pusher was established in August 1886. In January 1887 a box car and an all-inclusive telegraph office, express office, railroad office, city hall, and general business facility were moved to a site near the present Historic District. This embryonic station was immediately renamed Dunsmuir (2). (One source notes that Dunsmuir was originally known as Mannon (89).) By October, a roundhouse, machine shop and division superintendents's headquarters were constructed (82). Simple wood frame business buildings were erected west of the track along what became known as Sacramento Avenue. On December 17, 1887 the last spike was driven in Ashland, Oregon, extending Southern Pacific's network of tracks

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please refer to continuation sheets (Item No. 9, Pages 52 - 57).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 9.74 acres

Quadrangle name Dunsmuir, California

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UMT References

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification Boundaries are shown on attached map.

NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 25, T.39 N., R.4W. Mount Diablo Meridian

City of Dunsmuir: all of Block 11; portions of Blocks 10, 12, 24, 25 and 26.

Justification included under section 8.

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

state N/A code county N/A code

state N/A code county N/A code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gail E.H. Evans (Typed by Marilyn Behrens and Carole Bunnell)

organization Self-employed date January 1982

street & number P.O. Box 339 telephone (503) 899-8216

city or town Jacksonville state Oregon 97530

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. Miller

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date

8/31/1982

For HCPS use only

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

Linda McClelland
Keeper of the National Register

date

11/10/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET 1	ITEM NUMBER 4	PAGE 5
1. 5911 - 5915 Dunsmuir Avenue City of Dunsmuir Drawer 377 Dunsmuir, CA. 96025	7. 5827 Dunsmuir Avenue Felix, Fernando P. and Shirley M. 5827 Dunsmuir Avenue Dunsmuir, CA. 96025	
2. Vacant (Dunsmuir Avenue) Malone, Robert G. Malone, Barbara J. 4670 Francis Ct. Sacramento, CA. 95822	8. 5817, 5821 Dunsmuir Avenue Charles, William B. and Jaqueline G. P.O. Box 197 Dunsmuir, CA. 96025	
3. 5855 Dunsmuir Avenue Malone, Robert G. Malone, Barbara J. 4670 Francis Ct. Sacramento, CA. 95822	9.- 5805, 5815 Dunsmuir Avenue Santos, Theadore N. and Eleanor 425 Bush Street, Ste. 200 San Francisco, CA. 94108	
4. 5841, 5843 Dunsmuir Avenue Chandler, A. E. and Madeline M. 4315 Pioneer Way Dunsmuir, CA. 96025	10. 4300 Pine Street Goehring, Charles J. and Betty L. P.O. Box 33 Dunsmuir, CA. 96025	
5. 5837, 5839 Dunsmuir Avenue Chandler, A. E. and Madeline M. 4315 Pioneer Way Dunsmuir, CA. 96025	11. 5751, 5759 Dunsmuir Avenue 4213, 4215 Pine Street Manfredi, John Manfredi, Alfred Manfredi, Kenneth 4321 Rio Vista Avenue Sacramento, CA. 95821	
6. 5833, 5835 Dunsmuir Avenue Smith, Jack and Rita C. 1002 C Street Galt, CA. 95632	12. 5739, 5741 Dunsmuir Avenue Dunsmuir Masonic Temple Assn. 4413 Gleaves Avenue Dunsmuir, CA. 96025	

(11/78)

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13. 5731, 5737 Dunsmuir Avenue

Pickthorn, Grace A.
P.O. Box 316
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

14. 5727 Dunsmuir Avenue

Cornet, Christopher
Cornet, Michelle Joen
411 South Arroyo Parkway
Pasadena, CA. 91101

15. 5721 Dunsmuir Avenue

Vogt, Sharon
861 Balboa
Foster City, CA. 94404

16. 5711, 5717 Dunsmuir Avenue

Jessel, Lynn
5715 Dunsmuir, CA 96025
Dunsmuir, CA. 9602517. 5726, 5728 Dunsmuir Avenue
Arata, James D. and Diane M.
P.O. Box 43
Castella, CA. 96017

18. 5732, 5736 Dunsmuir Avenue

Erickson, Russell E. and Eloise
5732 Dunsmuir Avenue, #A
Dunsmuir, CA. 9602519. 5744 Dunsmuir Avenue
5751 Sacramento AvenueCarbon, Michael A. and Rosa
5744 Dunsmuir Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025Carbon, Michael A. Jr. and Susan
1109 Lynhurst Way
San Jose, CA. 95118Oliver, George F. and Florence
14542 Ramsted Drive
San Jose, CA. 9512720. 5800 Dunsmuir Avenue
4100, 4118 Pine StreetBank of America, N.T. & S.A. #842
P.O. Box 37000
San Francisco, CA. 94137

21. 5804 Dunsmuir Avenue

Mei, Guido J.
5804 Dunsmuir Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

22. Vacant (near Dunsmuir Avenue)

Hull, Richard T. and Constance A.
2209 Timberlane Avenue
Simi Valley, CA. 93063Mei, Guido
5804 Dunsmuir Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

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- | | |
|---|---|
| 23. 5814, 5816 Dunsmuir Avenue

Hull, Richard T. and Constance A.
2209 Timberlane Avenue
Simi Valley, CA. 93063 | 29. 5902 Dunsmuir Avenue

City of Dunsmuir
Drawer 377
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025 |
| 24. 5824, 5826 Dunsmuir Avenue

Petrovics, Victor and Margaret J.
8431 Rocky Road
Weed, CA. 96094 | 30. 5902 Dunsmuir Avenue

Dunsmuir Fire Protection Dist.
P.O. Box 856
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025 |
| 25. 5832, 5832A Dunsmuir Avenue

Stromsness, Chris and Sharon
P.O. Box 587
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025 | 31. 5911 Sacramento Avenue

Goehring, Charles J. and Betty L.
P.O. Box 33
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025 |
| 26. 5836 Dunsmuir Avenue

Van Fossen, Elinore Vesta
Mason, Katharine L.
P.O. Box 706
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025 | 32. 5901 Sacramento Avenue

Dominguez, Ruben E. and Darlene M.
5901 Sacramento Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025 |
| 27. 5838, 5840 Dunsmuir Avenue

Turner, Veneil M. and Phyllis F.
5840 Dunsmuir Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025 | 33. Vacant (Sacramento Avenue)

Hullquist, J. P. or Alta
P.O. Box 158
Happy Camp, CA. 96039 |
| 28. 5844, 5866 Dunsmuir Avenue

Harrison, Elinore V.
P.O. Box 706
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025 | 34. Vacant (Sacramento Avenue)

Dominguez, Ruben E. and Darlene M.
4209 Oak Street
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025 |

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35. 5859 Sacramento Avenue

Burr, Clifford E.
5859 Sacramento Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

36. 5853 Sacramento Avenue

Albers, Laurel S. Shannon
2195 Singletree Lane
Redding, CA. 96002

37. 5841 Sacramento Avenue

Van Fossen, L.
Mason, Katharine L.
P.O. Box 706
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

38. 5827, 5831 Sacramento Avenue

Motto, Peter
5827 Sacramento Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

39. 5825 Sacramento Avenue

Gardella, Henry and Eleanor
3745 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA. 94110

40. 5821 Sacramento Avenue

Evans, Gregory Steed
Van Fosson, F. B.
6711 El Colegio, #10
Goleta, CA. 93017

41. 5819 Sacramento Avenue

Roberts, George B. and Lillian G.
5819 Sacramento Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

42. Vacant (Sacramento Avenue)

Thompson, Willis E. and Claudia J.
5384 River Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

43. Vacant (Sacramento Avenue)

Wheeler, Ernest M. Jr.
4409 Holly Avenue
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

44. 5801 Sacramento Avenue

Sweo, Allan V. and Leah L.
P.O. Box 226
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

45. 5749 Sacramento Avenue

Templeton, Ronald E.
4639 Coldwater Cyn #3
Studio City, CA. 91604

46. 5743 Sacramento Avenue

Ballantyne, Jeffrey A. Tr.
P.O. Box 164
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

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47. Vacant (Sacramento Avenue)

Ballantyne, Jeffrey A. Tr.
P.O. Box 165
Dunsmuir, CA. 96025

48. Vacant (Sacramento Avenue)

Templeton, Ronald E.
6539 Coldwater Cyn #3
Studio City, CA. 91604

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The most conspicuous and commonly found building alterations include the installation of modern street-level glazed storefront windows, the removal of transom lights above storefront windows, and the application of brick or stone material below street-level windows. Only a few buildings have been so extensively altered that their original character has been destroyed. The majority of buildings in the District are maintained in good to fair condition. Very few buildings have been significantly rehabilitated.

There are only a small number of vacant parcels in the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District. Of the eight vacant parcels, six were occupied by buildings during the early 1920s. Two of the vacant lots are used as parking lots, while the other six parcels have gravel or small trees, shrubs, and grasses.

Public right-of-ways in the District are from eight to eighty feet in width. A narrow stepped public walkway has replaced Cedar Street west of Dunsmuir Avenue. The Pine and Cedar cross streets vary in width as a result of historical adaptations to the steep grades, and the haphazard alignment of early buildings along those streets. Sacramento and Dunsmuir Avenue right-of-ways are sixty and eighty feet wide, respectively. Sidewalks throughout the District are concrete. Iron handrails dating from the 1910s, are implanted in the curbstone of steeper sections of sidewalk on Cedar and Pine Streets.

The District has three public monuments. The Belnap Fountain, a shake roof gazebo-type structure sheltering a stone fountain, is at the northeast corner of Dunsmuir Avenue and Cedar Street. Near the northwest corner of Dunsmuir Avenue and Pine Streets stands a short stone and mortar fountain memorializing those who served in World War I. It was erected in 1923 by the Eagle Cliff Lodge 163, Knights of Pythias. A third stone and mortar drinking fountain is on the sidewalk on the east side of Dunsmuir Avenue between Cedar and Pine Streets. Dunsmuir has long claimed the distinction of having the "best water on earth."

Local citizen's groups have taken a recent interest in the city's railroad history and erected semaphore signals at the intersection of Dunsmuir Avenue and Pine Street, and Sacramento Avenue and Pine Street. Street lighting and electrical wiring throughout the District is overhead.

The Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District includes forty-eight parcels of land under separate ownership. (Please see Figure V.) Eight of these are vacant lots. Infrequently, one lot contains more than one building and, in one instance, a lot line bisects a building. There are a total of forty-three structures in the District: thirty-two contribute to the character of the District; eleven are presently non-contributors. The following is a list of property owners, and a description of each parcel in the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District.

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1. 5911, 5915 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-142-040
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1927
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

Completed in 1927 (15), the Petty Building is a one-story concrete structure. Pilasters divide the main facade into two sections of unequal width with recessed horizontal panels across the upper wall. The smooth stucco wall surface above the storefront windows has both vertical and horizontal panels. A projecting cornice extends across the top of the parapet. The Petty Building rests on a concrete slab. A shed roof is sheathed with composition rolled roofing. The building is set on the front property line with paved parking areas adjoining on the north and south.

Alterations are limited to installation of expansive storefront windows and doors in the late 1950s, and the application of stone facing to a narrow section of wall below the windows.

The building was constructed for Union S. and Blanche L. Petty and replaced a one-story wood frame building occupied as a residence and "Volcanizing Shop (73)." Sprouse Reitz department store, and the furniture store of long-term resident E. F. Young, were among the first occupants of the newly-completed Petty Building (113).

2. Vacant (West Side Dunsmuir Avenue)
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-142-270
SIGNIFICANCE:

This 122-foot long vacant lot is presently a paved public parking area fronting on Dunsmuir Avenue. A high concrete retaining wall extends the length of the rear property line where a sloping hillside rises abruptly. The north portion of the lot includes a 72-foot wide section of the original Cedar Street right-of-way.

Irregularities in the surface of the pavement bear witness to the existence of an earlier structure on the site. In the mid 1920s a small concrete service station known as Smithie's Super Service Station (16), was constructed on the lot. The building was subsequently removed in the 1950s (113).

3. 5855 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-112-090
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing

CONST. DATE: 1925
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: B. F. Doty

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The southern portion of the one-story Malone Building is of reinforced concrete and set on a concrete slab foundation. The rear of the building is against a steep wooded embankment. The Malone Building is built on the front property line. It stands on the southern end of a continuum of adjoining commercial buildings. A narrow concrete public pathway runs along the south wall. The exterior walls of the southern half of the building are faced with stucco. A pattern of elongated two-tone stucco diamonds continues across the upper portion of the facade and wraps around the south wall.

Completed in 1925 by local contractor B.F. Doty, the Malone Building was built to accommodate three commercial stores. The original facade had a pink stucco finish (17), a parapet wall that sloped gradually toward a rounded center, and a band of small panes above large display windows. The main facade was altered extensively in the 1950s. In the late 1960s fire gutted the interior of the building.

The grand opening of the Malone Building was celebrated the last week in October 1925, and the three store spaces were immediately occupied by L. V. Meeks Grocery Store, the Economy Store, and the ladies and men's furnishings store of Eckstein Brothers (17,18). Two wood frame residences were moved from the John J. Malone property to make room for the erection of the new commercial structure.

4. 5841, 5843 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-112-080
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing

CONST. DATE: 1925
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: B. F. Doty

The main facade of the northern half of the Malone Building has been altered extensively in the last three decades. The first major alteration occurred in the late 1950s when the stucco finish on the upper wall was replaced with a pattern of stucco diamonds which continued the design that presently exists on the southern half of the building. In the last ten to fifteen years the diamond pattern was concealed by vertical V-groove wood sheathing. Three wood wagon wheels are mounted at the center and each end of the upper wall. Brick has been recently applied to the lower portion of the facade. (Please refer to No. 3 for a more detailed description of the original appearance and history of the Malone Building.)

5. 5837, 5839 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-110-112
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing

CONST. DATE: 1924
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

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The one-story Gooch Building is comprised of two very different main facades fronting on Dunsmuir Avenue. The southern portion has a brick facing on the lower wall and vertical V-groove wood sheathing on the upper wall and parapet. A single wagon wheel is positioned in the center of the parapet wall. The northern portion of the building is faced entirely with brick above the storefront windows. Slightly projecting brick-faced pilasters frame the northern end of the building. A recessed panel extends across the upper portion of the parapet. The top of the parapet of the northern portion of the building is considerably lower than that of the southern section of the building.

The facade of the Gooch Building has been altered considerably in the past twenty years. The original stucco wall surface has been covered with brick; a band of small lights above the large display windows has been removed; and the steep-sloping gable roof over part of the north portion of the building has been removed.

Prior to the construction of this commercial structure a one-story wood frame dwelling built by trainman C. S. Silsby in 1903, stood on the northern portion of the lot. Within a year after Benjamin and Mary Gooch purchased the property a narrow reinforced concrete building was constructed along the south property line. Research indicates that at the same time, or soon after, the adjoining wood frame building was extended to the front and north side property lines by constructing walls of concrete along the existing walls (95).

In the mid 1920s the entire block, consisting of three business spaces, was referred to as the "Gooch Building (19)." The Dunsmuir News was among the first tenants of the newly completed building. Other early occupants were McDills Electric Store and Evans Brothers Jewelry store.

6. 5835, 5833 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-112-050
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1925
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: J. P. Brennan

The one-story Eachus Building, constructed in 1925, is of reinforced concrete and is set on a concrete slab foundation. Two parallel low-sloping gable roofs are hidden behind the parapet. The main facade is faced with buff-colored brick. The upper parapet wall contains four horizontal panels outlined in darker brick and accented with several ceramic tile. A slightly projecting cornice runs along the upper edge of the parapet. Brick-faced pilasters divide the lower wall into two business stores. Display windows and three recessed doors are headed with two broad panels of horizontal unpainted boards.

Alteration of the Eachus Building is limited to the panels of wood infill, the installation of large single pane display windows, and the application of tiles and a marbelized material below the windows. The wood panels replaced the original band of continuous narrow vertical lights.

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When Clarence J. and Helen L. Eachus purchased the property in 1920, a one-story wood frame dwelling stood on the lot (94). In the spring of 1925 the residence was moved, and in July, Redding contractor, J.P. Brennan, began work on the new building (20). Immediately after completion, the two store spaces were occupied by Thompson's confectionary and stationary store and Welsh and Gerkey's I.X.L. Clothing store. The local Dunsmuir News noted that the I.X.L. Clothing store was "the last of the stores to move from Sacramento Avenue to Florence (Dunsmuir) Avenue (21)," marking the end of a significant era in Dunsmuir's pattern of commercial development. By 1927 the Mossbrae Pharmacy was established in the southern store space, and continued conducting business in the same location for several years.

7. 5827 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-112-030
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing
- CONST. DATE: 1922
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: S.D. Root

The Talmage Building (I) is a one-story brick structure with only a twenty-five foot frontage on Dunsmuir Avenue. A low-pitch gable roof is hidden behind the parapet. The main facade has a broad recessed entry with a central doorway. There are no windows. The entire facade is presently sheathed with vertical wood boards, and the building is void of any decorative details.

The main facade has been extensively altered in the past few years with the addition of the wood siding. It appears that the original facade may be recovered by removal of the wood.

The building was completed in 1922, and is one of two structures in the District constructed for Frank Talmage, prominent Dunsmuir businessman and property owner. A one-story wood frame residence was moved to make way for the erection of this building. Original plans called for the construction of a two-story brick building. The Peoples Cash Store, operated by W. A. Cowley, was the earliest known tenant of the Talmage Building.

8. 5817, 5821 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-112-020
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing
- CONST. DATE: 1924
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Jack Carlson

The Talmage Building (II) is a one-story reinforced concrete structure extending the entire width of the block. The front of the building is slightly wider than the rear, to accommodate a slight bend in Dunsmuir Avenue. The facade is faced

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with pressed brick pattern above the storefront windows. Brick pilasters, inlaid with ornamental ceramic tile, divide the facade into three bays. The upper brick wall is painted white, while the recessed pilaster bands are accented with red brick. Three panels of unpainted vertical wood boards extend across the facade above the display windows.

Recent alterations have not eroded the original character of the building. In the last thirty years a stepped projecting cornice, supported by closely spaced brackets, has been removed and stucco applied to the upper wall. The recently applied wood panels have replaced the original band of transom lights above the display windows. Brick facing has been applied to the lower walls beneath the storefront windows.

The Talmage Building is possibly the fourth building constructed on this site. A fire in 1903 and 1921 destroyed an earlier residence and a later two-story commercial building (91, 93, 94). Immediately upon completion of the present building in 1924, the Peoples Cash store expanded its store on the south by cutting an eight foot archway through the south wall of the Talmage Building (22). The Golden Rule, which once had branch stores throughout Southern Oregon and Northern California, became the first tenants of the north half of the building (24).

9. 5801, 5815 Dunsmuir Avenue
4208, 4212 Pine Street
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-112-010
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATES: 1917, 1919/1925
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Cantrell & Gardner (1917)

The three-story Hutaff Building/Travelers Hotel is one of the largest buildings in the district, and is dominant both visually and historically in the city of Dunsmuir. This brick and concrete structure located at the principle commercial intersection of Dunsmuir Avenue and Pine Street exhibits restrained elements of Renaissance Revival. Single unadorned pilasters rise from the ground level to an original molded projecting ^{metal} cornice, dividing the building into vertical sections. Narrow belt courses extend across the building at the sill line. On the second and third floors square-headed, one-over-one, double hung sash windows are sometimes grouped in pairs. The two primary facades are faced with stucco.

Some alteration has occurred on the ground level where wood and semi-circular arched, amber windows have replaced large rectangular storefront windows. A gable shake-clad porch roof has been recently affixed to the wall above one of the main entrances.

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The Hutaff Building/Travelers Hotel was constructed in three phases between 1917 and 1925. Contractors Cantrell and Gardner began excavation for a two-story brick structure on the north half of the lot in April of 1917 (25). Two years later a third story of brick was added to the existing edifice (26). Soon after Gustav Hutaff purchased the adjoining southerly 50 by 150 foot lot from Frank Talmage in 1924, construction began on a three-story concrete addition (27). Finally, in 1928, J. P. Brennan of Redding was contracted to install an elevator in the hotel. At that time the management announced plans to "place a scenic lounge on the roof of the building for the comfort of guests...(28)."

The Hutaff Building/Travelers Hotel housed the business establishments of some of Dunsmuir's most prominent citizens. Dr. E. J. Cornish, founder of the Dunsmuir Hospital and Sanitarium and long-term physician and surgeon in the town, occupied space on the first floor for several years. Dr. George E. Malone, an established town dentist, early president of the Dunsmuir Board of Trustees, and member of the state legislature in the early 1900s, occupied quarters on the second floor of the building. Gustav A. Hutaff, a prominent town druggist, early president of the State Bank of Dunsmuir, and later, partner in the jewelry firm of Hutaff and Carlquist, conducted his business in the building. The local offices of the California-Oregon Power Company, and the Pacific Telephone Company, were earlier occupants of the building. The well-established White House Grocerateria was a tenant of the building for many years.

Over the years the restaurant, lounge and lodging rooms of the Hutaff Building/Travelers Hotel have been a focal point of social activity for both residents and visitors to the town.

The north half of the existing building replaced a wood frame residence occupied by the Weed family. The south addition was constructed two years after a 1921 fire destroyed a large community hall, theatre and movie house owned by Frank Talmage and known as the Auditorium.

10. 4300 Pine Street
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-111-090
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1921
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: B.S. Doty

The three-story wood frame Warner Building is sheathed with narrow horizontal clapboards. The building is set on a concrete foundation, partly above ground, at the southwest corner of Pine Street and Shasta Avenue. Porch balconies extend across the width of the main facade fronting on Pine Street. Three tiers of partially enclosed dog-leg stairs descend to the ground from the rear of the

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building. One-over-one double-hung sash windows are grouped in pairs on all three floors. Overhanging eaves, with decorative brackets, project from the upper edge of the parapet facing the two right-of-ways.

The building exterior has received little or no alteration since its construction in 1921.

C.B. Warner was a successful grocery merchant in Dunsmuir, operating his business on Sacramento Avenue in the 1910s. Upon completion of his wood frame edifice, he relocated his business establishment to the first floor of his new building. The second and third floors house six separate apartments.

11. 5751, 5759 Dunsmuir Avenue
4213, 4215 Pine Street
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-084-080
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1928
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: John Blodget -

The Manfredi Bakery Building is a one-story reinforced concrete structure with a 50-foot frontage on Dunsmuir Avenue and extending 150 feet along Pine Street. The east two-thirds of the building displays features of the vernacular Late Victorian mode. A low-pitch gable roof is concealed by a parapet with two stepped portions centered above each main entrance fronting on Dunsmuir Avenue. Horizontal recessed panels are set in the upper walls of the Dunsmuir Avenue and the eastern two-thirds of the Pine Street facade. Pilasters, evenly spaced on the south and east walls, were faced with imitation stone in the 1960's. The west end of the building was added shortly after the 1928 block was constructed. The closely spaced piers that rise above the parapet line have faceted surfaces. The pronounced vertically and simple cubic forms of the pilasters are suggestive of the Art Deco style. The entire building is faced with stucco.

Storefront windows on the east section of the building were altered in the early 1960s. Wood and stucco have been used as infill above windows and brick and coursed stone have been applied to limited sections of the walls. Horizontal bands of transom windows have been covered over. The rear portion of the building is faced with stucco.

Contractor John Blodget completed the major portion of the building in 1928 (30). Salvatore (Sam) Manfredi purchased the corner lot just one year before the new building was erected. Manfredi was a town baker of some repute. It is said that Sam Manfredi was the best French baker in Northern California. When Manfredi's bakery on Sacramento Avenue burned in 1924 he soon relocated to a small wood frame building on the corner lot occupied by the present concrete building. In partnership with J. C. Bianchi, their business establishment was known as the Tiger Sweet Shop and Bakery during the mid 1920s. The Canyon Bakery occupied the site prior

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to 1923 (29). Soon after the present building was completed. Well-established Dunsmuir druggist Cethel Jones, moved his pharmacy to Manfredi's new building along with Sprouse Reitz department store. In the late 1930s the U.S. Post Office established itself in the rear (west portion) of the building.

12. 5739, 5741 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-084-070
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1925-'26
ARCHITECT: Carl Werner
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The Dunsmuir Masonic Temple is one of Siskiyou County's best examples of Renaissance Revival architecture. Three expansive windows with semi-circular arches are evenly spaced on the second floor level of the main facade.

The high parapet caps a three-part classical entablature comprised of an architrave, frieze and cornice. A narrow band of acanthus leaves, scroll brackets, and rosettes decorate the cornice. The ground floor has two recessed entries. The wide south entrance is sheltered by a movie marquee. A tall sign attached to the wall and roof of the building extends several feet above the parapet and advertises the California Theatre, which occupies a major part of the building. The Masonic Lodge rooms are on the third floor, and offices on the second floor.

Few alterations have occurred to the exterior of the building. The California Theatre sign is possibly original, or at least consistent with the scale of the original sign. (The Dunsmuir News announced in May 1926 that the "mammoth sign and the marquee are in place...(31).") San Francisco architect Carl Werner designed the building in 1925.

The Masonic Temple supplanted a large parapeted wood frame building constructed in 1903 as a feed and livery stable. By 1920 it had been converted to a Cleanatorium. Plans to construct a three-story theatre and commercial building on the property were publicized in 1921. The Masons purchased the lot the following year and soon after began a fund-raising campaign that continued for three years. The projected goal in early 1924 was \$60,000, but a year and a half later after construction was completed, the total cost was \$100,000. Furnishings were \$5,000. In 1925 the local media claimed that construction of the building "will be one of the biggest building jobs to be undertaken in Dunsmuir for years, ranking along with the Travelers Hotel (32)." Some of the most prominent citizens were early officers of the Masonic Lodge including Levi VanFossen, early merchant and major property owner, and Alexander Levy, successful Dunsmuir dry goods merchant for over thirty years (97).

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13. 5731-5737 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-084-060
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing
- CONST. DATE: 1920
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

This two-story brick and concrete building is a vernacular interpretation of the Late Victorian style. The upper floor is eight bays consisting of one-over-one double-hung sash windows with segmental relieving arches. Raised elliptical molding accents the window heads. A central arched recessed entry on the ground level is flanked by large display windows. Symmetrically spaced piers on the first floor continue as pilaster strips on the upper wall. Simple capitals support a narrow projecting cornice. The front portion of the building is constructed of brick with the rear portion of reinforced concrete. The main facade is faced with stucco.

Alterations appear to be limited to installation of modern storefront windows. The concrete portion in the rear of the building was added within ten years after construction of the main block (95). The stucco was presumably applied about the same time.

The construction of the Loftus and Lee Building was a joint venture of long-time Dunsmuir resident William G. Lee and merchant Charles T. Loftus. The building replaced a 1908 wood frame residence built by Lee (34). The first occupants of the building were the U.S. Post Office, the pharmacy of Cethel Jones, and the offices of Dr. D.E. Murphy, and Attorney Henry McGuiness (35). (Two years later, Henry McGuiness became proprietor of the Dunsmuir Mineral Springs, one of several resort establishments in the upper Sacramento River canyon.) The second floor originally had two apartments. New "up-to-date fixtures" for the building were shipped from Indianapolis in 1920 (36).

14. 5727 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-084-050
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing
- CONST. DATE: c. 1954
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The one-story concrete Cornet Building dates from the early 1950s. The lower facade is filled with expansive commercial display windows framing a central recessed doorway. The upper wall of the main facade is void of architectural details, and is faced entirely with corrugated metal. A canopy of canvas extends from the top of the window molding.

The Cornet Building was erected on the site of a one-story wood frame building that, for many years, was the home and tamale establishment of Mrs. Josephine Lee. The fifty-year old building was apparently demolished to make way for construction of Cornet's department store.

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15. 5721 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-084-040
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing
- CONST. DATE: c. 1915
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The one-and one-half story Josephine Lee House is a wood frame structure set on a pier foundation. The simple vernacular Victorian dwelling is sheathed with wood shingles on the main facade, and horizontal channel drop siding on the side and rear walls. The major block is capped with a steep-pitched gable roof with corrugated metal. A shed roof porch extends across the front of the building. One-over-one double hung sash windows with wide window surrounds are the predominant window style. The building is set back approximately ten feet from the Dunsmuir Avenue sidewalk, and is located on an embankment five feet above the street level.

Alterations were made in the mid-1960s and are limited to the principal facade. A large single pane window was added on the first floor. The porch rests on a brick-faced foundation, is enclosed on both ends, and an iron railing with turned columns replaces an earlier porch balustrade. The wood shingles were added to the front of the building.

Little is known of the history of this house. It appears to have been constructed around 1915. Josephine Lee was owner of the property, however, the house was probably a rental. The Lee house is unique in the district: it appears to have been used solely as a residence since its construction approximately 67 years ago. It is typical of the architecture of early modest residences that once lined Dunsmuir Avenue prior to its emergence as the town's main commercial street.

16. 5711-5717 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-084-120
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing
- CONST. DATE: c. 1890/c.1930
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The Williams/Clark House and commercial addition, combines two distinctly different architectural styles. The original two-story residence is a representative example of the Queen Anne style: it displays an asymmetrical composition, projecting dormer windows and porches and a variety of wall surface textures. The major portion of the one-and one-half story wood frame residence is sheathed with wood shingles and capped with a composition shingle gable roof. One of two gable roof dormers has stick-work above paired double hung sash windows. A finial rises from the ridge line. A Palladian-type, square-headed window in the east gable end faces Dunsmuir Avenue. One-over-one double hung sash windows are framed with simple molded architrave surrounds. A hip roof porch projects from the main facade.

The abbreviated tiled roof projecting from the parapet, and smooth stuccoed

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surface of the street front addition, is suggestive of the Mission style. The two, one-story concrete additions were constructed as small commercial shops setting on the Dunsmuir Avenue property line. Storefront windows, consisting of large single panes and a band of smaller transom lights, face the sidewalk.

The residential block of this structure was constructed around 1890 by C.J. Williams. It has survived two major commercial fires that visited the town, and is the oldest extant building in the district. The later commercial addition was constructed around 1930 by the G.B. Clark family. The house, and commercial addition, represent in one building, the evolution of Dunsmuir Avenue from a residential to a commercial thoroughfare that climaxed in the mid 1920s.

17. 5726,5728 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-092-150
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1926
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The two-story reinforced concrete Tallarico Building shows the influence of both Renaissance Revival and Mission styles. Three semi-circular arched openings on the second floor are enriched with delicately molded window trim and accented with keystones and imposts. The stepped parapet, with a centered circular ornamentation, is capped with a projecting cornice molding. The smooth stucco wall finish of the second floor is decorated with rhythmically-spaced arched, rectangular and circular recessed panels. The ground floor is faced with rough-hewn coursed concrete bricks. Openings on the ground level facade are asymmetrical spaced.

Application of stone to the lower facade, and installation of a single pane window, and doors, ^{are} late 1950's alterations to the building. A narrow concrete addition to the north wall of the building was completed in the 1930s. Casement windows on the second floor are also not original.

In April 1924 Dunsmuir's second major commercial fire destroyed most of the buildings on this block, including the wood frame residence on the site of the present building. One year later Gabriele Tallarico purchased the lot. Coincidental with Dunsmuir Avenue's emergence as the city's main commercial street, Tallarico immediately began construction of a two-story commercial building (37). The building was completed the following year. Known as the Lion Casino Hotel, the second floor contained of fifteen hotel rooms, while the ground floor accommodated two store spaces.

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18. 5732, 5736 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-020-040
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1925
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The 1925 two-story Jones Building is constructed of reinforced concrete and rests on a concrete foundation, above ground in the rear. The exposed south side wall has a stucco wall finish, while the main facade is faced with pressed brick. Pilasters with simple cap molding frame the facade. A band of wide, triple-light windows divide the upper floor into four bays. The street level has two recessed entries, and continuous angled storefront windows. Brick facing is applied to the walls beneath the windows. Wood is used as infill above the ground floor windows.

Windows on the first and second floors were altered in the late 1950s. A band of small lights above the storefront windows has been covered with wood. The brick facing on the lower facade walls is a recent alteration. The rhythm and scale of the window openings remains similar to that of the original facade.

Cethel Jones, a long-time Dunsmuir druggist, purchased this parcel in the spring of 1925, one year after fire destroyed a wood frame dwelling on the site (38). By the summer of that year construction of this \$20,000 building was well underway. The Jones's Pharmacy and the City Market were among the first businesses established in the building. By the late 1920s a branch office of the West Coast Life Insurance Company occupied space in the building.

19. 5744 Dunsmuir Avenue
5751 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-092-959
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1904/1946
ARCHITECTS: Ralph Warner Hart (1904)
L.H. Nishkian (1945)
CONTRACTORS: Holt & Gregg Co. (1904)
Unknown (1945)

The architectural, engineering, and cultural significance of the Hotel Weed/Hotel Dunsmuir make this edifice a primary contributor to the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District. Occupying several lots at the District's major intersection, the four-story brick Hotel Weed block was completed in 1904. The grand scale of the building, substantial brick exterior walls, and the heavy low arches on the ground level set deeply into the walls, show some influence of the Richardsonian Romanesque style. Broad segmental arched openings alternate with narrower square-headed openings on the second and third floors. A band of double-hung sash windows stretches across the south and east walls of the fourth floor between a belt course and the projecting cornice.

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In 1945-'46, a one-story addition was completed on the west up-hill side, joining the Hotel Weed at the fourth floor. The smooth stucco wall finish, and the stream-lined effect of the long circular-ended windows and rounded corners, are predominantly Art Moderne in style. The rounded letters of the large Hotel Dunsmuir neon sign reflect Moderne design elements, as well.

Excluding the 1945 Art Moderne addition, exterior alterations to the main brick block include the removal of the balcony that ran the entire width of both east and south walls, infill of some of the ground floor arched doorways, and the creation of a recessed door at the southeast corner of the building. A large rectangular garage opening is cut into an arch on the ground level of the east wall. A second-floor bay window facing Sacramento Avenue has also been removed. The exterior brick walls were sandblasted in the mid 1970s.

Located opposite the site of the Dunsmuir Passenger/Freight Depot and small fountain park, the Hotel Weed/Hotel Dunsmuir occupies a site of great importance in the history of the town. This brick edifice has been the backdrop for Presidential parties traveling on the Southern Pacific, and of local parades and funeral processions moving down Sacramento Avenue. Train travelers took up lodging in the hotel, and local residents and railroad employees patronized the shops, bar, and restaurant on the ground floor of the hotel.

The Hotel Weed is Dunsmuir's only building which has Richardsonian Romanesque influences. The original four-story block was designed by Ralph Warner Hart and built by Redding contractors Holt & Gregg. The Art Moderne one-story addition was designed by San Francisco engineer L.H. Nishkian in 1945 and is an excellent example of its type. Due to the precipitous slope, the addition was attached to the fourth floor of the original structure. The first hotel elevator in Siskiyou County (manufactured by the Otis Elevator Co.) was installed in the Hotel Weed in 1904 (41). In 1981 Yreka architect Darrell Jackson completed plans for interior remodeling of the hotel. The Hotel Weed is believed to be the tallest extant building in Siskiyou County (111).

When the two-and one-half story wood frame Mount Shasta Hotel burned in 1903, Abner Weed purchased the valuable corner lot from J.B. Dougherty for \$10,000 (39). Over the next year the \$60,000 Hotel Weed was raised on the site. Advertised as the "finest Hotel in Northern California (40)," this monolithic structure contained 102 lodging rooms, a dining room and bar, a lobby, offices, and basement. The building was named the Hotel Weed after Abner Weed, prominent lumber magnate, landowner, and politician in Siskiyou County, and founder of the City of Weed, California. Charles Wicks, a long-term Dunsmuir resident and prominent businessman in the town was manager of the hotel and restaurant for many years (42).

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In 1944 the building was gutted by fire. San Francisco engineer L.H. Nishkian, known for his pioneer work in earthquake engineering, designed the interior of the burned shell, as well as, the Art Moderne addition.

20. 5800 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-010
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: c. 1910/1926-'27
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: S.P. Brennan (1926)

The State Bank of Dunsmuir building is comprised of two adjoining blocks at the southeast corner of Dunsmuir Avenue and Pine Street. The lower (eastern) portion is a one-story brick structure with a full basement, partly above ground. Corrugated metal covers a hip roof. The upper (western) portion is of reinforced concrete, also one story with a full basement, partly above ground. Both blocks are faced with stucco. Large storefront windows surmounted by a band of smaller lights on the Pine Street basement level of the upper block are consistent in design, and nearly on line, with those on the first floor of the lower block. The first floor of the main block, which fronts on Dunsmuir Avenue, has broad semi-circular arched openings separated by thin unadorned pilasters. A low parapet rises above a simple delicate entablature. The building is one of Dunsmuir's finer examples of Renaissance Revival architecture.

Since the main edifice of the building was completed in 1926 there have been few substantial alterations to the exterior. Storefront windows on the lower Pine Street side of the building have been painted black. The circular windows contained in the archs are also painted black. Modern square-headed windows have been installed below the arches. A classical pedimented gable above the main Dunsmuir Avenue entrance has been removed. The foundation on the facade has been faced with modern brick.

E.V. Carter, prominent businessman and banker in Ashland, Oregon, established the State Bank of Dunsmuir in 1904 (43). The bank is credited as the first in the Sacramento River Canyon. The Hotel Weed may have been the original home of the bank. In 1910 the State Bank of Dunsmuir erected a one-story brick building on the south side of Pine Street which replaced an earlier two-story store and dwelling. In addition to the bank, the building was first occupied by the "White House" grocery of Knight & Lyle, the Siskiyou Power and Light Company, and the office of prominent attorney and town Trustee W.R. Garrett. By 1925 the old frame building to the west of the bank building was condemned, and the State Bank announced plans to enlarge and improve its quarters (54). S.P. Brennan was contracted to erect the new concrete building at the corner of Dunsmuir Avenue and Pine Street (43). The Dunsmuir News paid glowing tribute to the State Bank of Dunsmuir when the building was completed in June 1927: "The exterior of the building is handsome and imparts an air of substantiality, while the interior, with its rich elegant fittings reflects the spirit

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of progress that actuated the directors and officers in giving to Dunsmuir a banking house equal to the finest in the northern part of the State (44)." The article observed: the bank "played no small part in the rapid development of Dunsmuir from a struggling village to one of the principal cities of the northern part of the State." In 1927 the State Bank of Dunsmuir became the Security State Bank Company. Since 1931 the building has been occupied by the Bank of America.

21. 5804 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-020
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing
- CONST. DATE: 1926
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: J.P. Brennan

The 1926 Levy Building is a one-story reinforced concrete structure adjoining commercial buildings on the north and south. The concrete foundation has a full basement, above ground in the rear. The facade, fronting on Dunsmuir Avenue, is faced with brick, and enriched with few decorative details. A low parapet rises above a stepped cornice with dentils. Large panes extend across the sidewalk facade. Brick has been applied to the walls below the windows.

Alter-
rations made in the early 1960s are limited to the brick facing on the lower wall of the building ; and the addition of a modern corrugated metal canopy which stretches across the sidewalk. A blank panel above the display windows masks what was probably a band of small lights. Original wood-framed storefront windows have been replaced. The State Bank of Dunsmuir was erecting its prominent new building when Alexander Levy purchased the lot immediately south of, and adjoining, the bank property. Soon after, Levy contracted J.P. Brennan of Redding to construct his 27½ by 60 foot building (45). The relocation of Levy's business from Sacramento Avenue to his new building on Dunsmuir Avenue marked the climax of Levy's thirty-two year career of successful merchandizing in Dunsmuir. Levy's Dunsmuir Avenue store was familiarly known as the "Toggery." In addition to being one of the town's pioneer merchants, A. Levy was the first Mayor of Dunsmuir, served on the Board of Directors of the State Bank of Dunsmuir for several years, and was an early officer of the Dunsmuir Masonic Lodge.

22. Vacant (between Dunsmuir and Sacramento Avenues)
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-210
SIGNIFICANCE:

This 40 by 25 foot lot is directly behind (east of) the Levy Building. A high stone retaining wall contains this plateau presently overgrown with shrubs and ground cover. For over thirty years this raised lot supported the second floor extension of "The Palm" building, which fronted on Sacramento Avenue.

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The westerly end of the building was known as the "Stage Room," which apparently served as a local entertainment spot (94,95). The building was removed in the last twenty-five years.

23. 5814, 5816 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-030
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1923- '25
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: G.H. Wilson

The one-story reinforced concrete Koenig Building adjoins the building to the north, but is unattached on the south. The building has a full basement in the rear, above ground. Similar to buildings on either side, the main facade is simple and without ornamentation. Pressed brick is applied to the exterior facade wall. Widely spaced brackets support a molded cornice, from which rises a narrow parapet. Small recessed squares are centered between two elongated panels that cap the storefront windows. Fabricated concrete bricks are applied to portions of the lower facade walls.

The storefront windows have been altered within the last twenty years. The application of brick on the lower walls and the replacement of a band of small lights above the display windows are also recent changes. A small concrete addition in the rear of the building was completed before 1941 (95).

The Canyon Bakery has occupied the north half of the building since its completion in 1924, making it Dunsmuir's only retail establishment in continuous operation, on its original site. In Dunsmuir history, the "Canyon Bakery" name dates to at least 1908 (46). The Canyon Bakery business changed ownership and locations numerous times before Albert Koenig purchased the business around 1920. Contractor G.H. Wilson completed the bakery building in 1924, and soon after, Koenig was settled in the north half of the building. The California-Oregon Power Company was the first to occupy the south half of the Koenig Building (47).

24. 5824, 5826 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-040
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1925; Major Alteration, 1959
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: B.F. Doty

The Rochford Building is a detached one-story structure of reinforced concrete set on the Dunsmuir Avenue property line. Concrete steps adjoining the north wall of the building lead from the sidewalk down to the rear basement level. Ground cover and small trees grow on the terraced embankment behind the building. The main facade has a smooth painted concrete surface broken by a simple molded cornice. A modern flat canopy extends across the width of the building. Several windows which formerly extended farther up the facade have been covered over. A modern application of coursed stone faces heavy piers that frame two storefront windows and doors. Although substantially altered, the building still retains its basic form, scale, and setback and relationship to adjacent structures and is considered to be contributing.

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Mrs. Maud Rochford, a resident of the Bay area, was a heavy investor in Dunsmuir real estate for over twenty-five years. In 1905 she was responsible for the erection of a two-story wood frame commercial and lodging building on lower Sacramento Avenue known as the Rochford Building. Ten years after purchasing the property on the east side of Dunsmuir Avenue, Mrs. Rochford began excavation for a business building south of the Canyon Bakery building. B.F. Doty was the contractor (33). A month after construction work started Maude Rochford died. By August, 1925 the \$15,000 building was completed, and occupied by the Dunsmuir Meat Company, and Warner's grocery (48). A year later the Hilton Studio and Music Store moved into the building (43).

25. 5832, 5832A Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-050
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing
- CONST. DATE: 1903/c.1925
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The detached one-and one-half story wood frame building is set back from the street property line approximately two feet. The Dunsmuir Avenue facade is faced with stucco, while the side and rear exterior walls are sheathed with horizontal channel drop siding. A flat roof, one-story storefront addition projects from the front wall of the main building. A stepped parapet conceals the steep-pitched gable roof, ^{covered with metal roofing,} for the body of the house. Wide simple cornices follow the upper edges of the two-tiered parapet. Windows on the side and rear exterior walls are one-over-one double hung sash with plain board surrounds. A high stone retaining wall marks the edge of the rear (east) property line.

The one-story addition, and stepped stucco parapet, both on the facade of the building, are alterations made during the late 1920s. Since 1941 small porch additions have been made on the back of the building, and storefront windows have been "modernized".

This 1903 structure is one of the oldest Dunsmuir Avenue buildings in the District. It was constructed on the ashes of the Levi and Matilda E. Van Fossen home, destroyed in the devastating fire of April, 1903 (49). Levi Van Fossen was a pioneer resident and businessman, arriving in Dunsmuir soon after the town was founded. L. Van Fossen served as the Dunsmuir postmaster between 1889 and 1893. He was the first treasurer of the Dunsmuir Masonic Lodge (97). Until his death in 1903, he operated a pharmacy on Sacramento Avenue, and owned considerable commercial property. Since Dunsmuir's birth in 1886, the Van Fossen family has played a key role in the growth and development of the town. Frank B. Van Fossen, son of Levi and Matilda Van

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Fossen, who received a degree in engineering from Stanford University, built one of Dunsmuir's first electric power plants, and was instrumental in developing the town's first water system (110). He was a leader in the campaign to establish Castle Crags State Park. Frank B. Van Fossen, and brother-in-law, W. B. Mason, operated a sawmill just west of town during the 1910s. Van Fossen and Mason were also proprietors of one of the first auto garages in the town. Frank Van Fossen was engaged in the insurance and ice business. Members of the Van Fossen family have continued, over the years, to invest considerable energy and capital in the future of the town.

Matilda Elizabeth Van Fossen lived in the Dunsmuir Avenue home for several years after her husband's 1903 death, before renting the building as a residence.

In the late 1920s the Van Fossen residence was converted to commercial use with space for two store spaces.

26. 5836 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-190
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: c. 1916/c. 1943
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The existing building is constructed of brick in the front (west), and reinforced concrete in the rear. The front portion is two stories and capped with a shed roof, while the rear block is one-and one-half stories with a low pitch gable roof. A concrete foundation, with a basement partly above ground, supports the rear portion of the building. The upper half of the main facade has a smooth stucco finish and is capped with a narrow slightly projecting cornice. Small black glazed tiles extend across the building between two belt courses. Large glazed windows, above a two foot band of fabricated brick, front on the sidewalk. Smooth stucco pilasters rise to the cornice line at the corners of the building. A high stone reinforcing wall marks the rear property line.

During World War II extensive alterations were made to the building. The rear portion of the building, sheathed with corrugated metal, was reconstructed in concrete. At about the same time the building was converted from a garage to a retail business establishment, at which time the tall central garage openings and second story paired double-hung sash windows were filled in (110). The second-story windows and expansive garage door were filled in, and new storefront windows, shipped from Belgium, were installed on the ground floor.

The property on which on which the Dunsmuir Auto Co. addition now stands has been in the ownership of the Van Fossen family since the 1890s. For nearly one hundred years, this family has been prominent in the town's economic and social activities.

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(Please see No.25.) The building was erected soon after the adjoining southerly structure was built, and opened as the Dunsmuir Auto Co. The Dunsmuir Auto Co. was the first garage on Dunsmuir Avenue (110), and thus reflects the national trend from train travel to auto travel as the common mode of transportation. The early construction of the structure marked the beginning of Dunsmuir Avenue's orientation to automobile traffic, and its subsequent emergence as the principal commercial street in the town.

In spite of substantial mid 1940s alterations in the main facade, the Dunsmuir Auto Co. addition is compatible in size, scale, materials, and design with the majority of other buildings in the district. Prior to the building's modification in the mid 1940s, the front of the second floor was used for office space and apartments. This, and the adjoining southerly building, were known as the brick Garage for many years. In the 1940s the rear basement of the building housed the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Bascom's grocery store occupied the remodeled first floor (110).

27. 5838, 5840 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-070
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing

CONST. DATE: 1912
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

This one-story, and one-and one-half story, brick structure is set on the front Dunsmuir Avenue property line. To the rear (east), the ground slopes dramatically, and the basement level is above ground. The rear wall is exposed brick, and fenestrated with segmental arched openings with two-over-two double-hung sash windows. The faded paint of the "Dunsmuir Auto Co." is visible above the first floor windows. The roof is a medium-pitch gable. The peak of the gable projects above the square parapet on the main facade. Corrugated fiberglass panels are applied to the upper facade wall, and uncoursed black volcanic stone adorn the lower walls. A flat-roof canopy is cantilevered over the sidewalk.

The facade was extensively altered in the mid-1960s. Both the fiberglass sheathing and lava rock masonry are relatively new alterations. Storefront windows are at variance with the building's earlier appearance. The original facade was exposed brick. A curvilinear parapet concealed the gable ridge, and contained a small circular window. Similar to the building adjoining on the north, the first remodeling of the facade may have occurred in the late 1930s or '40s.

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The building was constructed in 1912 as a garage. Soon after, it was joined to the brick building on the north, and together they were known as the "Brick Garage (94)." Both buildings originally had dirt floors, and a capacity for twenty-five cars. Frank B. Van Fossen (please see No. 25) and W. B. Mason owned the building, and the Dunsmuir Auto Co. business. The Dunsmuir Auto Co. Building was one of the first garages in Dunsmuir (110).

28. 5844, 5866 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-080
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1904/1923(1921, one-story
ARCHITECT: Unknown brick)
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The Leach/Van Fossen Apartment House is a two-story wood frame and concrete building on the northeast corner of Dunsmuir Avenue and Cedar Street. The concrete basement is partly above ground on the east down-hill side. A one-story narrow brick building adjoins the north wall of the apartment building. Both buildings are faced with stucco, painted the same color, and share a modern fabricated brick facing applied to the pilasters and lower walls of the main facade. A flat wide cornice caps the parapet on both buildings. A wide belt course and pilaster strips form horizontal recessed panels on the upper wall. The one-over-one double-hung sash windows on the west and south walls of the second-floor apartment house block are framed with plain wood trim. A flat canopy extends the length of the Dunsmuir Avenue facade.

Alterations made in the mid-1960s are limited to the storefront windows and lower walls fronting on Dunsmuir Avenue. The canopy is also a fairly new addition.

The two-story block of the Leach/VanFossen Apartment House was constructed in two phases. Soon after the devastating commercial fire of April, 1903, which destroyed a Chinese laundry on this corner lot, A.M. Leach began excavation for a two-story wood frame tenement house. By 1904, space on the lower floor was occupied by retail shops, and the upper floor housed twenty-four apartment units (50). One year after Frank B. Van Fossen purchased the property in 1922, the Dunsmuir News reported that "The old tenement house just south of the Brick Garage, which is being completely remodeled by Frank Van Fossen, has already been entirely transformed in appearance... (51)." The major 1923 improvements included erecting a new west wall of concrete on the Dunsmuir Avenue property line, and encasing the remaining clapboarded walls with concrete and stucco (110). The one-story brick building on the north, also owned by Van Fossen and erected in 1921 (52), may have been joined to the apartment building with concrete at the same time (95).

Both A.M. Leach and Frank B. Van Fossen invested heavily in Dunsmuir real estate. The Van Fossen family has been prominent in the town's history since its beginnings. (Please see No. 25.)

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29. 5902 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-151-010
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing
- CONST. DATE: 1925
ARCHITECT: Woollett & Lamb
CONTRACTOR: J.P. Brennan

The one-story, and two-story reinforced concrete City Hall and Fire Department Station combines features of both the Renaissance Revival, and Mission Styles. Constructed on the southeast corner of Dunsmuir Avenue and Cedar Street, the steeply sloping lot, and two-sided exposure, affords the building dramatic visibility. The main entrance sets back from Dunsmuir Avenue approximately ten feet, and is five bays wide. Two garage openings flank the central recessed entry on the right. To the left of the main entrance, the plane of the wall recedes slightly. Two semi-circular arched openings on this west wall wrap around the second-floor level of the north wall. Above ground basement level windows, and first-floor windows on the north wall, are all square-headed.

The exterior walls are faced with stucco. Raised pilasters with simply molded bases and capitals are at the building corners, and between window and door openings. The west and north walls have a simple three-part entablature. The parapet continues above the cornice, and is decorated with rosettes, and shortened pilasters capped with conical pinnacles.

The only apparent alterations to the building are replacement of some windows and doors, removal of outside wall light fixtures, installation of new garage doors, and attachment of a metal awning above the windows on the main facade. The City Hall and Fire Department Station was designed by the architectural firm of W. L. Woollett and Lamb (10).

J. P. Brennan of Redding was awarded the contract to construct the building in 1925 (53). The city hall was completed in the fall of 1925 at a cost of \$40,000 (54). The first floor had rooms for the fire station, library, council chambers, and clerk's and marshall's office, while the basement contained the jail, Boy Scouts room, kitchenette, and storage rooms. In 1910, the city of Dunsmuir purchased this corner lot and conducted city business in a converted dwelling until the new city hall was constructed.

30. 5902 Dunsmuir Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-151-370
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing
- CONST. DATE: 1967
ARCHITECT: Orel Lewis (civil eng.)
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The Dunsmuir Fire Hall is a one-story concrete structure joined to the Dunsmuir City Hall at the mid-section of the north wall. The Dunsmuir Avenue facade has a wide garage door opening. The building is otherwise void of openings or decorative details.

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The Fire Hall was designed by civil engineer Orel Lewis, and constructed in 1967 (11). The new fire hall expanded the facilities of the adjacent city hall building.

31. 5911 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-151-140
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1924
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: L. Cosentino

The Pontier Building is constructed of brick, and concrete block, stands two stories high, and is set on the Sacramento Avenue property line. The south side wall has exposed brick on the first floor. The first floor facade has a smooth stucco finish. The second floor facade is embellished with rusticated coursed concrete blocks, textured quoins, heavy lintels, and patterns created by lighter shades of concrete block. A narrow cornice runs along the upper edge of the parapet. Broad storefront windows flank a central entrance bay with recessed doorways.

In recent years sliding glass windows have replaced one-over-one double-hung sash windows in the four-bay second-story wall. Side lights and transom surrounding the door have been removed. A band of small lights above the large glazed panes appears to be infilled. In the late 1920s this building supported a canopy from the ground floor facade.

Two years after Sam Pontier purchased this property he contracted L. Cosentino to erect this two-story hotel and store building (55). The eighteen room hotel was named the Dunsmuir Hotel, and advertised such modern conveniences as hot and cold running water, and steam heat (56). In the mid to late 1920s, Sam Pontier operated the City Grocery, and the Bohemian Club Cafe in the ground floor storerooms.

32. 5901 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-151-130
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: c.1926/1928
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

This parcel contains two reinforced concrete buildings. On the south half of the lot, a two-story structure set on the Sacramento Avenue property line, adjoins buildings on the north and south. The facade has a smooth stucco wall surface, unbroken by decorative detail, except at the parapet. The projecting parapet cornice features a band of dentils. The second floor has two paired double-hung sash windows; the lower ground floor storefront windows frame a central recessed door. Early photographs confirm the unaltered condition of the second floor facade. It appears that that changes to the ground floor facade are limited to the possible removal of a band of small lights above the

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large glazed windows. In the 1920s a canopy extended across the sidewalk.

The one-story building on the north is situated on the corner property lines, fronting on Sacramento Avenue, and extending approximately one hundred feet west along Cedar Street. A recessed diagonal corner entryway is set in behind a corner pier. Glazed storefront windows face the two intersecting streets on either side of the corner entrance. Undecorated pilasters divide the stucco walls into several panels. A parapet rises above a plain molded cornice and frieze. The diagonal recessed corner entrance is a more recent alteration, as well as, the infilled openings on the north wall. Storefront windows have been modernized.

The two-story building was erected in 1928 for the Bitonti Brothers (57). Francesco and P. Bitonti conducted their tailoring business on Sacramento Avenue for several years. A native of Cassano, Italy, Frank Bitonti arrived in Dunsmuir in 1914, and remained until 1934, when he and his family moved to Susanville. The Bitonti family was one of several Italian families residing in Dunsmuir in the 1910s and 1920s.

The one-story adjoining building was constructed in the late 1920s soon after the Bitonti Brothers Building was erected. Mrs. E.G. Ammerati conducted the Italian-American cash store in this corner building for many years.

33. Vacant (west side of Sacramento Avenue)
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-170
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing

This wedge-shaped lot is a recently created tax lot. The apex touches the Sacramento Avenue property line where the jagged edge of a brick wall, attached to the corner of the southerly building, belies the existence of a previous structure on the site. The base (westerly portion) of the wedge includes the toppled remains of an early stone foundation cut into the steep embankment.

34. Vacant (northwest corner of Sacramento Avenue and Cedar Street)
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-240
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing

This polygonal-shaped parcel is presently an unpaved parking lot. It marks the southern limit of the 1903 fire that destroyed nearly all the commercial buildings on Sacramento Avenue. A.M. Leach, early Dunsmuir real estate investor, purchased the leveled lot soon after the fire, and around 1906, constructed a large one-story frame building used as a skating rink (73).

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By 1920 the building had been converted to two business stores. Prior to its destruction around 1930, it was occupied by the Dunsmuir Mercantile Company, advertising groceries, hardware, hay, crockery, and paint (74).

35. 5859 Sacramento Avenue CONST. DATE: c. 1903
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-230 ARCHITECT: Unknown
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The I.R. Wells Building is two stories, and constructed of brick and concrete. Openings on the second floor have segmental relieving arches on the east and south walls. Windows are predominantly one-over-one, or two-over-one, double-hung sash. The main facade fronting on Sacramento Avenue is three bays wide. On the second floor a central doorway is flanked by windows. A corbeled cornice embellishes the upper edge of the parapet.

The street level facade has been recently altered. Turned posts frame two glazed windows and the south door, and brick has been infilled below the two storefront windows. Multi-paned transom lights above the door and windows have been replaced with textured translucent panes. A two-story shed roof balustraded balcony projected over the sidewalk during the 1910s and 1920s. In the late 1920s a narrow canvas awning replaced the early wood balcony. The Wells Building is presently freestanding. During the 1920s it adjoined a one-story building on the south, and stood less than two feet from a two-story building on the north. A one-story metal shed is attached to the rear of the building.

The original frame building on this lot was one of many that succumbed to the devastating April 5th, 1903 fire. Three months after the fire Ike Wells purchased the lot and proceeded to erect a two-story brick and concrete structure on part of the old foundation. (This may be one of the earliest commercial buildings in Dunsmuir to use concrete in its construction.) Soon after the building was completed, the Wells brothers opened a family grocery on the ground floor (73). The second floor was a lodging house. Ike Wells was a one-time Dunsmuir constable, and Justice of the Peace. During the 1920s the ground floor of the Wells Building was occupied by a cigar and pool establishment (94).

36. 5853 Sacramento Avenue CONST. DATE: c. 1945
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-160 ARCHITECT: Unknown
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing CONTRACTOR: Unknown

This one-story concrete block building is free-standing, and set back from Sacramento Avenue about ten feet. The gable roof is sheathed with corrugated metal. Pilasters and quoins divide the main facade into four bays.

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The garage was built in the mid 1940s. The previous building was a large two-story stone and brick structure erected in 1903 for William J. Branstetter. The first floor stone walls are believed to have survived the 1903 fire that destroyed nearly all the business section of Dunsmuir. W.J. Branstetter moved to Dunsmuir from Roseville around 1886 when the Southern Pacific tracks reached the site of Dunsmuir. It is claimed that he was the town's first merchant. He subsequently became one of the largest property holders in Dunsmuir, developing a twenty-six acre tract known as the Branstetter Addition. Several Dunsmuir streets are named after family members. Branstetter Street in Dunsmuir and Roseville are named for W.J. Branstetter. Branstetter was active in the political and social life of Dunsmuir. At various times he served on the City Council, the School Board of Trustees, as Justice of the Peace, and was on the town's first volunteer fire department. The Branstetter Building had three storerooms on the ground floor. An "Opera House" on the second floor was the scene of most of the town's dances and social activity during the first two decades of this century.

37. 5841 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-200
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1903
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Holt & Gregg

The Van Fossen Building is a one-story brick building fronting on Sacramento Avenue. At one time it stood as part of a continuous row of commercial buildings looking out over the railroad tracks. The main facade is faced with stucco, and a simple cornice adorns the top edge of the parapet. Light floods the interior through bands of small glazed panes and street level storefront windows that extend across the building facade.

Storefront windows were updated, a recessed bay on the right side was enclosed, and stucco applied to the facade, probably in the 1920s.

Subsequent alterations have been minimal. A two-story shed roof balustraded balcony was part of the main facade in the 1910s and 1920s.

The Levi Van Fossen Building was constructed in 1903 by contractor Holt and Gregg, eight months after fire destroyed the previous wood frame building. Levi Van Fossen was an early settler of Dunsmuir who, before his untimely death in 1903, became a prominent town citizen and real estate investor. His family has continued to influence the development of Dunsmuir over the years. (Please see No. 25.) Two of Dunsmuir's most prominent businesses made their home in the Van Fossen Building during the 1910s and 1920s. The "Big Store" of Alexander Levy, specializing in dry goods, prospered in Dunsmuir for over thirty-five years, and occupied the north half of the building (73). Tetreau & Eherenman, later J.R. Eherenman Company, at one time one of the town's largest suppliers of hardware, grocery and plumbing items, occupied the south

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storeroom of the Van Fossen Building for many years (110).

38. 5827-5831 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-150
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1903
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Holt & Gregg

The Wagoner Building is a two-story brick block with a three-bay concrete addition at the rear of the building. Most of the main facade is faced with stucco. The roof is a shallow gable, hidden behind a high parapet. There are three horizontal recessed panels above the cornice line. The mid section of the parapet is stepped. The second floor is five bays of segmental arched openings. The wood framed windows on the second floor are one-over-one double-hung sash. A flat canopy projects from the wall above the ground floor storefront windows and doors. A portion of brick wall is exposed on the south portion of the wall.

The rear concrete addition was probably completed in the mid 1920s when the building was remodeled for use as a theatre. The central arched doorway on the ground facade, as well as the door above on the second floor, have been partially filled in. Storefront alterations appear to be early; subsequent minimal alterations have been made to the windows and doors in recent years. In the 1920s a two-story hip roof balcony (now removed) extended across the front of the building. The name "Wagoner" was painted in a panel in the parapet (74).

John C. Wagoner, originally an engineer on the Southern Pacific, was the first to rebuild on the charred debris left by the devastating 1903 commercial district fire (58). The cornerstone was laid one month after the fire. When completed the gentleman's furnishings of F.M. Walker, and the Castle Rock Saloon, were the first to occupy the two storerooms on the first floor (59). When the Castle Rock Saloon opened its doors in August, 1903 the Dunsmuir News credited it with the "finest bar fixtures ever introduced north of the Capital (67)." The second floor contained eighteen bedrooms "supplied with electric lights, electric call bells, hot and cold hydrants (67)."

During the 1910s and 1920s Wagoner and McCarville operated a mens clothing store on the ground floor. In 1922, and again in 1928, part of the building was remodeled to accomodate the Strand Theatre housed on the second floor. A balcony was created by removing some of the lodging rooms and a portion of the second story floor (60). A pipe organ was a notable feature of the Strand in its heyday.

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39. 5825 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-140
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing
- CONST. DATE: 1903
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

The twenty-five-foot-wide Red Cross Drug Store is a one-story brick building sharing the north and south walls of the adjoining buildings. The main facade is exposed brick. Recessed panels extend across the face of the parapet below the cornice. Large glazed windows curve into a deeply indented entryway that contains a new show window. Wood paneling provides infill above the display windows. Several roof metal additions are attached to the rear of the building.

The lower portion of the building facade has been altered considerably, partially due to the reconstruction of the north wall of the building. During the 1920s a narrow passageway extending from the front to back property line was created by reducing the width of this building (94,95). The deeply indented entry, and shortened parapet panel, may have resulted from the subsequent infilling of this passageway. This reconstructed north wall, installation of modern windows, and application of brick under the windows, are recent alterations. A canopy extended across the face of the building in the 1920s.

By late August, 1903 Levi Van Fossen had rebuilt four adjoining brick buildings on the site of a previous frame building destroyed in April that year. L. Van Fossen was one of the town's earliest merchants and became one of Dunsmuir's heaviest commercial property investors. Levi Van Fossen's first drug store was located on the site of this building (110). (Please see Nos. 25-28 and No. 37.) Grimes Drug Store was a short-lived enterprise that first occupied this south room of Van Fossen's new building. In July, 1903 G.C. Spaeth, a graduate of the Chicago School of Pharmacy and a druggist of fifteen years, bought the Grimes Drug Store and was a tenant of the building for several years. His business establishment was known as the Red Cross Drug Store (61).

40. 5821 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-130
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing
- CONST. DATE: 1903
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

This one-story brick building was considerably altered after a fire about 1978 by the addition of board and batten siding on the main facade, and composition shingles that wrap around the parapet. The fire appears to be the cause of damage to the rear wall, which is now filled in with wood.

This twenty-five foot wide building was erected for Levi Van Fossen simultaneously with the adjoining one-story buildings, soon after the 1903 fire destroyed the previous buildings. The millinery Racket Store, and Otto Dixon's Eagle Barber Shop, occupied the building soon after it was constructed (59).

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41. 5819 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-120
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing
- CONST. DATE: 1903
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: Unknown

This one-story brick building has a central recessed entry with side lights and square storefront windows fronting on Sacramento Avenue. The upper wall is sheathed with two panels of vertical wood boards. A simulated dentil motif extends across the lower parapet edge. A narrow vertical strip of concrete blocks join this building to the adjoining building on the south. The rear wall has a recent concrete block addition. This building has been extensively altered in the early 1970s.

The building is one of four owned by Levi Van Fossen. All were constructed simultaneously following the 1903 commercial district fire. The first business establishment to occupy the new building was the Home Bakery. During the 1920s a shed roof canopy extended across the sidewalk.

42. Vacant (west side of Sacramento Avenue)
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-110
SIGNIFICANCE:

This 25 by 110 foot vacant lot extends from Sacramento Avenue to a scattered rock pile at the base of a steep embankment. Grass, and small trees grow on the lot.

In the early 1960s fire destroyed the one-story brick structure on this site. The building was one of four adjoining buildings constructed for L. Van Fossen in 1903. A scored concrete slab at the sidewalk, and the remnants of a store foundation at the rear of the lot, are conspicuous evidence of the building.

43. Vacant (west side of Sacramento Avenue)
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-100
SIGNIFICANCE:

This barren gravel lot measures 50 by 110 feet and fronts on Sacramento Avenue. Small trees grow near the rear property line at the base of high rock retaining wall.

Fire in the early 1960s destroyed the two-story brick building on this site. The structure was erected in 1903 for owner S.P. Neher. Lodging rooms were on the second floor, while the ground floor was taken up by three storerooms. "The Reception" billiards and saloon, "Original Package Store", and Hollis' Cigar Store were established businesses, located in the Neher Building during the 1920s.

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44. 5801 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-113-220
SIGNIFICANCE: Non-contributing

CONST. DATE: 1980
ARCHITECT: Al Sweo (designer)
CONTRACTOR: Freeland & Hoover

The Better Homes Realty Building is a one-story wood frame structure set on a concrete foundation. The building was designed by present owner Al Sweo and constructed in 1980. It is located on the southwest corner lot at the intersection of Sacramento Avenue and Pine Street. The exterior walls are sheathed with unpainted horizontal wood siding. A shed roof canopy wraps around the north and east walls of the building. Windows are one-over-one double hung sash. A solar collector positioned on the roof, is visible above a low parapet. The building was designed by Al Sweo, and constructed by Freeland and Hoover, of Paradise, California.

The cornerstone of the two-story brick Gongwer Building was laid in May, 1903, one month after the destructive fire of April, 1903 razed all the buildings on the west side of Sacramento Avenue between Pine and Cedar Streets. The second floor was reserved for hotel rooms, while the ground floor had offices, and a large restaurant and bar. Under the proprietorship of Frank Talmage, and later George Wickes (manager of the Hotel Weed Restaurant), this eating establishment, known as the Palm Cafe, flourished. The building achieved notoriety through association with the restaurant, and became known simply as "The Palm" in the 1920s. The Gongwer Building was destroyed by fire in the 1960s.

45. 5749 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-092-130
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1903
ARCHITECT: Unknown
CONTRACTOR: J.A. Johnson

The Thompson, and White and O'Neil Buildings are adjoining two-and three-story brick buildings set on the Sacramento Avenue property line. The south wall of the Thompson Building joins the Hotel Weed, while the north wall of the White and O'Neil Building adjoins the Rostel Building. A steep rocky embankment rises to the west at the rear of the buildings. Each building is two bays wide on the main facade. A semi-circular arched recessed entry is located on the ground level where the two buildings join. Paired double-hung sash windows, capped with a concrete lintel, are vertically aligned. A simple molded cornice, with short pilaster caps, extends across the upper edge of the parapet on each building.

The outline of four columns of bay windows is visible on the face of both buildings. Prior to World War II, three-side wood frame bay windows projected from the facade above the ground floor. The bay windows were capped with hip roofs that projected from the wall just below the parapet. These wood frame bay windows may have been damaged, or totally destroyed, during the 1944 fire that gutted the adjoining Hotel Weed. A stepped central portion of the two

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parapets has been removed in the 1940s.

A two-story brick Italiante edifice stood on this site prior to the fire of April, 1903. One month after the fire, Dr. C.E. Thompson, prominent Dunsmuir physician, announced plans to erect a new building in conjunction with George White and John O'Neil, who owned the adjoining north lot (49). By early fall the two-and three-story block was completed. The upper floors were reserved for lodging, and the lower floors taken up by retail businesses and offices. The two-story White and O'Neil Building was home of the "Peerless Bar" during the 1910s (62). Dr. George Malone, one-time member of the State Legislature, had his dentist's office in the Thompson Building for several years (110). In 1927 Horace Weed purchased the White and O'Neil Building, and apparently utilized it in conjunction with the operation of the Hotel Weed, twenty-five feet to the south.

46. 5743 Sacramento Avenue
ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-092-120
SIGNIFICANCE: Contributing

CONST. DATE: 1903
ARCHITECT: George W. Cooper
CONTRACTOR: Holt & Gregg

The two-story brick Rostel Building is adorned with pressed sheet metal and cast iron elements on the main facade. Paired, sheet metal columns framing rectangular openings, and a continuous band of pateras and festoons, decorate the entablature of the building. Pilasters on the ground floor are cast iron. The base of the pilasters bears the foundry mark of Mesker Brothers of St. Louis, and a patent date of 1889. The fleur-de-lis hallmark of Ben and Frank Mesker, is molded in relief in the corners of the cornice. A central recessed entry, and high glazed storefront windows above horizontal recessed wood panels, front on Sacramento Avenue. A glazed door, with a two-pane transom light on the north end of the facade, provides access to stairs leading to the second floor lodging rooms. The medium pitch gable roof is sheathed with corrugated metal. The classical forms and enriched ornamentation of the Rostel Building facade show the strong influence of the BeauX Arts style.

Prior to 1940, a small one-story concrete block was added to the rear wall. Recently, a small window has been cut in the north wall. A balastraded balcony extended across the length of the ground floor facade up until the 1930s.

The Rostel Building is a significant architectural and historical component of the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District. The enriched ornamentation of the building facade is one of Siskiyou County's best examples of BeauX Arts Classicism. Arthur Hart, a scholar of architectural iron in the West, maintains that "Of all the midwestern iron companies which exported architectural elements to the West, the Mesker Brothers of St. Louis made the

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widest impact (9)." Mesker Brothers mailed half a million catalogues advertising their decorative patterns, and sold 5,264 metal fronts in 23 years, beginning in the mid-1880s (79). Examples of Mesker Brothers work have been found in dozens of small towns in almost every Western State. The Rostel Building is the only known example of Mesker Brothers work in Siskiyou County.

The first Rostel Building, constructed around 1894, "yielded to the furies" of the April 5th, 1903 fire (58). Although it had one additional floor, the facade of the original building was strikingly similar to the reconstructed building, suggesting that it may also have been the work of Meskers Brothers. Another cause for the similarity is that George W. Cooper, a well known Yreka architect and builder, was the architect of both Rostel Buildings (63). Holt & Gregg of Redding were the building contractors (49). For many years before and after the 1903 fire, Frederick and Augustine Rostel leased the ground floor to Alexander Levy, long-time prominent dry goods merchant in Dunsmuir. Following a short tenancy by Crawford's Pharmacy in the 1910s, the ground floor of the Rostel Building was occupied by the Elwood Restaurant in the 1920s. Little is known of the Rostel family's involvement in local Dunsmuir activities.

47. Vacant (west side of Sacramento Avenue)

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-092-220

SIGNIFICANCE:

This eight by eighty-foot vacant lot extends along the north wall of the Rostel Building. The ground slopes upward to the rear property line, and the entire strip is presently planted with a dense growth of small trees.

At one time an adjoining commercial building with a brick and frame wall, abutted the north wall of the Rostel Building. The demarcation line of the lower seven feet of this wall is still plainly visible on the Rostel Building. Although this adjoining building survived the 1903 fire, it succumbed to a 1924 fire that leveled many of Dunsmuir's pioneer wood frame structures. This narrow parcel has been vacant for nearly sixty years.

48. Vacant (west side of Sacramento Avenue)

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO: 58-092-210

SIGNIFICANCE:

This terraced wooded parcel has a 118 foot frontage on Sacramento Avenue, and is 110 feet deep. The lot has been vacant since 1924 when fire consumed numerous commercial and residential structures on both Sacramento and Dunsmuir

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Avenues (64). A Chinese laundry, a frame dwelling, the two-and one-half story Shewey commercial and rooming house, and the bakery and store building of Sam Manfredi, were all located on this lot prior to the April 25th, 1903 fire. The monolithic three-story Knights of Pythias Hall, housing an opera house on the second floor, was just north of this lot, and was also leveled in the fire (110).

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from Portland to New Orleans (87). The rugged stagecoach journey between Portland and Sacramento, that had taken seven days to complete in 1869, was reduced to thirty-eight hours on the "iron horse (96)."

The economic and social vitality of Dunsmuir's burgeoning commercial core, as well as the entire town, was inseparably linked to the town's preeminent status as a division point on the Southern Pacific's Shasta Route. Dunsmuir's strategic geographic location midway between Portland and Sacramento, and its position at the southern end of severe grades and curves up over the Siskiyou Mountains into Oregon, made the town a logical choice for the headquarters of all railroading activities on the Shasta Route: engines were repaired, locomotives and train crews were assigned, and "helpers" (extra engines added to assist the cars up the steep 2.2% grade out of the Siskiyou Canyon), were all-important railroad activities that took place at Dunsmuir (12). At the height of the town's close association with the railroad in the early twentieth century, nearly 2,000 men were on the Dunsmuir switching yard payroll (102). Many of Southern Pacific employees made Dunsmuir their home. Although the territory covered by the Shasta Division was modified over the years, Dunsmuir remained the focal point of regional railroad operations well into the twentieth century (98). Dunsmuir's vitality, and particularly that of its commercial heart, was unquestionably tied to the vitality of Southern Pacific's Shasta Route.

As a major node in the operation of the Shasta Route, Dunsmuir's significance is intimately associated with the achievements and substantial contribution of the Shasta Division to the history of Siskiyou County and the Northwest. Just as Frederick Turner theorized that completion of the transcontinental railroad promoted the dissolution of America's Western frontier, the Shasta Division broke the long isolation of the interior valleys of Northern California and Southern Oregon. With considerable hyperbole the December 18, 1887 issue of the Portland Oregonian proclaimed: "Through the flinty, hard heart of the Siskiyou Mountains the road has been built, the lines of shining steel laid, and now the "iron nag" rushes through and over those frowning barriers, and its loud shrieks wake the echoes of those wild solitudes...(4)" The Shasta Division, last of Southern Pacific's main line routes connecting Portland and San Francisco, was viewed as the gateway to the North, opening the area to accelerated settlement, facilitating trade between California and the Pacific Northwest, and bringing the region closer to world markets (3).

Of all Southern Pacific's railroading ventures the Shasta Route occupies a unique position in railroading history due to seemingly unsurmountable engineering difficulties caused by heavy seasonal rains or snow, and the scenic spectacle provided by Mount Shasta and the Siskiyou Mountains. Numerous bridges, severe track curvatures, sometimes attaining fourteen degrees, and sixteen borings, were among the engineering feats necessary to traverse the 4,135 foot Siskiyou Summit (4). In the words of railroad magnate Charles Crocker, "The Sierra Nevada Mountains, which first confronted me, were nothing

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compared with the Siskiyou for sublimity of achievement and scenery and wonderful engineering skill (98)." For travelers over the Shasta Route the Southern Pacific Company promotional literature described the journey as "one of the most impressive experiences afforded any railroad trip in the world." For many years the Shasta Route prevailed as a national institution, and as division point, Dunsmuir was the heartbeat.

Dunsmuir thrived during the early railroad years. Between 1888 and 1903, the town's population increased from 350 to 1,100 (69,92). Sacramento Avenue, the town's main commercial street, served the business needs of residents, railroad employees, and travelers, while Dunsmuir Avenue (then named Florence Avenue) was the primary residential street. The area included in the Historic District was the focal point of activity in Dunsmuir at the turn of the century

On April 5th, 1903 Dunsmuir experienced its first, and probably most devastating, commercial fire. The entire block on Sacramento Avenue between Cedar and Pine Streets, and a third of the block north of Pine Street, as well as the wood frame residences along Dunsmuir Avenues directly above Sacramento Avenue, were destroyed. Newspaper accounts describe Dunsmuir as a charred ruins with not a landmark remaining on Sacramento Avenue" save for a few brick walls (58)." While tents and temporary wood frame structures were hastily built on the smoldering debris, plans were immediately implemented to construct substantial brick business buildings along Sacramento Avenue that would replace the "miserable cheap looking mess of frame shacks...(70)." In August, 1903 the emergence of the town's new business quarter was reported by the Redding Record Searchlight:

"The Dunsmuir of frame is rapidly becoming a Dunsmuir of brick and stone. During the months that have passed since the business part of the canyon town was swept bare of buildings, the masons and carpenters have builded better than before, and now Main Street on the (west) side presents almost a solid front of nearly completed two and three story brick buildings. So eager are the businessmen to get into their new quarters, some of them have moved in on the ground floor even before the roof has been put over their heads or the walls carried far above the floor of the second story (72)."

Dunsmuir was an instant city in 1903. The rebuilding of the commercial area occurred within one year. In 1909 Dunsmuir was incorporated as a sixth class city.

The town of Dunsmuir, including its commercial center, represents a microcosm of of the myriad ways that the railroad impacted development in the Northwest.

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As an agent of settlement, the railroad created the town of Dunsmuir. The alignment of Dunsmuir's first commercial street along the railroad tracks reflects the town's historical, as well as, physical orientation and dependency on the Southern Pacific. As a major landowner and real estate developer throughout the West, the Pacific Improvement Company, marked streets, and surveyed and sold lots in the vicinity of the Dunsmuir railroad tracks in the 1890s (83). Railroad construction, and the subsequent ease and affordability of train travel, encouraged the dispersal of minorities, and their integration into hundreds of Western communities (109): in Dunsmuir, Chinese, Mexican, and Italian families formed a substantial part of the town's early population - many conducted businesses in the commercial district. The vastly improved transportation facilities provided by the railroad had an enormous effect on the economy of the region. Short spurs off the main line Shasta Route promoted the exploitation of forest and mineral (primarily copper) resources in the area around Dunsmuir. Dunsmuir's alpine climate even proved amenable to the small scale production of fruits and berries (68). The healthful climate, mineral waters, sport fishing, and scenic beauty in and around Dunsmuir enhanced local economies through tourism. Several famous resorts hosting visitors from around the world were located in the Dunsmuir vicinity, with some continuing to operate through the 1920s. The Southern Pacific was a prime agent in popularizing sumptuous travel literature, causing their Western audience to become more travel minded. Dunsmuir's picturesque location and numerous other points of scenic interest along the Shasta Route, were an ideal subject for the Southern Pacific's colorful and hyperbolic promotional brochures. Near the peak of Dunsmuir's symbiotic relationship with the railroad, the Southern Pacific described the town as "a picturesque little town, perched on the mountainside, four miles from the Tavern at Castle Crags. The atmosphere, as in all the region, is delightfully pure and stimulating. There are hotel accommodations for guests, (with) excellent hunting and fishing in the vicinity" (96). As a center of commerce for a large region in the southern Siskiyou Mountains, the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District exemplifies the far-reaching effect of the expansion of the railroad, on settlement, growth and development of those geographically isolated areas of the Pacific Northwest.

Transportation became an important element in Dunsmuir's history when the automobile gradually overtook the train as the popular form of transportation. In 1912 the state highway was routed through Dunsmuir. Dunsmuir Avenue was chosen as the route for the highway through the town. Again, Dunsmuir's strategic geographic location had bearing on the decision to locate the headquarters of the California State Highway Commission in Dunsmuir. This body was entrusted with the weighty responsibility of expending \$18,000,000, voted by the people, "to give California the best system of county roads in the United States (99)."

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Appropriately, the first substantial brick commercial building constructed on Dunsmuir Avenue was the "Brick Garage," built to accommodate the needs of the town's modern traveler.

Over the next fifteen years businesses began to shift from Sacramento Avenue to Dunsmuir Avenue. Wood frame residences lining Dunsmuir Avenue were moved or torn down, and reinforced concrete buildings were erected to house hotels, retail businesses, offices, theatres and auditoriums. Dunsmuir city government was centered at City Hall, on the southeast corner of Dunsmuir Avenue and Cedar Street. In a few instances dwellings were adapted to commercial use by altering their facades. Several buildings on Sacramento Avenue were "updated" in an attempt to keep pace with Dunsmuir Avenue's new commercial edifices. But by the mid 1920s, however, Dunsmuir Avenue was indisputably the town's principal commercial street.

Nineteen twenty to 1930 were boom years for Dunsmuir. Population swelled to 3,100 in 1920, and new areas were annexed to the original town plat as new residences sprang up in outlying areas. The shipment of lumber, mineral ore, and livestock out of the region, combined with the continued transport of tourists to secluded scenic resorts along the Shasta Route, continued to generate traffic on the Shasta Division, while automobile traffic increased as cars became affordable and practical for more and more Americans. The nearly unaltered District is visible testimony to the town's years of greatest prosperity during the 1920s.

Prosperity for the town did not eliminate the threat of fire. In 1917, and again in 1924, fire destroyed small portions of the commercial section, now included in the Historic District. At the southern edge of the District, on Sacramento Avenue, fire razed four business establishments in 1917 (71). Seven years later, in 1924, \$140,000 of property damage occurred when fire consumed commercial and residential structures between the upper sections of Sacramento and Dunsmuir Avenues (64). Reinforced concrete commercial buildings filled most of these vacant lots in the 1920s, however, one large parcel on the west side of upper Sacramento Avenue (No. 48) has remained vacant since the 1924 fire. As recently as the 1960s, fire engulfed four commercial buildings at the southwest corner of Sacramento Avenue and Pine Street, now a vacant lot.

Dunsmuir's gradual economic decline was initiated by the world-wide Depression of the 1930s. Although the movement of troops during World War II increased traffic on the Shasta Route to record rates, and caused the expansion of the Dunsmuir railroad yard (102), the conversion of steam to diesel as locomotive power, as well as other technological advances prompted by wartime activities, spelled the end for Dunsmuir as a railroad town. The need for engine and track

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maintenance was reduced, deisel power cut back the need for "helpers" to assist trains over the mountains, and in general, the automation of machinery eliminated many railroad positions. In 1965, an administrative change by the Southern Pacific eliminated the Shasta Division, prompting an exodus of railroad employees to Portland, Sacramento and San Francisco.

A similar fate occurred when automobile traffic was significantly reduced on Dunsmuir Avenue at about the same time. In 1961 Interstate 5 bypassed the commercial district, and business on Dunsmuir Avenue was severely threatened.

A faltering and unsure economy has left Dunsmuir's Historic Commercial District nearly intact since the 1920s. Little new construction has occurred, and recent alterations have been limited to storefront modernization.

Numerous individuals who have visited, owned property, or conducted businesses, in the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District have made a significant contribution to commerce, government and/or industry in Dunsmuir and Northern California. The Dunsmuir family, for whom the town was named, occupied a position of considerable stature in coal mining, railroading and politics in British Columbia, Canada. Robert Dunsmuir accumulated great wealth through ownership of a coal mining operations in British Columbia, and his heavy investments in Canadian and American railroads. One son, James Dunsmuir, served as Premier of British Columbia, and the province's Lieutenant Governor after the turn of the century. Adjoining the railroad yard, Dunsmuir's Historic Commercial District has heard the speeches of many celebrities traveling over the Shasta Route. President Truman, Vice-President Nixon, and Emperor Haile Sellassie of Ethiopia are but a few prominent political figures who have given speeches to crowds at the District's edge (102).

Abner Weed, for whom the city of Weed, California and Dunsmuir's Hotel Weed (No.19) are named, was a prominent figure in Northern California. Weed operated a large mill where the town of Weed was founded. Over the years he acquired extensive timber and grazing lands throughout Siskiyou County. Abner Weed was the first postmaster of Weed, served for eight terms as a Siskiyou County Supervisor (1900-1908), and was elected state Senator for one term. The Weed family lived at the southwest corner of Dunsmuir Avenue and Pine Street during the early days of the Hotel Weed.

George E. Malone was another Dunsmuir resident involved in state politics. During the 1910s and 1920s Dr. Malone was a well established Dunsmuir dentist, with offices in the Hutaff Building (No.9), and later in the Thompson Building on Sacramento Avenue (No.45). George Malone served on the state Legislature in the early 1900s.

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Levi Van Fossen, arriving in Dunsmuir with his wife Matilda in 1888, became one of the city's most stalwart citizens. Between 1889 and 1903 he was the Dunsmuir postmaster. He conducted what was, undoubtedly, the town's first pharmacy on Sacramento Avenue (No.39), and acquired considerable property within the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District before his untimely death in 1903. The family residence of Levi and Matilda Van Fossen still stands on Dunsmuir Avenue (No.25). Levi's son, Frank, likewise contributed significantly to the town's development. As a graduate in engineering from Stanford University, Frank Van Fossen built one of Dunsmuir's first electrical power plants, and maintained one of the town's early water distribution systems. He, and brother-in-law W.B. Masson, operated a saw mill just west of Dunsmuir, and together they were joint owners of one of the town's first garages (No. 26,27). At the time of his death in 1938 it was estimated that Frank Van Fossen had the largest property holdings in Dunsmuir. Many parcels once owned, or presently owned by members of the Van Fossen family are located in the Historic District (Nos. 25,26,27,28,37,39,40 and 41).

Several Dunsmuir business and professional leaders who owned property, or occupied buildings within the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District, held positions of importance in local Dunsmuir government. I.R. Wells, owner of the Wells Building on Sacramento Avenue (No.35), was an early city Justice of the Peace. W.R. Garrett, a prominent Dunsmuir attorney and director of the State Bank of Dunsmuir (No.20), was on the Dunsmuir Board of Trustees in the 1910s. Garrett was instrumental in organizing the city's Commercial Club, the Promotion Club, and framed the code of municipal ordinances. Dr. G.E. Malone was an early president of the Dunsmuir Board of Trustees.

Alexander Levy, one of the town's pioneer merchants, was Dunsmuir's first mayor. The "Big Store" of A. Levy was at first located in the Rostel Building (No.47), and later the Van Fossen Building (No.37), before Levy erected his own building on Dunsmuir Avenue in 1926 (No.21). Levy served on the Board of Directors of the State Bank of Dunsmuir for several years, and was one of the first masters of the Dunsmuir Masonic Lodge, chartered in 1889.

Another prominent figure in the community's fraternal, as well as commercial life, was Gustav Hutaff. Hutaff filled various offices in the Dunsmuir Masonic Lodge before being elevated to the position of grand master of the California Masons, in 1928-'29. After receiving a PhD from the University of California in 1900, Hutaff established a pharmacy in Dunsmuir. Later, he became partners in the jewelry firm of Hutaff and Carlquist. His success in business endeavors allowed him to invest in real estate throughout Siskiyou County. The Hutaff Building on Dunsmuir Avenue (No.9), was built for Gustav Hutaff in 1917 and enlarged in 1925.

Dr. E.J. Cornish, a well-respected Dunsmuir physician and surgeon, had an office in the Hutaff Building soon after it was constructed (No.9). Cornish was founder of the Dunsmuir Hospital and Sanitorium.

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Several Dunsmuir citizens with businesses and/or property in the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District contributed to the social, as well as, the commercial life of the town during its exuberant years. Charles Wickes and Frank Talmage are among the best remembered business figures, and associated with some of the town's most popular places of entertainment. Charles Wickes, who settled in Dunsmuir around 1906, left the Southern Pacific Railroad in the 1920s to become manager of the Hotel Weed and Restaurant (No.19), and later the Palm Restaurant and Cigar Store (No.44), and the Travelers Hotel (No.9). Wickes was instrumental in organizing the Dunsmuir Lions Club. Frank Talmage, as well as his son Frank Jr., were associated with the operation of the Palm Cafe (No. 44). Talmage's Auditorium, which stood on the site of his 1924 commercial store building (No.8), was responsible for giving the town various entertainment establishments. Talmage's operation of "Joyland" recreation park, one mile north of the District, a music store located in Dunsmuir's business district, and the Palm Cafe (No.44), were just a few of his establishments that contributed to the gaiety of social life in Dunsmuir.

The Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District conveys a strong sense of time and place through cohesiveness of design, materials, workmanship, association, and setting. Many of the buildings in the District are vernacular examples of the late Victorian style. Parapets, large glazed storefront windows, slightly recessed entries, and smooth stucco wall surfaces, are almost universally found on commercial facades. Buildings are commonly one or two stories in height, and the alignment and scale of window and door openings is consistent with neighboring buildings. (Alterations to storefront windows have generally been consistent in scale to original openings.) The majority of building facades are set on front property lines. There are few vacant lots to interrupt a continuous linkage of buildings in the District.

In addition to the examples of vernacular late Victorian Style, there are a few notable examples of other styles within the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District. The four-story Hotel Weed (No.19) displays some Richardsonian Romanesque elements, while its one-story 1945 Art Moderne addition is a notable example of its type. The Masonic Temple (No. 12), the State Bank of Dunsmuir (No.20), and the City Hall (No.29) are excellent examples of the Renaissance Revival, and all constructed in 1925 or 1926, at the peak of the building activity in the District. The Rostel Building (No. 47) is an excellent example of Beaux Arts Classicism, and possibly the most complete exhibition of unaltered cast iron and pressed sheet metal work in Siskiyou County. The Rostel Building is the only known extant example in Siskiyou County displaying the work of the Mesker Brothers foundry, at one time one of the largest distributors of prefabricated architectural elements in the West.

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Several notable California architects are attributed with the design of several buildings in the Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District. W.L. Woollett, partner in the firm of Woollett and Lamb, architects of the Dunsmuir City Hall (No.29), was one-time California State Architect. To his credit are the Million Dollar Theatre (1918), and the Malabar Branch Library (1927), both in Los Angeles, the Elizabeth von Kleinschmidt Building (1925) on the University of Southern California campus, and the Fugazi Building, originally known as the Yokohama Specie Bank of San Francisco (1908), in San Francisco.

Carl Werner, architect of the 1925 Masonic Temple (No.12), was responsible for designing about nine-tenths of the Masonic Temples in California, including the Oakland Scottish Rite Building, and the Bakersfield and San Francisco Masonic Temples. He was architect of the Lowell High School in San Francisco, the Alameda High School, the Sequoia Union High School, and the Alameda West End Branch Library. In cooperation with four other architects Werner redesigned the Alameda County Courthouse, and constructed five Christian Science churches in San Francisco. He is the architect of the Army and Navy YMCA on the Embarcadero in San Francisco. He was known early in the century for designing many San Francisco Nob Hill residences. Carl Werner was a 1898 graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and practiced his profession in the Bay Area for over forty years.

George W. Cooper, local Yreka architect and builder who designed both the earlier 1894, and the extant 1903 Rostel Building (No.46), was in charge of the construction of the 1896 additions and remodeling of the Siskiyou County Courthouse in Yreka. Although not the architect of this building, it is interesting to note its pressed sheet metal ornamentation at the window heads and the cornice. Other known examples of Cooper's work are the B.F. Walker House (1895), and the C.A. Iunker House (1899), both in Yreka (108).

Structural engineer Levon H. Nishkian, known for his pioneering studies of earthquake faults and work in earthquake engineering, designed the 1945 Hotel Weed addition (No.19). Nishkian was district engineer for the San Francisco Golden Gate Bridge, and was structural engineer for several Bank of America buildings in San Francisco (112), including the Bank of America International Banking Center (1931), and the addition and remodeling of the old Bank of America Building (1941), both on Montgomery Street. Early in Nishkian's career he worked with San Francisco architect G. Albert Landsburgh on the design of two Gunst Buildings, and the Orpheum Theatre. Following a short period of involvement in railroad construction in Oregon, Nishkian joined the firm of Parkinson & Bergstrom, and worked on the Los Angeles Athletic Club, the Los Angeles Title Insurance Building, and the Union Oil Building. During the 1910s Nishkian was consulting

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engineer for the city of San Francisco. In 1919 he opened his own consulting office in San Francisco. Familiar San Francisco landmarks engineered by Levon Nishkian include the Fox Theatre, the Belaire Apartments on Russian Hill, the Insurance Center Building, and the Furniture Exchange Building.

Following Dunsmuir's disastrous 1903 commercial fire, prominent San Francisco architect Bernard Maybeck and engineer M.W. White visited Dunsmuir, and according to one local newspaper account Maybeck drew up "attractive plans for the rebuilding of the Mount Shasta Hotel block as far south as the burnt district, and then the whole block south to where the fire stopped (39)." There has been no substantial evidence crediting Maybeck with the design of any buildings on Sacramento Avenue, and since his commercial designs at that time reflect more Gothic tones it seems unlikely that Maybeck is responsible for designing any existing buildings on Sacramento Avenue.

Boundary selection for the 9.74 acre Dunsmuir Historic Commercial District is determined by architectural continuity, historical association, and setting. District boundaries were drawn to include an area with the highest concentration of contributing buildings. Seventy-five percent of the buildings within the boundaries contribute to the District's strong sense of time and place. Along Dunsmuir Avenue, there is a continuous linkage of buildings with a relatively high degree of integrity. Where alterations exist they are generally minimal, and uniform in material, texture, method of application, and location, on each building. The District conveys a sense of cohesiveness through the similarity of design features such as scale, height, proportion, materials, texture, and siting. The majority of buildings are set on front and side property lines, creating a continuous alignment of facades along both Dunsmuir and Sacramento Avenues. There are few vacant lots that interrupt this strong alignment of buildings within the District boundaries. Visually, the area included in the District appears as a total ensemble when viewed from either end of Sacramento or Dunsmuir Avenue. Where practical, boundary lines are drawn along rear or side property lines, to include concentrations of notable buildings on both sides of the street. (See Figures III, IV, and V.) The greatest number of buildings in the District were constructed, or significantly altered, between 1917 and 1928. District boundaries embrace an area that reflects an era when Dunsmuir attained a peak in economic prosperity and social vitality.

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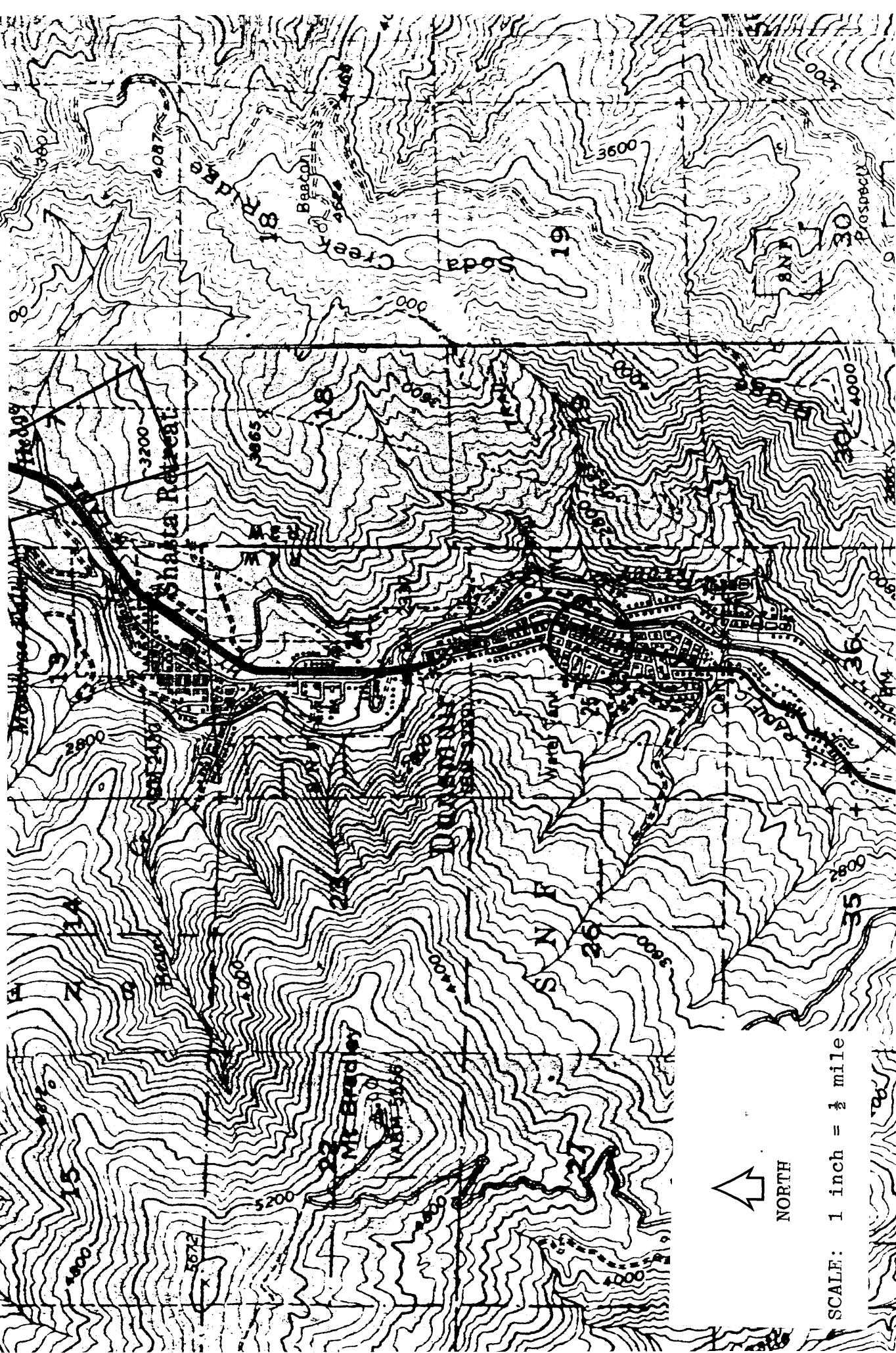
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FIGURE I
DUNSMUIR HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT



NORTH

SCALE: 1 inch = 1/4 mile

FIGURE III
DUNSMUIR HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT



NORTH

SCALE: 1 inch = 100 feet

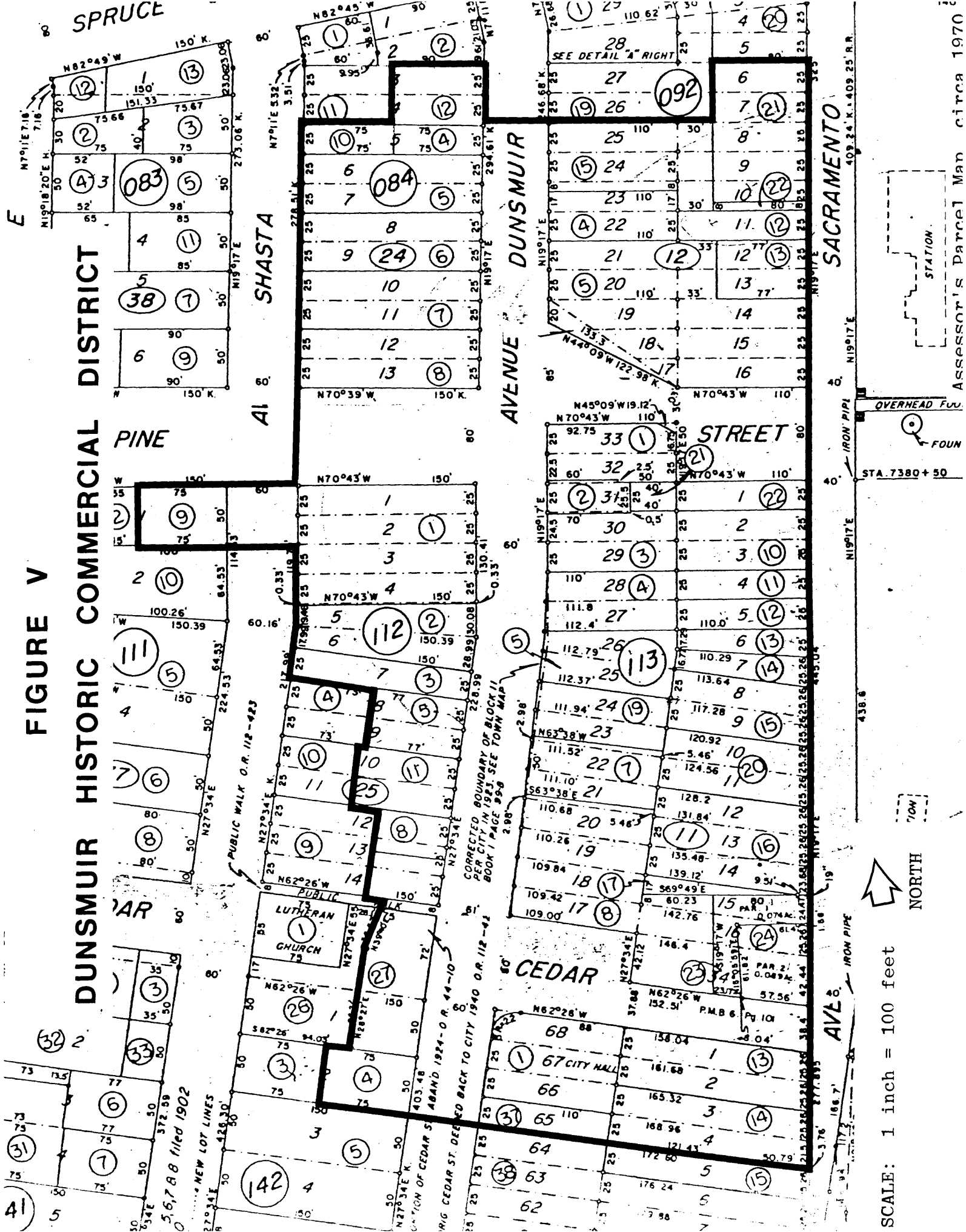
Frederick H. Pizza, Inc.
Redding, California
Circa 1975

FIGURE IV
DUNSMUIR HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT



FIGURE V

DUNSMUIR HISTORIC COMMERCIAL DISTRICT



SCALE: 1 inch = 100 feet

NORTH