

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0698008

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 26 1979
DATE ENTERED 30

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Hotel Senator

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1121 L Street (corner 12th and L Streets

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sacramento

— VICINITY OF

3

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

California

06

Sacramento

067

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

— DISTRICT

— PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

— AGRICULTURE

— MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

— UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

— PARK

— STRUCTURE

— BOTH

— WORK IN PROGRESS

— EDUCATIONAL

— PRIVATE RESIDENCE

— SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

— RELIGIOUS

— OBJECT

— IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

— GOVERNMENT

— SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

— YES: UNRESTRICTED

— INDUSTRIAL

— TRANSPORTATION

— NO

— MILITARY

— OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Senator Hotel Associates

STREET & NUMBER

1131 L Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Sacramento

— VICINITY OF

California

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Sacramento County Recorder's Office

STREET & NUMBER

901 G Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Sacramento

California

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Senator Hotel, designed by Kenneth MacDonald with the collaboration of G. Albert Lansburgh, used the Farnese Palace in Rome as its stylistic model, in part. Nine stories in height, the reinforced concrete building is broken into two main masses which front on L Street. The first floor facade consists of a colonaded archway which runs the entire length of the front and side facades. The L Street facade measures 165 feet in length. This first floor archway is covered with a peach-colored terra cotta deeply etched to imitate massive smooth marble blocks. Although presently glass-enclosed, the archway system was originally open on the front facade, and served as a veranda for hotel guests.

Above the first floor the reinforced concrete is covered with pink cement plaster. Fenestration consists of a series of symmetrically placed double-hung windows running from the second to ninth floors. Originally the top floor windows were surmounted by Renaissance window hoods and further delineated by a belt course which ran around the building between the eighth and ninth floors.

The Italian Renaissance motif repeated in the lobby and throughout the interior of the building. Entering by way of doors which were originally decorated with hand-painted designs, the lobby appeared beyond a colonade of rough plastered walls covered with gold beneath tints of blue. All of the lobby walls were originally similarly decorated. A balcony floor extended around the four sides of the lobby and was reached by winding staircases at either end of the long room. The balustrade was ornamental ironwork painted in pastel shades. A skylight of slightly tinted glass illuminated the lobby by day.

Originally, three dining rooms carried out the Renaissance motif. The women's tea room, the Peacock Room, opened from the main dining room and faced the entranceway. The Florentine Dining Room stood as a separate unit of the hotel and jutted to the west of the main building. An extremely high ceiling, a full 20 feet in height, was incorporated into the dining room. Stonelike jointed walls, immense beams across the ceiling and high windows imitated the famous Stone Room in the Farnese Palace in Rome. Adjoining the Florentine Room and also reached by the hallway leading from the lobby was the Roman Banquet Hall, set aside for banquets of 125 to 150 people. High pillars, supporting arches, gave the ceiling of this room an appearance of additional height.

An extensive remodeling program in 1954, transformed most of the interior space. A new dining room, ballroom and cocktail lounge divided up the former central lobby. The archways were enclosed and turned into office and shop space. However, the Hotel Senator has retained its basic original integrity. The key exterior change was the addition of windows in the archway system, and the removal of the Renaissance hoods and beltcourse. Minor remodeling will return the exterior to its original appearance.

The original lobby can be returned to its original appearance. The 1954 suspended ceiling, hides the original skylight space including the exterior translucent wire glass and the basic structural framing and columns. With the removal of the contemporary partitioning of the lounge and dining room, the lobby is generally intact, and can be restored.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES August 23, 1924

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Kenneth MacDonald, Jr., Maurice Couchot, G. Albert Lansburgh

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Senator Hotel, built in 1923-24, is architecturally significant as an interesting early 20th century adaptation of Italian Renaissance motifs as borrowed, in part, from the Farnese Palace. Architect Kenneth MacDonald, in collaboration with noted theater architect, G. Albert Lansburgh, successfully transformed the massive formality of the Italian Renaissance into a simplified 20th century statement.

MacDonald designed over twenty-five of San Francisco's downtown buildings, and in 1913 teamed with George Applegarth to design several prestigious buildings in San Francisco, one of which was the Spreckels Mansion, noted as a white plaster model of the Grand Trianon.

Couchot, a consulting engineer, was an early advocate of reinforced concrete and had an involvement in the design of the French Building at the Pan-Pacific International Exposition.

Historically, the hotel is significant as a key meeting place for legislators and state lobbyists. It has served as an important hotel, meeting place and social center for the City of Sacramento. With its close proximity to the State Capitol and State Office Complex, the hotel has proved a particularly valuable asset to Sacramento during sessions of the legislature.

Over a period of several decades, the hotel was the home of many of the most powerful state lobbyists. These men represented oil, liquor, railroading, electric utilities and influenced a considerable amount of legislation from their offices/living/entertainment suites and from the first floor public dining rooms.

In addition to being the setting of this lobbying activity, the hotel was host to many influential visitors to Sacramento on governmental, entertainment and/or commercial business purposes. The hotel has played host to four governmental officials that were either President at the time of their visit, or later President of the United States. These were Warren Harding, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, and Jimmy Carter.

The Senator Hotel is both architecturally and historically a landmark building in downtown Sacramento.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Sacramento <u>Bee</u>	Sacramento <u>Union</u>	<u>Who's Who in California, 1928-29</u>
8/21/24	8/23/24	
8/24/24	San Francisco <u>Chronicle</u>	
1/30/54	6/30/33	
3/26/54	9/4/32	
9/10/56	5/12/22	

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .87 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME _____ QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,0 6,3,14,4,0 4,2,7,0,8,0,0

B _____

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C _____

D _____

E _____

F _____

G _____

H _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION All that certain real property situated in the City of Sacramento, County of Sacramento, State of California particularly described as follows: Lots 5, 6, and 7 excepting therefrom the north twenty five feet of the west twenty feet of Lot 7 in the block bounded by 11th and 12th and K and L Streets. (LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES Assessor's Parcel 6-106-05)

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Cameron Doyel and Edwin S. Astone, Consultant

ORGANIZATION _____ DATE
November 21, 1978

STREET & NUMBER
928 Second Street

CITY OR TOWN
Sacramento

TELEPHONE
(916) 446-1472
(916) 441-1976

STATE
California

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL _____ STATE _____ LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Knayn M. Elton 2-5-79

TITLE _____ DATE _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

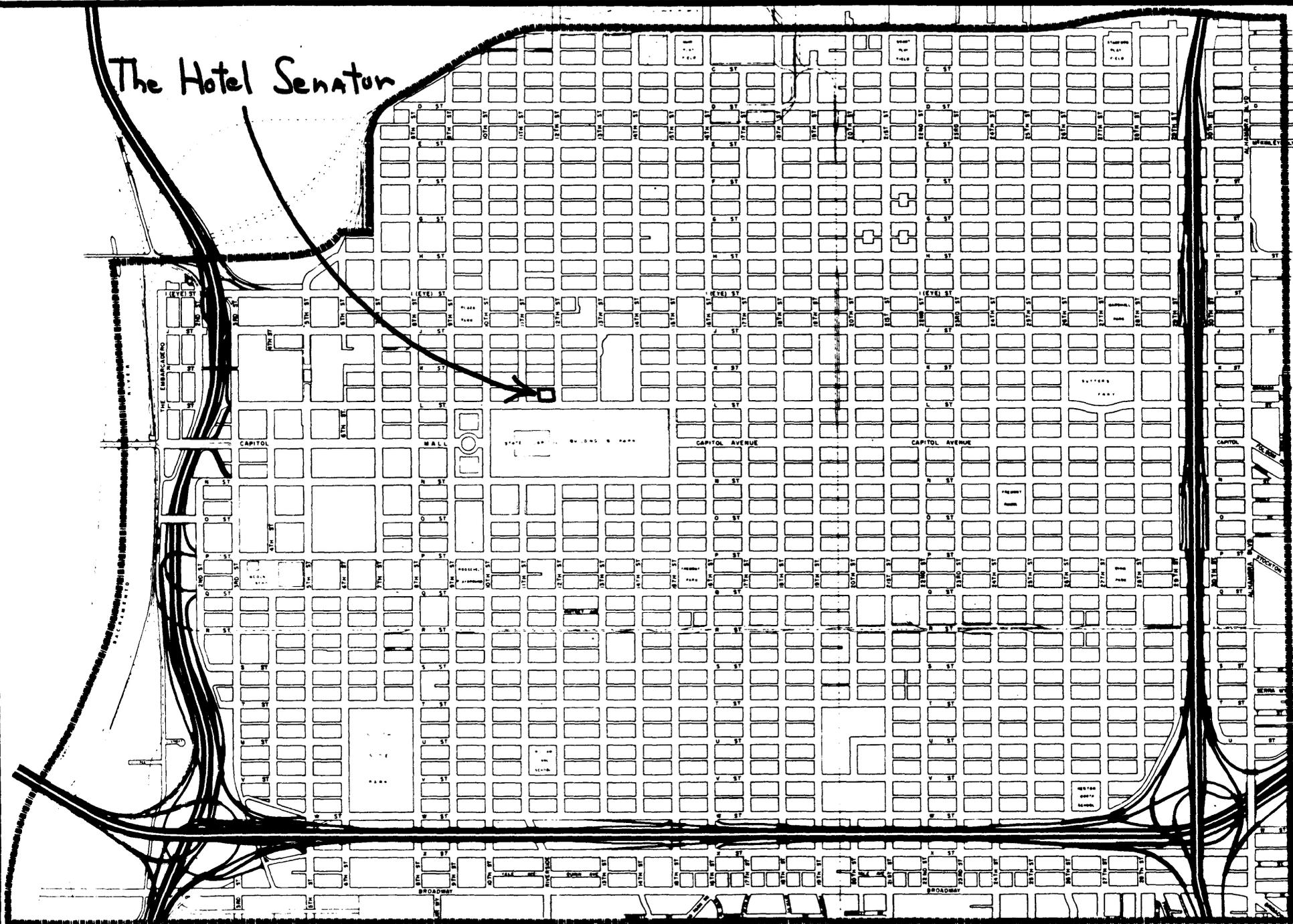
William Jelovick
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 5/30/79

ATTEST [Signature]
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 4/2/79

The Hotel Senator



SACRAMENTO HOUSING and REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

CENTRAL CITY

Scale in Feet

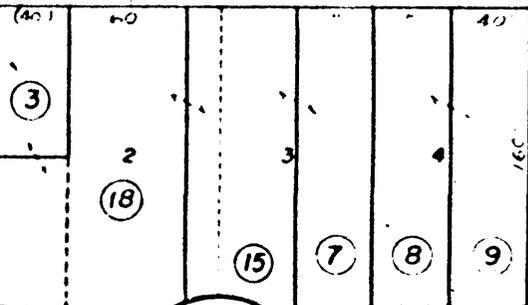


12-76

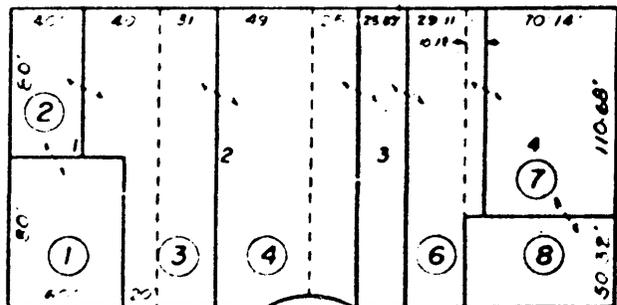
04

J ST. &

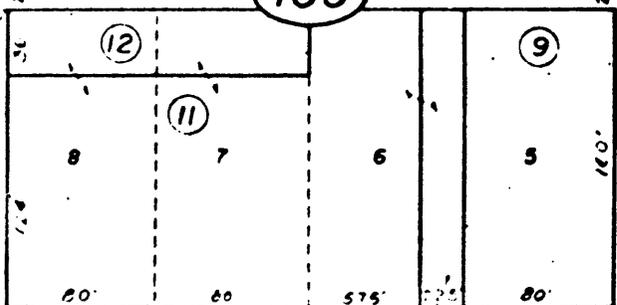
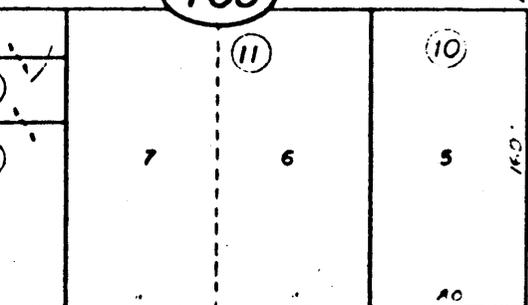
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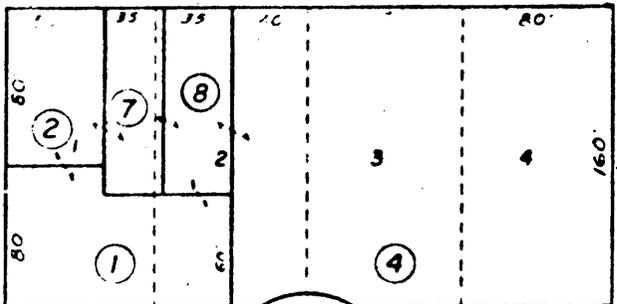
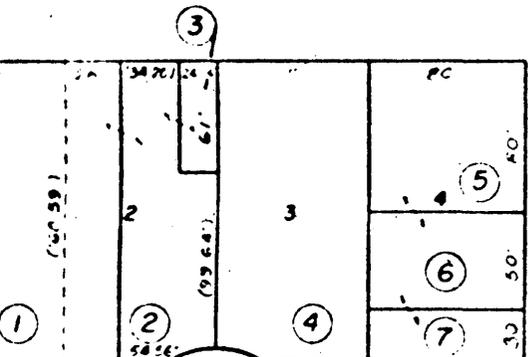
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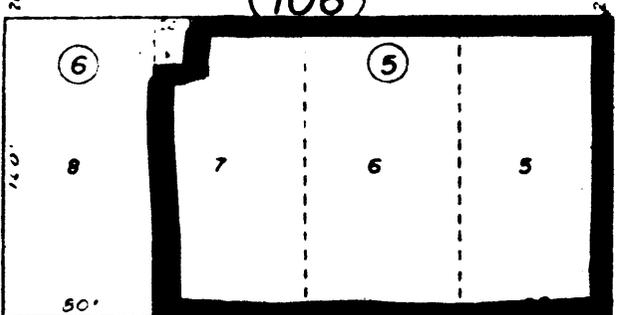
ST.



K ST.



N



12th

L ST. &

16

The Hotel Senator
 Senator Hotel Associates (Owner)
 Sacramento, California

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