

OMB No. 102-0018 (R) RECEIVED

FEB 28 2000

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

361

OHP

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number Portions of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets between Madison and Webster Streets

not for publication NA

city or town Oakland vicinity NA

state California code CA county Alameda code 001 zip code 94607

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination /  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets /  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide /  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Harold Attyer  
Signature of certifying official

March 6, 2000  
Date

State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

In my opinion, the property  meets /  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_  
See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
- removed from the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Rafael Lujan  
Signature of Keeper

4/24/2000  
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>24</u>	<u>5</u> buildings
	<u>0</u> sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> structures
	<u>0</u> objects
<u>25</u>	<u>5</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Trade/Warehouse
- Transportation/Railroad
- Transportation/Road-related
- Agricultural/Processing
- 
- 
- 

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- Trade/Warehouse
- Transportation/Road-related
- Domestic/Multiple dwelling
- Commerce/Business
- Commerce/Professional
- Agricultural/Processing
- Trade

7. Description

Architectural Classification Enter categories from instructions)

- Other/Utilitarian
- Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals/Beaux Arts
- Modern Movement/Moderne
- Modern Movement/Art Deco

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation Concrete
- walls Brick
- Concrete
- roof Composition
- other Stucco
- Cont'd on page 32

Narrative Description (See pages 5 to 32)

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- X A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or a grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY
ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE

Period of Significance 1914 - 1954

Significant Dates 1914

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Couchot, Rosenwald & Roeth
Meyers, Henry
Owen, W. K.
Smith, A. W.
Thomas, Leonard H.
Cont'd on page 33

Narrative Statement of Significance (See pages 33 to 41)
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (See pages 42 - 44)
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office X Local government
Other State agency University
Federal agency Other

Name of repository: Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey, Community and Economic Development Agency, City of Oakland

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 16

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	10	564150	4183360	3	10	564460 4182980
2	10	564560	4183160	4	10	564060 4183175

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) (p. 45)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) (p. 45)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wilda L. White, President  
 organization Jack London Neighborhood Association date 8/9/99  
 street & number 247 Fourth Street, #201 telephone (510) 452-3355  
 city or town Oakland state CA zip code 94607

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for districts and properties with large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_  
 street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 5 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

**7. Description**

**7. Narrative Description**

Located in an industrial area four blocks northeast of the Port of Oakland's Inner Harbor and two blocks north of Southern Pacific Railroad's waterfront tracks, the Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District encompasses a coherent group of 30 buildings and one structure, most in the style of early 20th Century utilitarian and some with Beaux Arts Derivative and Art Deco elements. With the exception of the five-story Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters, 201 4th Street (7), and the adjoining four-story Western States Grocery warehouse, 247 4th Street (9), the District's buildings are one to three-story warehouses. While there have been alterations to some of the warehouses over the years, the District still retains its overall integrity and significance.

The 16-acre District lies on portions of 10 blocks bounded by the Nimitz Freeway (5th Street) on the north, 2nd Street on the south, Webster Street on the west, and Madison Street on the east. The Posey Tube, an underwater automobile subway between the cities of Alameda and Oakland, passes beneath the District under Harrison Street. The 55-foot tall Posey Tube Oakland Portal, 415 Harrison Street (26), sits in the center of Harrison Street at 4th Street.

Until 1996, Western Pacific Railroad tracks traversed the District on 3rd Street. A mid-block spur track north of 3rd Street also extended about seven hundred feet from Jackson Street to Harrison Street where Western Pacific's main Oakland freight depot stood until the late 1970s. The District includes two unimproved lots on the north side of 3rd Street between Harrison and Jackson Streets. The unimproved lot at 3rd and Harrison Streets, the former Western Pacific Freight Depot site, contains a railroad "end of line bumper" (32) and two mid-block spur tracks (32). A mid-block spur track also traverses 4th Street between Harrison and Madison Streets (32).

The District's distinctiveness is expressed in its physical layout and unified architecture. Buildings conform to the city street grid and enclose wide streets. Individual buildings are typically an eighth to a quarter block in size, use the brick, concrete and steel sash construction and design vocabulary of the 1910s and 1920s, and were expressly located and designed for access to the Western Pacific Railroad 3rd Street tracks and the waterfront.

Of the 31 structures and buildings that make up the District, 24 are contributing buildings, one is a contributing structure, five are non-

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 6 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

contributing buildings, and one is already listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Three contributing buildings and one contributing structure are both prominent visual landmarks in the District and are considered individually eligible for listing on the National Register. They include the Posey Tube, 415 4th Street (26); Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters, 201 4th Street (7); Western States Grocery warehouse, 247 4th Street (9); and the fanciful three-story brick and concrete C. L. Greeno building, 255 4th Street (10). The richly textured, polychrome brick American Bag Building, 299 3rd Street (5) was placed on the National Register on August 13, 1999. Both the Posey Tube and the American Bag Building are designated City Landmarks.

All the contributing buildings were built as warehouses or processing facilities for a variety of products including produce, poultry, paint, paper and burlap bags, groceries, plumbing supplies, and machine bearings. Although some of the larger warehouses have been converted to offices and live-work lofts, many of the District's historical industrial activities endure and the District's visual integrity is strong.

Fifteen of the District's 24 contributing buildings were constructed between 1917 and 1937 and share a similar scale, massing, height, textures, and materials. The buildings are simple and utilitarian. Ornamentation is achieved through an economy of means and materials. Nearly all the buildings possess flat roofs with stepped or decorative parapets, industrial sash, multi-color surfaces of brick or painted stucco, and prominent truck doors and loading bays.

One contributing building was constructed in 1940 (308 4th Street (17)). The remaining eight contributing buildings were constructed between 1945 and 1954 during Oakland's post-World War II building boom. Six of the post-World War II District contributors form a cluster of one-story, brick warehouses situated on truncated lots adjacent to the Posey Tube Oakland Portal. Each has identical American common bond brickwork. While the six warehouses form their own coherent subgroup, in their setting, size, style, uses, and materials, they relate to the District's older warehouses and with the older warehouses form a distinctive, cohesive, recognizable group.

Most of the Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District appears today as it did in 1954, the end of the District's period of significance. The Western Pacific Freight Depot on 3rd Street between Harrison and Jackson was demolished around 1970. The Cudahy Packing Company Meat Warehouse on 3rd Street between Alice and Jackson Streets was demolished in the late 1980s. The 3rd Street railroad tracks were removed in 1996.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 7 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

Of the five non-contributing buildings, two are non-contributors because of their ages and dissimilar architecture (19 and 21). Three (1, 8, and 25) have become non-contributors because their character-defining elements were materially altered during adaptive reuse.

Properties adjacent to the Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District and defining its boundaries include newer offices and warehouses, Oakland's Produce Market District, two unimproved lots, a gas station, and the Nimitz Freeway.

**Individual Properties**

[The following individual descriptions are keyed by number to the district sketch map at page 46.]

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. 201 3 <sup>RD</sup> Street/SW corner of Jackson Street<br>W.P. Fuller and Co. Warehouse (h)<br>/Brickhouse Lofts (c)<br>Early 20 <sup>th</sup> century utilitarian<br>1914<br>architect: Walter D. Reed | <b>NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING</b><br>APN 001-0157-015 thru 027;<br>029<br><br>(permit 35116)<br>builder: Schnebly,<br>Hostrawser & Pengrifi |
|--|--|

201 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is the District's oldest warehouse. The original 30-foot tall, two-story brick-clad concrete frame warehouse on a corner lot was built in 1914 for the W.P. Fuller Paint Company of Sacramento. A ten course tall corbelled brick cornice runs the entire perimeter of the building. The building has a solid brick base and prominent bay and pilaster construction with the corner bays emphasized by a larger fenestration area. Windows are multi-paned four-part transomed metal sash that imitates wood sash. Like many buildings in the district, the building's first floor level is at the height of a rail car floor to facilitate loading and unloading from the Western Pacific Railroad tracks that ran down Third Street.

In 1997, the original building received a one-story and mezzanine, wood-frame rooftop addition that is set back 18 inches. The rooftop addition has two large-scale windows with multiple small panes of glass surmounted by a bracketed cornice, and is clad in a red brick veneer and corrugated, galvanized metal. The skyline profile is a bold sawtooth with a simple metal coping. The addition's regular patterns of square-shaped, white aluminum framed windows are a contemporary interpretation of the historic windows.

In the conversion from warehouse to the live-work loft condominiums, the loading dock doors on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street were replaced with an aluminum and glass storefront system. A concrete and brick entry stair/handicapped ramp was added to the building's main entry.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 8 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

2. **225 3<sup>rd</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**W.P. Fuller and Co. Warehouse Annex (h) /**  
**West Office Exhibition Design (c)** APN 001-0157-028  
Mid 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse  
1937; addition 1945 & 1950 (permits A68038, B7481,  
B32493)  
architect: C.S. Repogle & Alben Froberg builder: Christensen & Lyons

225 3<sup>rd</sup> Street was built as a loading shed annex at the west side of the W. P. Fuller warehouse (201 3<sup>rd</sup> Street) in 1937 and converted in 1997 to offices for a museum design firm. The annex is a very tall one-story structure, rectangular in plan, located on an interior lot. It houses two overhead cranes that remain prominent features of the building. Its roof slopes down from a height of 30 feet to about 15 feet behind a stepped brick false front wall. Reinforced concrete columns support the roof and front wall. The cranes have an independent support structure.

The tallest portion of the loading shed, built in 1937, is adjacent to the main warehouse and has a 45-foot frontage on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. It houses a gantry crane whose dual tracks project 15 feet over the sidewalk and street, and travel back the entire 100-foot depth of the shed. Although unused in recent years, the crane and its tracks are completely intact. In 1997 a mezzanine level was inserted in the craneway. Adjacent is a smaller, lower crane whose single track is still intact but no longer operational. The 96-foot long front elevation of the loading shed has two large openings for the cranes, infilled in 1997 with an aluminum and glass storefront system, three high metal-sash windows, a pedestrian door, and a brick parapet that steps down in five steps before climbing once in front of a butterfly roof.

The architect for the two later additions, who designed the distinctive parabolic sweep of stepped parapets, was Alben Froberg, known for numerous Moderne commercial and industrial buildings in Oakland. This utilitarian warehouse addition is a characteristic pattern of industrial streetscape, and, with the original Fuller warehouse, anchors the southeast corner of the District and spans its period of significance.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

3. **255 3<sup>rd</sup> Street/SW corner of Alice Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Unknown (h)/Tower Lofts (c)** APN 001-0151-009 thru 044  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian with  
Gothic/Art Deco elements  
1926-27 (permit A22888)  
architect: Hugh C. White; engineer: Trygve  
Ronneberg builder: F.A. Muller

255 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, currently known as Tower Lofts, is an early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse that was converted in 1994 into live/work lofts. The building is 47 feet tall and is located on a northeast corner quarter blocklot.

It is rectangular in shape, 150 feet or seven bays on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and 100 feet or five bays on Alice Street. It is three stories in height made of reinforced concrete, and is topped by a 50,000 gallon water tower. End bays of each facade are capped by low triangular parapets. Rectangular piers in low relief divide the bays on the upper stories, and there are shallow projecting windowsills and a first floor belt course. Each upper floor has large industrial sash windows in each bay. Ground floor bays have been converted from their original use as loading docks to large industrial windows and an entranceway. There are metal canopies over the front entranceway and the adjacent bays.

Building permit A22888, issued December 3, 1926, indicates that the building was built, at a cost of \$78,000, for Hyman Davis and M. Parker by F. A. Muller. The original plans specify a small cutting room on the first floor and a packing room on the second floor. From 1927-37, it housed the Sussman & Wormser (S&W) Company. Later the building was occupied by several wholesale grocers, Montgomery Wards, a felt hat warehouse for the Dorfman Cap Co., the Salvation Army, and a candle maker.

4. **281 3<sup>rd</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**American Bag Co. Annex (h)/**  
**Graphic Visions (c)** APN 001-0151-002  
20<sup>th</sup> Century utilitarian  
1954 (permit B50961)  
architect: Cecil S. Moyer builder: A.J. Holmes & Son

281 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is a 5,000 square foot, one-story reinforced concrete, red brick surfaced rectangular block. It is attached to the east side of the American Bag building (5). A large vehicular entry with roll-up corrugated metal door is in the center, with a pedestrian entry and window at the lower right below a horizontal glass block window. A second concrete-framed vehicular entry has been added to the left of the front entry.

This building was constructed as a final expansion of the American Bag building in 1954. Building permit #B50961, issued January 26, 1954 for the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   7   Page  10  Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

annex identified the builder as A.J. Holmes and Son, the architect as C.S. Moyer, and the cost as \$12,680. The permit indicates the annex was finished by April 1, 1954.

Although lacking the decorative elements of its predecessor, the American Bag building, the addition continued the District's theme of utilitarian design through an economy of means. It is similar in its simplicity to the other post-World War II District warehouses. The current owners of the building effected a parcel split of this building in 1994 and it is currently rented to a graphics company. The exterior was not altered although an interior opening joining the American Bag building and the newly separated building was bricked over. The building remains in excellent.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 11 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

5. **299 3<sup>rd</sup> Street/228 Harrison Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**American Bag and Union Hide Co. Bldg. (h)/** APN 001-0151-046  
**American Bag Building (c)**  
20<sup>th</sup> Century utilitarian  
1923 (Permit 45500)  
architect: Leonard H. Thomas builder: J. Sokolow

299 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, the American Bag and Union Hide Co. building, is located on a 50 by 100-foot corner lot at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Harrison Streets. This three-story rectangular brick building with a flat roof and raised basement was constructed in 1917 (building permit 45500). Leonard H. Thomas designed the building at the request of Kalman Gluck, proprietor and manager of the Union Hide and American Bag Company.

It is a low-rise warehouse covering the entire lot and providing no setback from the property line. It was oriented toward 3<sup>rd</sup> Street with loading docks facing the Western Pacific tracks and freight depot. The American Bag Building is the most decorative of the warehouses in the District. It is distinguished by the rich textures and patterns of its three dimensional polychrome brickwork and by the rhythm of its arched windows. The two street facades have dark red brick surfaces with a richly patterned cream brick detailing in a two-part vertical composition, a one-story and basement base and a two story upper zone. The windows and doors, which are all deeply recessed, are segmentally arched and have cream brick sills. The sash is wood with four over four double hung windows. Archivots vary on each level in cream or polychrome brick in gauged or paneled patterns. A cream brick belt course with depressed square red brick panels divides the base and upper zone. A prominent corbeled polychrome brick cornice extends around the top of the building. The ground floor vehicular entries and the loading bays are straight-headed and numbered.

The building's integrity is outstanding. In 1994 in order to provide office and loft space, the current owner undertook a renovation of the interior space. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Street vehicular entry was modified to provide the main pedestrian entry to the renovated building, keeping the dimensions identical to the original opening. The original freight elevator, with its first floor exterior loading bay has been maintained in original condition. All original windows were restored and maintained. The exterior of the building retains its original "American Bag Co." signage. The flumes and bins, located on the roof that had been a part of the burlap bag cleaning process were maintained as an historical and architectural feature.

Like many other buildings within the Waterfront Warehouse District, the American Bag building is an outstanding example of early twentieth century utilitarian warehouse construction. It typifies the construction and architectural treatments typical of the warehouses of that era, while embellishing that treatment with details reflective of the best materials

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 12 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

available. The American Bag building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on August 13, 1999.

6. **200 4<sup>th</sup> Street/400 Jackson Street/175 5<sup>th</sup> Street/Madison Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**S&W Fine Foods, Inc. Warehouse (h)/Cost Plus World Market International Headquarters (c)** APN 001-0161-001  
Moderne warehouse permit A66276  
1937, add. 1946 builder: John F. Tulloch,  
architect: Jesse Rosenwald (eng.) Tulloch Construction Co.

200 4<sup>th</sup> Street is a one-story, Moderne warehouse, rectangular in plan. The original warehouse filled a 45,000 square foot, three-frontage lot. A later addition increased the building's lot coverage to its current 60,000 square feet - a full city block.

The original and the addition's foundation is concrete. The structure is reinforced concrete and wood post and beam. The exterior walls are concrete and stucco. The windows are tall, narrow, deep-set metal sash. The original building has a straight parapet with fluted pilasters and plain round medallions. The later addition is plain with no detailing. The roof is composition with sixty skylights.

The Fourth Street side of the building had spur track facilities that could accommodate six rails cars at once. These freight loading facilities have been partially filled-in. A partial spur track remains.

The Jackson Street side of the building was devoted to truck shipping and receiving, with the office on the Fifth Street corner. The Jackson Street loading docks have also been partially filled in. A new entrance has also been cut out on the 4<sup>th</sup> Street elevation. The building presently houses the international headquarters of Cost Plus World Market. The building is in excellent condition; its integrity is good.

The building was designed in 1937 by Jesse Rosenwald, who as a member of Couchot, Rosenwald & Roeth, participated in the design of the Western States Grocery warehouse and Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters at 247 and 201 Fourth Street, respectively. The builder, John F. Tulloch of Oakland-based Tulloch Construction Company, built many major northern California East Bay industrial plants.

The building served initially as S & W Fine Foods, Inc.'s shipping, receiving, and branch warehouse. Originally known as the Sussman & Wormser Company (the first occupant of the 1927 warehouse at 255 3<sup>rd</sup> Street), by the time it commissioned its own warehouse, S & W Fine Foods was a major participant in the packaged foods market.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 13 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

The warehouse is significant as a reflection of Oakland's waterfront industrial development and the District's strong ties to food processing and distribution.

7. **201 4<sup>th</sup> Street/SW corner of Jackson Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters (h)/** APN 001-0155-008  
**Safeway Building (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian office  
building with Beaux Arts elements  
1929-30  
architect: Couchot, Rosenwald & Roeth  
(permit A38455)  
builder: Clinton  
Construction Co.

201 4<sup>th</sup> Street is an early 20th century utilitarian office and warehouse. Completed in 1929, the building is an attached five-story concrete shear wall structure with concrete slabs supported by heavy columns and pilasters. The structure is stuccoed reinforced concrete rectangular block on a corner lot with slightly raised basement.

Although primarily utilitarian in style, the building in its three-part vertical composition and minimal classical detailing reflects the influence of the Ecole de Beaux Arts. The building was originally designed as a warehouse on the lower three floors with offices above, but was later converted entirely to offices. In its original design, the distribution of the office and warehouse functions was expressed by the warehouse loading bays and industrial sash on the lower three floors and the office portion's wood double-hung windows on the top floors, an element that remains intact.

Visible alterations to date include filled-in freight loading docks and vehicle doors as well as the addition of security grilles. The building is presently undergoing adaptive reuse as 46 live-work loft condominiums. In the adaptive reuse, modifications are proposed to the exterior windows, doors, and roof. At the lower three floors, the windows would be enlarged, but would retain their appearance through the use of compatible industrial sash. At the upper two floors, the proposed design acknowledges the difference between the upper and lower level windows. The design proposes the use of double hung windows in modified openings. New doors and transoms are proposed for the main entrance and other secondary entrances to the building. A roof top addition of one story, set back from the existing building envelope is also proposed. The top of the addition would be 82 feet, five inches high or approximately eight feet higher than the existing parapet. The proposed addition would be set back approximately 12 feet on all sides.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 14 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

An historic preservation review of the proposed design by San Francisco's Carey & Company Inc. Architecture concluded:

...the proposed project alterations would not disqualify the property from Landmark or Preservation District eligibility or have substantial adverse impacts on the property's Character-Defining Elements. The proposed project alterations would not affect the ratings of either the building itself or the Waterfront Warehouse District. The existing status would be preserved and eligibility for listing on the National Register would not be affected.

As Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters, the building is significant as the general administrative offices of one of the world's pioneering supermarket chains, a function it retained from its construction in 1929, when Safeway was in a significant period of rapid growth, until 1996 when Safeway relocated its corporate headquarters to Pleasanton, California. The building is a prime contributor to the Waterfront Warehouse District as a reflection of industrial and commercial development in Oakland in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the location of national businesses and industries in Oakland.

8.	<b>220 4<sup>th</sup> Street</b>	<b>NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING</b>
	<b>Unknown (h)/Porthole Building (c)</b>	APN 001-0155-006
	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> century utilitarian	
	1947-48	(permit B17396)
	Architect: William C. Helms	builder: R.J. Gholar

220 4<sup>th</sup> Street is a one-story brick-fronted concrete block warehouse with truss roof, on an interior lot. The original red brick facade is consistent in color and pattern with the other late 1940s buildings in the district.

Unfortunately, a mid-1980s remodel and use conversion from warehouse to office has partially covered the brickwork with a postmodern stucco cornice and overscaled pediment with abstract keystone that is pasted onto the facade at mid-level. During this remodel, openings were added and the existing openings were enlarged. The original industrial sash and roll up door have been replaced with contemporary aluminum sash windows.

Permit #B17396, issued August 29, 1947, for this \$18,500 warehouse, identifies the owner as Irving Bruder, the builder as R. J. Gholar, and the architect as W. C. Helms. Bruder is listed in the 1943 city directory as in the wholesale notions business; the 1953 bird's eye map shows the building as "General Supply Co.;" Sanborn maps show nonspecific "warehouse and "wholesale store."

Though physically isolated from the cluster of late-1940s brick buildings around the Posey Tube Oakland Portal, it is part of the same theme in the District: a postwar building boom of warehouse infill on hitherto residential sites. This building has been significantly altered, however, and is therefore not a contributor to the District unless its integrity is restored.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 15 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

9. **247 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Western States Grocery Co. (h)/Fourth Street** APN 001-0155-010 thru 050  
**Lofts (c)**  
Early 20th century utilitarian warehouse  
1926 (permit A18428)  
Architect: Couchot, Rosenwald & Roeth builder: Industrial  
Construction Co.

247 4th Street is a four story, 60-foot tall reinforced concrete building, rectangular in plan, on a quarter-block corner lot. There are multi-paned industrial sash windows with center casements regularly placed on the three upper floors. It has a low stepped parapet and molded belt courses. Exterior walls are stucco over concrete. Roof is composition. Sanborn maps describe it as fireproof construction.

The building is joined almost into one with its five-story neighbor, 201 4th Street (Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters) by molded belt courses above the first and fourth stories. When the building was converted to live-work lofts in the early 1990s, the ground floor was altered to replace ground floor loading docks bays with store windows in horizontal sash. A trellis-like awning was added over the center entry.

The building was built in 1926 as a warehouse for Joseph T. Young for his Carr and Preston Company which soon after became Western States Grocery Company of California, and eventually became Safeway Stores' wholesale grocery subsidiary. According to the April 26, 1926 issue of Oakland Chamber of Commerce *Nuts and Bolts*, Carr and Preston was an Oregon corporation and a large shipper of canned goods in the northwest, attracted to the area "by the phenomenal growth of Oakland."

247 4th Street was occupied by Safeway Stores executives while Safeway Stores built its adjacent 1929 office and warehouse at 201 4th Street. Couchot Rosenwald and Roeth were the architects and engineers of both buildings. The Safeway Building and the Western Streets building form an imposing, block-long streetwall at the east end of the District and represent the high point of the District's grocery warehouse function. In the 1950s, Montgomery Ward occupied the building. In the 1980s, the building housed Sierra Designs' camping equipment factory. In the 1990s, it was adapted for reuse as 37 live-work and three commercial condominium loft units.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 16 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

- 
10. **255 4<sup>th</sup> Street/SW corner of Alice Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**C.L. Greeno Co. Pacific Coast** **APN 001-0153-015**  
**Headquarters (h)/C. L. Greeno building (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial building with  
Beaux Arts derivative and Arts and Crafts  
elements  
1923 (permit 76700)  
architect: W.K. Owen builder: W.K. Owen

255 4<sup>th</sup> Street is an early 20<sup>th</sup> century Beaux Arts-influenced derivative warehouse on an eighth-block corner lot. It is three-story, brick masonry and partial steel-frame loft building with first floor mezzanine and flat roof. The 4<sup>th</sup> Street elevation is approximately symmetrical, six bays wide dark red pressed brick surfaces and light gray stucco or cast stone trim.

Bays contain paired twelve, sixteen, and twenty light industrial sash each with four-light pivoted centers. The bays are separated by narrow slightly projecting pier buttresses that extend just above the top floor windows where they terminate with sloped stucco caps. The end buttresses have tall vertical panels in the brickwork with simple geometric embellishment at the tops. A stucco coping extends along the top of the parapet. Over each end bay is a peaked and stepped parapet with a red and white brick medallion. The monumental main entry is located in the right center bay below a cast stone segmentally arched pediment on ornate consoles with "The C.L. Greeno Co." in the frieze. The original entry infill has been replaced with a glazed aluminum door, sidelight, and signs. A vehicle entry with roll-up corrugated metal door is in the far right bay. Some of the first floor and mezzanine level brick has been sandblasted.

The six-bay Alice Street (east) side is similar to the 4th Street side, including the pier buttresses, except that it is stuccoed. The rear (south) elevation is surfaced in common brick, but maintains the skeletal articulation and end bay parapets of the other two elevations.

Architecturally, the building's ornamental pressed brick surfaces and architectural embellishments make it one of Oakland's more elaborate 20<sup>th</sup> century warehouses. The raised end parapets are a common elaboration of the basic utilitarian type, probably derived from the Arts and Crafts or Mission Revival styles. The monumental entry hood reflects the early 20<sup>th</sup> century's "City Beautiful" trend to embellish utilitarian buildings with historicist architectural treatments.

Building permit 76700, issued February 27, 1923 for this structure, described the building as "brick and concrete lofts" and identified the owner as the C. L. Greeno Co., the "designer" and builder as W. K. Owen, and the cost as \$40,000. The permit is stamped "inspected November 7, 1923" indicating the date of completion. Mr. Owen was an Oakland contractor and self-taught "designer" with other decorative brick industrial and commercial buildings to his credit in Oakland and Berkeley. He had an imaginative inclination that is reflected in the striking entry of the Greeno building.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 17 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

11. **267 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Oakland Wholesale Grocery Co. Inc. East** APN 001-0153-014  
**Annex No. 2 (h)/**  
**Steve Christian Building (c)**  
1920s decorative brick commercial
- 1920 (permit 54590)  
architect: A.W. Smith builder: Day & Gimbal

267 4<sup>th</sup> Street is a one-story and mezzanine, yellow pressed brick truss-roofed warehouse on an interior lot. The original framing of paneled brick frieze and pilasters remains (except for one pilaster), but bay infill has been altered in the process of converting the building into two floors of offices.

On both floors there are new plate glass windows with dark brown stucco bases in the five right bays; the two left bays have been combined into an inset atrium with brown stucco inset canopy. At one time this building shared an iron sidewalk canopy with its neighbor to the west.

Permit #54590 shows that this \$11,500 warehouse was built in early 1920 for Day & Gimbal and designed by Oakland architect A. W. Smith. The plans specified salesroom, fileroom, offices, and a pit for scales. A. F. Gimbal was with the Pacific Woodenware and Paper Company; Sanborn maps do not specify the use of this building until 1927 when it was "heavy hardware and auto supplies." Later occupants included wholesale liquors in the 1930's, United Grocers and Oakland Wholesale Grocery (who occupied all three buildings from here to Harrison Street, and joined them all with a sidewalk canopy), and an acoustic material and insulation warehouse. Though more seriously altered than A. W. Smith's other buildings in the district at 401 Alice Street (22) and 300 Webster Street (31), it retains enough of its original scale and materials to contribute as one of several early 1920s small brick storefront-style warehouses in the district.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 18 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

12. **270 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Nelson Lee Paper Co. (h)/Food Cash & Carry** APN 001-0153-008  
**Annex (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial (permit 83089)  
1923 builder: F.A. Muller  
Architect: Unknown

270 4<sup>th</sup> Street is a small one story and mezzanine brick warehouse, rectangular in plan, three bays wide, on an interior lot. Four plain brick pilasters support a simply paneled brick frieze; the base is brick and there is a minimal step (two bricks high) at each end of the parapet. There are industrial sash clerestories in the outer bays, with modern slat awnings. The center bay has been altered, with a tall garage door, awning and new smaller clerestory. Original storefront windows have been covered.

Building permit 83089 identifies the owner of this one-story brick store as Nelson Lee Paper Co., the builder as F. A. Muller, and the cost as \$18,000. Sanborn maps show it as a paper warehouse until at least 1934, and a wholesale grocer from at least 1947. The present occupants, Food Cash & Carry, continue this historic use within the District, and the building contributes visually as a moderately altered representative of the early 1920s brick storefront style, and a part of the one and two-story brick streetscape along the north side of 4th Street near the Posey Tube.

13. **278 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Makins Produce Co. Warehouse (h)/French** APN 001-0153-009  
**Fries (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse (permit A32002)  
1928 builder: Austin Co. of California  
builder: Austin Co. of California

278 4<sup>th</sup> Street is a two-story dark red brick warehouse, 20 feet tall, on an interior lot, in apparently original condition. There is extensive ornamental brickwork: corbeled cornice, band of vertical bricks over the upstairs windows, and framing around the central ground floor loading door and side pairs of windows. Wood-sash windows (all but two) are tall two over two with the upper section smaller like a transom. Ground floor windows, including the glass in the central double door and left-hand paneled office door, are protected by heavy wire screening. A signboard for "French Fries, Inc." hangs on the wall above the center door.

Building permit #A32002, 1928, states that this \$11,500 warehouse was owned, designed, and built by the Austin Company of California, engineers and builders, San Francisco, for the Makins or Matkins Produce Company, produce commission merchants. A special feature was a two-story space for an icebox in the center of the building. By 1934 Sanborn maps show the use as a machine shop, in 1947 an unspecified wholesale store; today's occupants manufacture

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 19 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

french fries. In addition to its compatible District uses, 278 4<sup>th</sup> Street is an exceptionally fine and intact 1920s brick utilitarian building, and as such contributes both to the District as a whole and to the small-scale brick streetscape on 4th Street surrounding the Posey Tube Oakland Portal.

14. **283 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Oakland Wholesale Grocery Co. Inc. East** APN 001-0153-013  
**Annex No. 2 (h)/Allied Paper Company (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse  
1928 (permit A33645)  
architect: N.B. Green builder: F.R. Siegrist

283 4<sup>th</sup> Street is a 44-foot tall, three-story reinforced concrete warehouse on an interior lot. Facade is four bays wide, upper stories filled almost floor to ceiling and pilaster to pilaster with small-paned industrial windows. There are blue square and diamond shaped tiles on the narrow spandrels, an "Allied Paper" sign painted across the frieze, and low triangular parapets atop the end bays. The ground floor has a suspended metal canopy, freight doors in the two right-hand bays, a store entrance (with new paneling), and an office window on the left. Side walls are blank; the rear of the building faces the Western Pacific tracks (formerly freight depot) and has a plain parapet, painted sign, industrial windows, and four loading doors with high, small-paned transoms.

Building permit A33645 was issued May 19, 1928 for this three-story \$48,000 concrete warehouse. The permit identifies the architect as N. B. Green, the builder as F. R. Siegrist, and the owner as Oakland Wholesale Grocery Co. Oakland Wholesale Grocery Co. previously shared the building to the west (291-5 4<sup>th</sup> Street) and over the years also expanded east into 261 4<sup>th</sup> Street (Sanborn maps). Along with the Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters-Western States Grocery complex and United Grocers on either side of 4th Street between Jackson and Alice, this at its height was one of the major grocery wholesale operations that dominated the District in the 1930s and 40s. The present Allied Paper building is visually important in the district for its striking expanse of windows, its sidewalk canopy, and its triangular parapets which echo those on other multi-story warehouses at 255 4<sup>th</sup> Street and 255 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 20 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

- 
15. **292 4<sup>th</sup> Street/NE corner of Harrison Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Wright's West Warehouse (h)/Paper Works** APN 001-0153-010  
**International Inc. (c)**  
Moderne warehouse (permit B6876)  
1945 builder: California  
architect: Ralph E. Wastell Builders Inc.

292 4<sup>th</sup> Street is a Moderne warehouse. It is high one story and mezzanine, rectangular plan, on a corner lot. It has a straight parapet and walls of red common brick in common bond. Smooth, sharply rectangular wall surfaces have minimal brick ornamentation: slightly projecting window sills and parapet band (302 4<sup>th</sup> Street is the same). Windows are industrial sash, in a single band across the mezzanine story on 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and placed high on either side of the ground-floor doors on both frontages. The building is in excellent condition; its integrity is excellent.

According to permit #B6876, this \$14,000 warehouse/office for Herman Fiene was built between July 1945 and May 1946, early in the postwar commercial infill of the area around the Posey Tube Oakland Portal. The first use recorded for this building (Sanborn map) is wholesale drugs and the 1952 bird's eye map shows G & R Drug Co. This building is an unassuming example of a Moderne warehouse; like the other postwar buildings in the Posey Tube group, it continues the visual pattern of the earlier one and two-story brick buildings in the immediate area, and the pattern of industrial and warehousing uses in the District

16. **302 4<sup>th</sup> Street/NW corner Harrison Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Impurgia Warehouse (h)/Hirsch Wright &** APN 001-0147-006  
**Associates (c)**  
Mid 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse (permit B4384)  
1944-45, rem c. 1980 builder: A.S. Holmes &  
architect: R.A. Hutchison E.B. Stark

302 4<sup>th</sup> Street is a small mid-20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian red brick warehouse remodeled into offices, on a corner lot. Exterior walls are common brick in American common bond, with a narrow parapet band and soldier courses over the door and window openings. The 4<sup>th</sup> Street facade originally had four bays, with freight doors in the outer two, window and office door in the others. This was altered for offices around 1980 when openings were rearranged and filled with dark plate glass.

Originally designed near the end of World War II by R.A. Hutchison for C.C. Impurgia, the building's initial tenant is unknown. The first identified owner and commercial occupant, about 1952-67, was Ricker Machinery Co., a use typical of the postwar light industrial activity at this end of the District. Its brick surface seems to have served a year later as the model for 292 4<sup>th</sup>

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 21 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

Street across Harrison Street. Though remodeled circa 1980 the building preserves the form and surface that define the brick infill group around the Posey Tube Oakland Portal and contributes to the continuity of the District.

17. **308 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Oakland Poultry Co. (h) /** APN 001-0147-007  
**Oakland Fish, Inc. (c)**  
Mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century Utilitarian warehouse  
1940 (permit A84891)  
architect: Francis Plant builder: Edward Sommarstrom

308 4<sup>th</sup> St. is a mid-20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian brick warehouse, 18 feet high with a truss roof, on an interior lot. Its facade is two stories; side parapets step down slightly to a rear one-story section. Exterior walls are constructed with large red bricks, with parapet and window tops edged in yellow brick. The three upstairs windows are small-paned industrial sash; loading doors are at either end of the ground floor with office door and window between. A black and white freehand "Oakland Fish Inc." sign is painted on the upper wall. The building appears unaltered.

308 4<sup>th</sup> Street was originally built as a warehouse for Oakland Poultry Co.; 1940s Sanborn maps and 1953 bird's eye map show Oakland Fisheries here. The earliest of the 1940's one- and two-story brick infill group around the Posey Tube Oakland Portal, this building continued and still continues the historical wholesale food uses in the District. Visually, the infill group is compatible with the early 20<sup>th</sup> century industrial character of the rest of the district, and forms a distinctive postwar streetscape of its own around the Posey Tube.

18. **309 4<sup>th</sup> Street/Harrison Street/3<sup>rd</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Oakland Plumbing Supply/P.E. O'Hair** APN 001-0147-022 thru 046  
**Co. (h)/Portico Lofts (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse  
with Beaux Arts elements  
1929 rem 1998 (Permit A38775)  
architect: Edward A. Eames builder: Barrett & Hilp

309 4<sup>th</sup> St. is a high one-story concrete warehouse that occupies approximately half a city block. Architectural detailing is confined to the office wing facing 4<sup>th</sup> Street; other frontages have a series of large, plain, multi-paned industrial sash windows set in reinforced concrete exterior walls.

The 4th Street facade has stucco imitation stonework on the pilasters, frieze edging, and center portico with molded pediment. Windows are plate glass, with a band of small panes at transom level. The former office interior is to the right of the center entry, and the former showroom up four steps to the left. An open gable beamed ceiling over both spaces is an especially notable

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 22 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

feature. The Mediterranean style former showroom has a dark red herringbone tile floor and is approached by a tile stairway, with glazed polychrome risers. The office-showroom wing has been vacant since 1997 when the property was sold. The former warehouse areas facing Harrison Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Street have been converted into 20 residential lofts, each with a mezzanine level. Exterior changes have been minor, infilling three vehicle doors with concrete and industrial sash windows, and adding an exit doorway on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

Designed and built in 1929 by and for Edward A. Eames, owner of Oakland Plumbing Supply Co. and P.E. O'Hair Co. in San Francisco, the building was used continuously until 1997 as a wholesale plumbing supply warehouse: Oakland Plumbing Supply Co. until the 1970's and then P.E. O'Hair Co. According to a history in the June 1936 *Port of Oakland Compass*, the company was founded in 1909 in "a little store at 512 Broadway, and by 1929 required this new 30,000 square foot building. The Oakland Plumbing Supply Company occupies the position of being one of the largest distributors of plumbing, heating and engineering supplies on the Pacific Coast and in the course of each year accounts for a goodly share of the total tonnage handled through the terminals of the Port of Oakland." Although an exception to the prevailing 1920s grocery uses in the District, this building is a fine example of warehouse construction, and despite its conversion to live-work lofts in 1998, remains a strong contributor to the district.

19. **311 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Portico Lofts (h)/same (c)** APN 001-0147-014 thru 021  
Contemporary faux-industrial  
1998  
architect: NPH Architects builder: unknown

311 4<sup>th</sup> St. is a high one-story and mezzanine building constructed mid-block on what, until 1997, was the storage yard for the adjacent Oakland Plumbing Supply/P.E. O'Hair Co. (see 309 4<sup>th</sup> St.) A double-loaded corridor parallel to the sidewalk has four residential condominium lofts on each side: four live-work lofts facing onto the sidewalk and four onto the parking lot.

The front elevation is divided into four major parts by progressive 15 foot step-backs at each loft, and a fifth 15 foot step-back near the entrance gate for the entire Portico Lofts complex. The vertical line of each step-back is emphasized by a whimsical four foot round metal downspout that runs from a metal scupper mounted on the surface of the parapet to a drainpipe beneath the sidewalk. The façade of each of the four live-work lofts is similar, with a wide band of stucco above aluminum-framed windows and vertically mounted corrugated metal. Each loft has a double door street entrance of wood with a single light in each leaf.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 23 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

Due to its very recent construction date, the building does not contribute to the significance of the historic district, although it is compatible in scale and its modern design respects the industrial character of the district.

20. **287 5<sup>th</sup> Street/444 Harrison Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Unknown (h)/Stephanos Building (c)** APN 001-0153-001  
Mid 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse (permit B34109)  
1950-51 builder: F.H. White  
architect: J. Y. Long (engineer)

287 5<sup>th</sup> Street is an 18-foot high, one-story warehouse on a corner lot. The Harrison Street frontage has a concrete base, an unusually tall rolling freight door, two small, high industrial sash windows, and a windowless office door with the adjacent window blocked out; the 5<sup>th</sup> Street side is similar. Shape is sharply rectangular; brickwork is identical to the other five buildings on this block of Harrison Street, with narrow windowsills and parapet band, and common bond with a row of headers every six courses.

Building Permit #B34109, issued October 13, 1950, identifies the owner of this one story masonry warehouse as George Block, the builder as F.H. White, and the engineer/designer as J.Y. Long. The 1953 bird's eye map shows the occupant as Western Tool and Supply Co. and later Sanborn maps show photo equipment repair and electronics specialty. This is the last one of a 1945-50 light industrial infill group on Harrison around the Posey Tube Oakland Portal. Though it shares the American common bond brickwork and industrial sash of the other five buildings in the group, the articulation of this later building seems to approach the later 20<sup>th</sup> century warehouse style of blank walls and randomly placed openings. In size, materials, and use, this building is part of a coherent subgroup extending the patterns of the main warehouse district into the 1940s and into a previously undeveloped block around the Posey Tube Oakland Portal.

21. **220 Alice Street/SE corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street** **NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Prime Smoked Meats, Inc. Processing** APN 001-0157-001 and APN  
**Plant(h)/Prime Smoked Meats (c)** 001-0157-005  
Mid 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse (permits B48347, C38842)  
1953; addition 1967 builder: Edward Smith  
Architect: K. Olsen

220 Alice Street is a one story concrete and concrete-block warehouse with flat roof, irregularly distributed (and redistributed) doors and windows, and "Prime Smoked Meats" pig logo several places on the beige-painted walls. There are vestiges of 1950's styling - a corner porch with pipe columns, and a cantilevered canopy over the loading door on 3rd Street. Large windows on both frontages have been filled in.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 24 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

Permit B48347, 1953, and Sanborn maps show that the original section of this property was built for \$46,500 as a warehouse and restaurant for Davidson Pork Products, replacing a two-story Victorian house. The closed-off windows and corner porch are apparently traces of the original restaurant design. The 1967 addition (permit C38842) was for Prime Smoked Meats, the present occupant.

Though compatible with the district in scale and use, this building's recent date and dissimilar appearance render it a non-contributing District building.

22. **401 Alice Street/NW corner of 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Autocar Sales and Service Co. (h)/Food Cash** APN 001-0153-007  
**& Carry Trading Co. Inc. (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial building (permit 54970)  
1920 builder: Autocar Sales and  
architect: A.W. Smith Service

401 Alice Street is a one-story truss-roofed yellow pressed brick warehouse (originally a garage), 18 feet tall, on a corner lot. Brick pilasters between bays rest on a concrete base and are topped by a narrow brick frieze/parapet. Ornamentation consists of slightly raised bands outlining panels on the frieze and pilasters. The four bays along 4th Street (the original garage section) have freight doors; bays toward and on Alice (showroom and stock room) have large-paned steel-frame windows. On all bays, transoms have been filled in, and some windows and entrances are altered. Most of the brick has been painted.

The brick garage, originally valued at \$23,000, was built for Autocar Sales and Service Co. and designed by noted Oakland architect A. W. Smith. Like Smith's other buildings in the District--the 1923 Tyre Bros. building at 300 Webster and the 1920 Day and Gimbal building at 267 4th Street--this building is an adaptation to warehouse use of a typical 1920s storefront with decorative pressed brick frame and transoms. 401 Alice Street is significant as an early automotive use in the district. Subsequent occupants have included a produce warehouse in the late 1930s, wholesale liquors in the 1950s, and a wholesale food distribution business today.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 25 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

23. **426 Alice Street/4<sup>th</sup> Street/5<sup>th</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**United Grocers Company Warehouse (h)/** APN 001-0155-001  
**Wheelink (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse (permits A47956 and A48032)  
1931-32 builder: Nick Wierh  
architect: unknown

426 Alice Street is a one-story reinforced concrete warehouse, 14 feet tall, filling the west half of a city block, apparently built in two sections. The north half has a truss roof, and simple concrete pilaster and parapet detailing on the 5th Street side; the south half has rolling freight doors and small metal sash windows along 4th Street.

The main Alice Street facade has both pedestrian and freight doors, and a metal canopy along most of its length (added or extended in 1955 according to building permits). Over the main office door (408 Alice) is a triangular parapet and group of three clerestory windows that have been filled in. The building is now painted peach. Some doors and windows along Alice and 5th Streets have been filled in. A 1953 bird's eye drawing appears to show mission tile on the Alice Street parapet. If so, it has been removed.

Building permits A47956 (NE corner 5th [sic] and Alice) and A48032 (SE corner 5th and Alice), were issued in September 1931 to Pacific Freight Lines and builder Nick Wierh for this warehouse. In 1933 it was occupied by United Grocers Ltd. (city directories), and by 1947 (Sanborn map) by Wellman Peck & Co., wholesale grocers. The columned sidewalk canopy and the triangular pediments are recurring features in the District.

24. **229 Harrison Street/307 3<sup>rd</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Poultry Producers of Central California** APN 001-0149-006  
**Distribution Center (h)/The Egghouse (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Utilitarian with Art  
Deco Elements (permit A40411)  
1929 builder: John Diestel  
architect: H.C. Baumann

229 Harrison is a two-story flat-roofed concrete and stucco warehouse on a corner lot, with pilaster-and-bay warehouse construction, six bays on each side. End bays are articulated by art deco detailing of stepped parapets and triangular vertical ridging; there are also small vertical fins at the tops of the inner pilasters. Windows are multi-paned industrial sash. Four ground floor bays on Harrison Street and two on 3rd Street are occupied by metal freight doors (originally wood) and loading docks. There is a suspended metal canopy all along the Harrison Street frontage.

Designed by the prolific San Francisco architect H. C. Baumann, the warehouse was occupied from 1929 to 1950 by Poultry Producers of Central California, branch manager L. A. Stern, "a founder of the Nulaid Egg industry" (Alameda

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 26 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

*Times-Star*, Oct. 23, 1970). This company moved a few blocks west in 1950. Subsequent occupants included Carlson's Bakers' and Confectioners' Supply (1953 bird's eye map), a ceramic tile warehouse (Sanborn map), and miscellaneous wholesale and warehousing businesses. Current occupants include two warehouse spaces and six artist studios, two with living quarters attached. The building contributes to the District by association with a major wholesale food business; as a typical warehouse with bay construction, metal sash, and sidewalk canopy; and because its style strongly communicates the mid-point in the District's period of significance.

25. **318 Harrison Street/SE corner 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Saroni Wholesale Sugar and Rice Warehouse** APN 001-0153-012-01  
**(h)/318 Harrison (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian (permit 69130)  
1922 builder: Henry J. Christensen  
architect: R. Vane Woods (engineer)

318 Harrison Street is a low three-story brick building on a corner lot. The building was built in two sections which until recently were owned separately and maintained separate entrances. Each half of the facade has a checkerboard frieze of light colored brick, and an unusual arrangement of three unequal bays, the center one wider than the outer ones.

A 1980s remodel has significantly altered the historic appearance of the building. During this remodel, the two warehouses were internally joined to become one office building with a common entrance on the center of the Harrison Street facade. This Harrison Street entrance was given a postmodern exterior treatment consisting of a thinly applied stucco tower which extends one story above the existing building. The tower is capped off with a pyramidal green metal roof. Additional bands of stucco wrap the street sides of the building at the base and first floors. During this remodel, the historic metal canopy at the sidewalk, and all loading doors onto Harrison Street were removed. A loading dock was in-filled with brick on the side of the building facing the railway spur.

Building permit #69130 issued May 13, 1922 and original plans indicate that this double warehouse was designed by engineer R. Vane Woods, built at a cost of \$30,000 by Henry J. Christensen for sugar wholesaler A.B. Saroni and the Oakland Grocers' Investment Co., who separately owned the west and east halves respectively. This was the first warehouse in the district built for wholesale grocery businesses: six others followed it in the 1920's. The Saroni family were San Francisco sugar wholesalers who established Oakland offices after the 1906 earthquake. Alfred B. Saroni expanded the Oakland branch into the rice business, and after World War I, it lost no time in "building a three-story warehouse at 4<sup>th</sup> and Harrison, together with spur track" and access to the waterfront; in 1930 a powered sugar mill was added (*Port of Oakland Compass* April 1936). The Saroni Company was on these premises until at least 1953 (bird's eye map) Oakland Grocers' Investment Co.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 27 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

seems also to have been known as Oakland Grocery Association, and also in some way overlapped with Oakland Wholesale Grocery at 283-7 4<sup>th</sup>.

The building's massing, brickwork and windows remain intact. With the removal of the stucco bands and tower element, the building could again be a contributor.

26. **415 Harrison Street at North R/W line of 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE**  
**George A. Posey Tube Oakland Portal** APN Caltrans Route 260 post  
**(h)/Posey Tube Oakland Portal (c)** mile R1.20  
Beaux Arts derivative/Art Deco  
1925-28  
architect: Henry H. Meyers builder: Crocker Company  
engineer: Austin W. Earl

The George A. Posey Tube Oakland Portal houses the ventilation system for the an underwater tunnel beneath the Oakland-Alameda Estuary that connects the cities of Oakland and Alameda, California, and two portal buildings at each end of the subsurface road section.

The Oakland portal building is generally rectangular in plan and of fireproof reinforced concrete construction combining Beaux Arts symmetry with Art Deco massing and detailing. It consists of a three-story central mass flanked by two story side wings, with a one-story wing projecting from the front. The high central portion of the structure consists of two parallel rectangular three story tower sections with pyramid roofs flanking gigantic arched windows at the second and third story levels. Large interior exhaust chambers open to the sky. The wings contain large fans that draw "vitiated" air from ducts above the tunnel's roadway through vents to the exhaust chambers.

A one-story flat-roofed wing, as wide as the high central portion, projects forward at the front of the building. A short flight of stairs leads to entries on each end wall with riveted metal doors and ornamental iron sconces. This front wing houses the control rooms and offices.

The building is ornamented by vertical piers and diamond-patterned screens. The recessed piers are rendered in bas-relief concrete. These surmount a narrow band a vertical pleated pattern. This band continues across the top central concrete arch flanking metal letters forming the words "OAKLAND PORTAL."

An inclined roadway 400 feet in length leads from beneath the Oakland Portal building to the surface street system. Retaining walls extend upward to approximately six feet above ground level where the walls are punctuated by vertical openings and projecting pedestals that served as electrolier bases. The original ornamental iron electroliers have been replaced with modern fluorescent lights with poles curving over the roadway. Ornate 25-foot pylons at the ends of the retaining walls have been sheared to about one-half their

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 28 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

height and the balustrades along the street approach are truncated to accommodate the adjacent elevated Interstate 880 Nimitz Freeway.

The Oakland Portal building was also painted pale orange and cream in the mid-1980s. The glass curtain walls were also painted over at this time.

Despite the aforementioned modifications, the Oakland Portal maintains its historic integrity. It is a familiar landmark with a powerful architectural presence and a prime contributor to the District.

27. **417 Harrison Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Industrial Bearing Co. Building (h)/** APN 001-0147-005  
**Metropolitan Press (c)**  
Moderne industrial building (permit B11119)  
1946 builder: Shale Ortzow  
architect: Francis Harvey Slocombe

417 Harrison Street is a small one-story red brick industrial building on an interior lot. It has a tall, plain brick parapet that occupies almost half of the building's 18-foot height; a narrow streamlined metal hood immediately above the door and window openings; red glazed tile baseboard; conical bulkheads at the freight door; and brickwork in common bond with a row of headers every six courses. The building is rectangular on a lot with angled front, so that its north end is set back about four feet from the sidewalk and from the front of its rather similar neighbor 425 Harrison Street. Later modifications include replacement of warehouse windows with full tinted windows and the placement of security grates on windows and door.

Building permit #B11119 identifies this structure as a \$15,000, two-room machine shop for Industrial Bearing Co. of Oakland and San Francisco. The architect was Francis Harvey Slocombe of Oakland, who was known for period revival houses and commercial buildings in Oakland and Berkeley.

This is one of a group of seven small brick commercial and industrial buildings on the truncated lots surrounding the Posey Tube Oakland Portal which were constructed between 1945 and 1954. They share common materials and uses with their earlier neighbors and several, including this one, have some stylistic interest, and are good representatives of their period. All are in good condition with integrity intact. This is one in a group of post-World War II warehouses that are significant in their reflection of the District's second building boom.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 29 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

28. **425 Harrison Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Western California Fish Co. (h)/Roger's** APN 001-0147-004  
**Automotive (c)**  
Moderne industrial building (permit B15647)  
1947 builder: George J. Mauer  
architect: John B. Anthony

425 Harrison is a one-story, 18-foot high, red common brick industrial building on an irregularly shaped corner lot adjacent to the entrance to the Posey Tube Oakland Portal. The facade curves along the front of the lot; vertical bricks rim the top, and common bond walls have a header course every sixth course. A narrow metal streamlined hood runs across the tops of three tall industrial sash windows and a (1953) rolling freight door on the left two-thirds of the facade. On the right are a lower metal-sash window and a small, brick-screened opening. Both the height and hood tie this building very closely architecturally to its neighbor, 417 Harrison Street. Spanning the upper brick face, the original "California Fish Co." sign is faintly visible.

Building permit B15647, issued April 28, 1947, indicates that this building cost the Western California Fish Co. \$20,000. It was designed by John B. Anthony, Oakland architect of a number of distinguished Streamlined Moderne houses and store buildings throughout the East Bay. 425 Harrison is a contributor to the District as a representative example of the Moderne industrial building type constructed in the immediate post-World War II years. In its original use by California Fish, it carried on the original District industries of food handling and storage.

29. **432-38 Harrison Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Quong Tai Shrimp Company (h)/Old World** APN 001-0153-002  
**Building (c)**  
Mid 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian commercial building (permit B9999)  
1946-47 builder: Shale Ortzow  
architect: F.H. Slocombe

438 Harrison Street is a mid-block, two story, zero lot line, masonry building. The front property line and facade are skewed reflecting the street shape created by the Posey Tube rising through the center of Harrison Street at this block. The ground floor consists of three bays framed by narrow columns of brick; windows in the outer two bays were replaced with concrete block, small doors and tiny high windows in 1976. The second floor has five industrial sash windows evenly spaced. Brickwork, identical to the other five buildings in this group on Harrison, features narrow projecting window sills, a narrow parapet band, and a common American bond pattern.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 30 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

According to building permit #B9999, 432 Harrison Street was built as a store and offices for Garr Lee in 1946, at a cost of \$14,000. The building is in excellent condition, and could be restored to its original appearance with the removal of the lower bay infill.

Plans indicate that the proposed ground floor was to be used as offices and that a partial second floor was to be left unfinished for future office use. Oral history indicates that the building was owned by Garr Lee, owner of the Quong Tai Shrimp Company which was expanding food processing operations from an existing retail fish store at 2118 12th Avenue. A portion of the ground floor was used as a Chinese restaurant. The remaining two-thirds of the ground floor was used as a shrimp drying and soy sauce manufacturing plant. After Mr. Lee's death in the late 1970s, redwood fermentation vats were removed from the rooftop. The unfinished upstairs office space was converted into an apartment where members of the Lee family lived until the early 1960s. The building remained abandoned until its purchase by Bill Davis in 1978. Since then it has been occupied as ground floor commercial with residential above.

The year after building 432 Harrison Street, the architect, Francis Harvey Slocombe, and the builder, Shale Ortzow, built the machine shop across the street at 417 Harrison. Both are part of a group of small brick 1940s commercial and industrial buildings around the Posey Tube Oakland Portal that form a coherent streetscape of their own as well as carry on the historical and visual themes of the District.

30. **401 Jackson/NW corner of 4<sup>th</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**  
**Unknown (h)/Del Monte Meats (c)** APN 001-0155-005  
Mid 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse  
1946 (permit B9912)  
architect: Stolte Inc. builder: Stolte Inc.

401 Jackson Street is a one-story reinforced concrete flat-roofed warehouse building, 18 feet tall, on a corner lot. Small and large industrial sash windows and pedestrian and freight doors penetrate concrete walls in a utilitarian arrangement without any visual pattern. Surfaces are thinly stuccoed concrete, showing the imprints of the wooden forms.

Building Permit #B9912 was issued May 25, 1946 to Edward Amaro (current owner) for a \$30,000 concrete poultry market, designed and built by Stolte Inc. Its concrete surfaces are compatible to the Safeway building across the street. Like the group of brick buildings at the Posey Tube Oakland Portal, and the American Bag Co. additions, this is part of a postwar infill building boom in the District, compatible with the older buildings in scale, use, and materials.

31. **300-10 Webster Street/NE corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street** **CONTRIBUTING BUILDING**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 31 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

**Tyre Bros. Glass Co. (h) /Bay Cities**  
**Produce (c)**  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial warehouse  
1923  
architect: A.W. Smith

APN 001-0147-012  
  
(permit 76400)  
builder: A.W. Smith

300-310 Webster St. is a high one-story and mezzanine 1920s decorative brick warehouse on a corner lot. It is rectangular in plan and has a straight parapet, a sky lit truss roof, and pilaster and bay composition. Exterior walls are tan pressed brick above a 30-foot high base of dark red common brick. The building has a prominent corbelled brick cornice and basketweave brickwork in the frieze on both street frontages. The Webster Street facade has paneled freight doors in the four central bays, small-paned transoms in the upper parts of all six bays, and a suspended wooden canopy which is a 1955 replacement similar to the original. Openings on the 3rd Street side have been mostly covered up with vertical-grooved plywood.

300-10 Webster Street was designed in 1923 by Oakland architect A.W. Smith (1864-1933) whose numerous commercial and residential works in Oakland and Berkeley span a forty year career. The first occupant (city directory, 1926) seems to have been Tyre Bros. Glass Co., of San Francisco, Los Angeles and Fresno; it had planned to build at 7<sup>th</sup> and Cypress Streets but apparently settled here since this site had the railroad spur it needed. According to the March 17, 1924 Chamber of Commerce manufacturers' newsletter *Bolts and Nuts*, the amount of building going on in Oakland "made it imperative for the firm to enter this field with headquarters here." By 1934 (Sanborn maps) the building was occupied by a wholesale grocery, a use perpetuated today by the building's current occupant, Bay Cities Produce Co. This is a very good example of a 1920's storefront, with brick frieze and transom, adapted to warehouse design. The canopy and bays are recurring themes in the district.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   7   Page  32  Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

---

**7. Description**

---

**Materials (continued)**

other   Ceramic Tile    
other   Glass    
other   Corrugated galvanized metal    
other   Steel    
other   Wood



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   8   Page   33   Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

---

**8. Statement of Significance**

---

**Architect/Builder (continued)**

Reed, Walter D.  
Woods, R. Vane  
White, H. C.  
Austin Co. Of California  
Green, N. B.  
Eames, Edward A.  
Baumann, H. C.  
Replogle, C. S.  
Rosenwald, Jesse  
Plant, Francis  
Hutchison, R. A.  
Wastell, Ralph E.  
Slocombe, Francis H.  
Stolte Inc.  
Anthony, John B.  
Helner, W. C.  
Long, J. Y.  
Olsen, K.  
Flynn, Teri  
NPH Architects

**Summary Paragraph**

The Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District is significant at the local level under Criterion A in the areas of industry and commerce for its association with Oakland's industrial development from World War I to shortly after World War II. Before World War I, Oakland's industrial economy was considered tied largely to other East Bay cities. During and after World War I, Oakland industry expanded astronomically due largely to the growth of industries supporting its port and infrastructure development. From World War I through a few years after World War II, Oakland's industrial economy stood on its own and earned the city the nickname "Industrial Capital of the West." Through the tonnage they shipped by rail, water, and land, the businesses that made up the area known today as the Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District contributed to Oakland's industrial development. The property is also significant at the local level under Criterion C in the area of architecture. The District is Oakland's only intact concentration of buildings that convey through its physical features the City's industrial past.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 34 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

**PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The District's period of significance is 1914 to 1954. Exceptional significance is not, however, claimed because the majority of the contributing buildings are more than fifty years old. The one building less than fifty years old claimed as a contributor is an integral part of the District.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

**Criterion A: Pattern of Events Significant in Oakland's Development**

Before the District's development, in an area west of the District, a Produce Exchange and a number of wholesalers and jobbers set up shop in a neighborhood known at the time as the "wholesale district." Most occupants of this early "wholesale district" were branches of San Francisco enterprises. According to an *Oakland Tribune* report at the time, these concerns primarily supplied the local retail market.

The expansion of these "wholesale district" businesses had been limited for 40 years by Southern Pacific's waterfront monopoly. This monopoly ended in 1909 when Western Pacific Railroad Company won a court battle affirming the City of Oakland's right to grant Western Pacific a "wharfing out" franchise and to control docks and other tidelands improvements. In 1909, Western Pacific completed its track and built a freight depot in the heart of the area known today as the Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District. Western Pacific's Oakland arrival was a major milestone in Oakland's development because the railroad made it possible for Oakland to recover control of and reap the benefits of its waterfront.

In 1914, one "wholesale district" occupant struck out to expand its market. W. P. Fuller Paint Co., at the time the largest and oldest paint company on the Pacific Coast, constructed the District's first warehouse at 201 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (1). From this location, W. P. Fuller began to distribute paint and painting supplies throughout the western United States via the Western Pacific railroad.

The Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District's period of significance begins in 1914 with the construction of the W. P. Fuller Paint Co. warehouse.

Three years later, in 1917, The American Bag & Union Hide Co. re-located from the "wholesale district" to 299 Third Street (5), across the street from the Western Pacific freight depot. At its inception, The American Bag & Union Hide Co. dealt in hides and wool and processed used bags for resale to local feed mills and farmers in nearby communities. After moving into the District, the company developed an innovative process for vacuum cleaning and mending used burlap and cotton bags. The American Bag & Union Hide Co. eventually came to offer a complete line of new and used textile bags to, among others, rail and water shippers.

Between 1920 and 1923, six firms erected warehouses in the District. They included Autocar Sales and Service Co., 401 Alice Street (22); Day & Gimbal,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   8   Page  35  Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

267 4<sup>th</sup> Street (11); Saroni Wholesale Sugar and Rice, 318 Harrison Street (25); Tyre Bros. Glass, 300-10 Webster Street (31); C. L. Greeno, 255 4<sup>th</sup> Street (10); and Nelson Lee Paper Co., 270 4<sup>th</sup> Street (12). Two of the six firms - Saroni Wholesale Sugar and Rice, 318 Harrison Street (25); Tyre Bros. Glass, 300-10 Webster Street (31) - re-located to the District from the "wholesale district."

Business publications of the day reported that the businesses were drawn to the District by Western Pacific's presence. Each of the businesses built spurs off Western Pacific's tracks and became major railroad customers. For example, Tyre Bros. Glass (31), one of California's largest glass corporations, distributed its plate, window, and building glass products by rail throughout the western United States. C. L. Greeno Company (10), a Cincinnati-based firm, located its Pacific Coast headquarters in the District to receive upholstery and bedding supplies via rail from its Ohio factory for distribution throughout the area west of Denver. Favorable rail rates made it more economical for firms wishing to reach western markets to establish a distribution outlet on the Pacific Coast rather than build manufacturing plants in western cities.

While the early District warehouses distributed a wide variety of products, after 1923 most new warehouses were built for wholesale grocery purposes. And while the early warehouses solidified Western Pacific's triumph, it is these latter warehouses that, through the tonnage they shipped by water, directly contributed to the port's expansion and Oakland's industrial development.

Before 1926, Oakland was purely a local port. The cargo passing over its piers consisted largely of low-grade bulk commodities such as sand, coal, sulphur, ores, and lumber. No foreign steamship lines were calling on a regular schedule. As an early Port of Oakland article attested:

Steamship companies will not serve a port and send all of its vessels to such port regularly unless a reasonable amount of cargo is made available for each vessel. The tonnage of a few large shippers is not sufficient. Shipments of numerous small shippers are required to supplement the tonnages of large shippers.

The District's businesses, particularly the ones arriving in the mid-1920s through the end of the next decade, upgraded the port's cargo mix, introducing high valued packaged goods such as canned fruits and vegetables, and manufactured articles.

In 1926, Western States Grocery Co. built a four-story warehouse, 247 4<sup>th</sup> Street (9) in the District. Western States Grocery served retail grocers from Klamath Falls, Oregon to Bakersfield, California and east into Nebraska. At the time it settled in the District, it was the largest grocery wholesaler on the Pacific Coast.

In 1926, for example, Western States Grocery distributed 4,000 bags of California walnuts; 1,500 bags of California almonds; 50 carloads of

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   8   Page  36  Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

California raisins; 150 carloads of California watermelons and cantaloupes; 125 carloads of California sweet potatoes; 50 carloads of grapes; and 250,000 cases of California fruits and vegetables.

Western States Grocery, which operated its own coffee roasting department, also imported and distributed annually by water and rail more than 250,000 pounds of coffee; 120,000 pounds of tea; 1,000 bags of Italian filberts; and 2,000 bags of Brazil nuts.

Safeway Stores, which is often credited with introducing an innovative warehouse distribution system, subsequently purchased Western States Grocery Co. In 1928, Safeway Stores, 201 4<sup>th</sup> Street (7), broke ground on a warehouse adjoining the Western States Grocery Co. warehouse.

Safeway Stores employed both warehouses to receive and distribute canned goods and foodstuffs to its 2,400 retail branches and support facilities on three continents. Safeway Stores also housed its executive offices in its 201 4<sup>th</sup> Street (7) warehouse.

This mutual relationship between the Port and the District's wholesale grocers continued unabated through the 1930s. In 1926, the predecessor to S&W Fine Foods, Inc. moved into a three-story concrete warehouse at 255 3rd Street (3). In 1928, Oakland Wholesale Grocery built a three-story concrete warehouse at 283 4th Street (14) and the Makins Produce Co. completed a two-story brick warehouse at 278 4th Street (13). Two years later, in 1929, Poultry Producers of Central California built a two-story, concrete warehouse at 229 Harrison Street (24). Although built in 1931 for Pacific Freight Lines, the one-story concrete warehouse at 426 Alice Street (23) was leased and occupied by United Grocers Ltd. From this location, United Grocers received and distributed canned goods and groceries to its 800 retail branches. By the mid-1930s, nearly all the District's warehouses were converted to wholesale grocery uses.

The one building built during this period that did not serve a wholesale grocery purpose was the 1929 Oakland Plumbing Supply Company warehouse, 309 4th Street (18). Oakland Plumbing Supply Company was one of the largest distributors of plumbing, heating, and engineering supplies on the Pacific Coast. Although not a grocer, the company was nevertheless a significant Port customer. A 1936 Port of Oakland publication noted that the Oakland Plumbing Company "in the course of each year accounts for a goodly share of the total tonnage handled through the terminals of the Port of Oakland."

The Posey Tube, constructed beneath the District in 1928, facilitated both the expansion of Oakland's shipping facilities and also ushered in the automobile age. The Posey Tube replaced two swing-span bridges that crossed Oakland's estuary. The bridges drew the ire of both large vessels whose movement was delayed and motorists subjected to long and frequent delays when the bridge closed for ship passage. The architect of the Posey Tube's portals set a decorative automobile wheel in the portal's concrete facade to underscore the Tube's connection with the automobile age.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 37 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

The District's businesses also supported economically the development of Oakland's car and truck transportation infrastructure. Saroni Sugar & Rice, which had located to the District in 1922 and among other things imported sugar cane from China, noted in a 1936 Port of Oakland publication that its business now required spur track access as well as two Autocar trucks.

In 1937, S&W Fine Foods, Inc. built its own warehouse at 200 4th Street (6), leaving its leased location at 255 3rd Street. The warehouse was built to accommodate both railroad and truck shipping and receiving. The 4th Street side of the one-story steel and concrete warehouse had spur track facilities that could handle six rail cars at one time. The warehouse's Jackson Street side was devoted to truck shipping and receiving. Up to 12 trucks could be accommodated at one time. While the District's earlier warehouse loading docks were designed at rail car height, S&W's 1937 warehouse included truck height loading docks.

Notwithstanding its dependence on truck transportation, S&W Fine Foods remained a significant Port of Oakland shipper, importing by rail and water such goods as Hawaiian papaya juice, Louisiana rice, Florida grapefruit, New York apple sauce, Maine blueberries, Indian tea, and South and Central American coffee.

Mirroring a general economic downturn in the 1930s, new construction in the District slowed until after World War II. During the economic revival that followed the end of the war, six one-story, Moderne brick warehouses were added to the District. Built with truck openings rather than rail car loading docks, these buildings also contributed to the development and rise of Oakland's road transportation network and the new economic development it supported.

The District's period of significance ends in 1954 after a few wholesale grocers began to leave the District and those that remained became collectively less significant factors in the port's and Oakland's economic development. 1954 also marks the completion of the elevated downtown section of the Nimitz freeway constructed at the District's northern edge. The freeway's construction opened up outlying areas for development and rendered it less necessary for industry to locate near the waterfront for rail and water access. While warehousing activities continue in the District today (Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters did not leave the District until 1996), unlike their predecessors, the current warehousing activities are not major engines of Oakland's economy.

Nonetheless, the Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District retains its historic character and integrity and is today the area that best conveys through its physical features the close connections between the Port of Oakland, the railroads, and the City's rise to prominence as an industrial and shipping center in the early 20th century.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 38 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

**Criterion C: Distinctive Characteristics of a Period; Significant and Distinguishable Entity**

Unified, distinctive, and well-preserved, the Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District's architecture represents Oakland's best and largest collection of utilitarian buildings of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Recurring building types in the District include a range of early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian architecture: the multi-story loft building, which housed manufacturing, offices, and warehousing (Allied Paper, 283 4<sup>th</sup> Street (14); Safeway Stores, 201 4<sup>th</sup> Street (7); W. P. Fuller Co., 201 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (1)); the decorative brick storefront-type adapted to industrial use (Tyre Bros., 300 Webster Street (31); Autocar Sales, 401 4<sup>th</sup> Street (22)); and the postwar functional, slightly, streamlined, small brick box (Industrial Bearing, 417 Harrison (27); Western California Fish Co., 425 Harrison Street (28)).

Before 1900 most industrial buildings were constructed of brick, wood, and iron in a limited number of structural types (balloon or platform framing; heavy timber framing with wood, brick or corrugated iron cladding; or brick buildings with wood or iron internal structures). Whether brick, frame, or metal, typical forms had one or two stories, a gable or series of gable roofs, and tall regularly spaced windows. The building footprints rarely exceeded 50 x 100. When they did, the larger buildings were a series of smaller buildings built side by side or end to end.

After the turn of the century, building codes became more developed and their enforcement became more professional. Insurance companies and professional societies had a growing influence on how buildings were built and scientific and technological developments gradually made industrial buildings more complex and sophisticated. Along with the new technology came increased attention to industrial design, both functional and aesthetic. On the national level Albert Kahn was the leading practitioner and theorist from the 1890s on, promoting efficiency, light and air, employee welfare, room for expansion, and "pleasing appearance." In practice, this typically meant larger steel and/or concrete-framed buildings, with steel truss or concrete slab roofs, concrete columns, wide steel sash windows in a regular grid of narrow pilasters, spandrels and wall surfaces of either concrete or brick, three-part or other symmetrical composition, sometimes with modified Secessionist or classical allusions in the treatment of pilasters or parapet.

In their scale, aesthetics, and functionality, the District's warehouses embody the elements of Kahn-inspired, early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian architecture. The warehouses have a unifying sense of scale and proportion. With the exception of the four story Western States Grocery warehouse and the five-story Safeway Stores warehouse, the District's warehouses are one to three stories. All are an eighth to one-half block in size (100' x 75'to 100' x 300').

The District's warehouses are substantial in construction and efficient in the concentration of space. Most are constructed of steel and/or concrete. Many incorporate pilaster and bay construction (Tower Lofts, 255 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (3); C.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 39 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

L. Greeno, 255 4<sup>th</sup> Street (10); Poultry Producers, 229 Harrison Street (24)). Large expanses of industrial sash predominate (Saroni Sugar & Rice, 318 Harrison (25); Oakland Plumbing, 309 4<sup>th</sup> Street (18); Allied Paper (14)).

Ornamentation is achieved with an economy of means and materials and can be found in nearly every building: the restrained decorative detailing on pilaster of C. L. Greeno (10); the Art Deco elements of the S&W warehouse, 200 4<sup>th</sup> Street (6); the stepped parapet of the W. P. Fuller Company Annex, 225 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (2); the polychrome brick of Saroni Rice & Sugar (25) and the American Bag Building, 299 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, (5); and the blue, diamond-shaped tile of the Allied Paper warehouse (14).

The District stands in stark contrast to the neighboring Produce Market District, a District also considered National Register-eligible by the Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey. With its wood frame, low-scale, horizontal construction, the Produce Market District recalls the architecture of the late 1800s. The Produce Market District is also set apart from the Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District by its metal sidewalk canopies, screened fronts, and clerestories.

The District is also unique and more architecturally significant compared to three other National Register-eligible industrial districts identified by the Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey. The District includes a more diverse range of early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian architecture with a variety of vintages. In contrast, the 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue Industrial District is a self-contained strip developed by General Electric, the Austin Company, Stokely, and Mutual Stores in the 1920s as an early industrial park for food, vehicular, and building material plants. While outstanding in itself, the 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue Industrial District's homogenous architecture includes primarily one-story, brick warehouses of nearly identical vintage.

The same is true of the Star-Durant Plant, essentially a single-structure auto plant. The District's warehouses, on the other hand, range in vintage from 1914 to 1954 and its 32 buildings and structures include a full range of utilitarian building types. In addition, concentrated within the District are some of Oakland's finest examples of early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian architecture: the highly decorative American Bag Building (5); the fanciful C. L. Greeno warehouse (10); and the eclectic, Art Deco-inspired Posey Tube Oakland Portal.

Oakland's final National Register-eligible industrial district, the Southern Pacific Industrial Landscape, is recognized for its several expansive, full-block manufacturing complexes of the 1890s and 1920s. A significant portion of this West Oakland district has unfortunately been demolished. The District, on the other hand, is largely intact and represents utilitarian buildings of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Most of the District's buildings and structures were state-of-the-art when constructed. For example, in 1917, the American Bag Building (5) was embellished with the decorative brickwork just then becoming popular in

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   8   Page   40   Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

industrial architecture. The American Bag Building architect used all available options open to him in the arena of brick masonry building materials and was at the forefront of mixing the multitude of available brick choices.

In 1926, in reporting the opening of the Western States Grocery warehouse (247 4th Street (9)) the *Oakland Tribune* described the building as "one of the most modern and efficiently planned of any similar plant on the Pacific Coast."

Two years later, the *Oakland Tribune* called the design of the adjoining Safeway Stores warehouse (7), the "most modern and up-to-date."

As noted earlier, the C. L. Greeno warehouse (10) is one of Oakland's most elaborate examples of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian warehouse and with its monumental entry hood reflects the early 20<sup>th</sup> century's "City Beautiful" trend to embellish utilitarian buildings with historicist architectural treatments.

The Posey Tube Oakland Portal (415 Harrison Street (26)) incorporated the Art Deco style in the early years of the style's popularity. Commenting in 1996, California historian Frank Lortie called the Oakland Portal, "a monumental, though restrained, statement about America's architectural trends in the 1920s."

In describing its new 1937 warehouse, S&W Fine Foods (6) said in a Port of Oakland publication: "Every possible innovation for efficiency and happy employees has been taken into consideration. ... Fifty skylights are spaced on the roof, which makes all parts of the building as light as day."

Unlike most early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian architecture, notable architects designed most of the District's warehouses. Couchot, Rosenwald & Roeth designed the four-story Western States Grocery Co. warehouse, 247 4th Street (9) and the five-story Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters, 201 4th Street (7), the District's most imposing buildings. Maurice Couchot (c. 1871-1933) was an internationally prominent structural engineer and reinforced concrete expert.

Walter Reed, who as a member of the Oakland firm Reed & Corlett, designed many of Oakland's institutional buildings, designed the District's first warehouse (201 3rd Street (1)).

San Francisco architect H. C. Baumann (1890-1960), who specialized in elaborate apartment buildings, designed the Poultry Producers warehouse (229 Harrison Street (24)). Before turning to industrial design, Baumann reportedly designed over 500 San Francisco apartment buildings between 1925 and 1931.

Noted Moderne architects Francis Harvey Slocombe (417 Harrison Street (27) and 432 Harrison Street (29)) and John B. Anthony (425 Harrison Street (28)) designed three of the District's post-World War II Moderne warehouses.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   8   Page  41  Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

The much sought-after architect Henry Meyers (1867-1943), in his capacity as Alameda County architect, designed the monumental Posey Tube Oakland Portal. Meyers is credited with overseeing the completion of the Kohl Building, reputedly San Francisco's first steel-frame office building and a model for San Francisco's subsequent steel-frame construction. During his forty-year career, he designed mostly commercial buildings and public structures, including ten Veterans Memorial Buildings.

The prolific Oakland architect A. W. Smith (1864-1933) designed three District buildings: 300 Webster Street (31); 267 4th Street (11); and 401 Alice Street (22). Smith was known for his design of highly individual buildings, most notably mannered and exuberant Craftsman and Shingle houses and decorative brick commercial buildings, the latter of which describes his three District contributions.

While some of the District's warehouses have been converted recently to office and live-work lofts, most conversions have been sensitively accomplished and have maintained the overall appearance and warehouse character of the original structures. All of the buildings remain in excellent condition and the District itself continues to be a significant concentration of well-preserved buildings and structures representative of Oakland's early 20<sup>th</sup> century utilitarian architecture.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   9   Page   42   Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Building and alteration permits, plans and specifications, City of Oakland Building Services Division.
- Bagwell, Beth. *Oakland: The Story of a City*. Novato, 1982.
- Brookes, Douglas, *The Oakland Waterfront 1850-1940*. M.A. Thesis, John F. Kennedy University, 1983.
- Carr, Homer J. "The Latest Railroad Across the Continent." In *Greater Oakland*, 69-75, 1911.
- Cincinnati Enquirer*. "Deaths and Funerals: Edward Greeno, Retired Executive," November 27, 1969, p. 17-A.
- "C. L. Greeno Company," *Bolts and Nuts* (Manufacturers' Committee of Oakland Chamber of Commerce), July 3, 1925, p. 2.
- DeNevi, Don. *The Western Pacific: Railroadng Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow*. Superior Publishing Company, 1978.
- Doe, R. W. "The Corner Grocery Store that Grew Up," *Port of Oakland Compass*, January 1933: pp. 5-6; 13.
- Fitzgerald, J.R., "Ships or Cargo ... Which Comes First?" *Port of Oakland Compass*, June 1932: pp.3-4; 15-16.
- Foy, C. W. "New Industry: Tyre Bros. Glass Company." *Bolts and Nuts* (Manufacturers' Committee of Oakland Chamber of Commerce), March 17, 1924, p. 1.
- Hamilton, William J. "Oakland-Alameda Estuary Subway C Brief Outline of the Considerations that Led to its Construction." *Oakland Tribune Year Book*, 1928: 183.
- Hasenkamp, T. P. "Confidence in Metropolitan Oakland: Why S&W Fine Foods, Inc. has just erected a new plant in Oakland." *Port of Oakland Compass*, July 1937: 3-4; 15.
- Horner, M. D. "Plumbing Progress: A brief discussion of trends in the plumbing industry by a man who has kept pace with his trade." *Port of Oakland Compass*, June 1936: 5-6; 14.
- Jones, DeWitt, *History of Port of Oakland 1850-1934*, (The State Emergency Relief Administration Project No. 3-F2-85, 1934).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   9   Page   43   Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

Kettelhut, Janet. "Posey Tube was a marvel of innovation when built in 1927."  
*Alameda Journal*, February 11 - February 18, 1997, pp. 1; 10.

Lemes, A. F. "An Interview with M. B. Skaggs," *Safeway News*, August 1956: 2-6.

Lortie, Frank. "A Monument to Progress: The Posey Tube and the East Bay's  
Transition to the Age of the Automobile," *California History*, Winter  
1995/96: 422-433.

Minor, Woody. "Heritage: Getting around old Alameda," *The Island Journal*,  
March 31-April 13, 19xx, p. 12.

Mott, Fred M., "Warehousing: A thorough-going explanation of this important  
link in the distribution chain," *Port of Oakland Compass*, September  
1940: pp.5-6; 15-16.

"New Industries: Carr and Preston," *Bolts and Nuts* (Manufacturers' Committee  
of Oakland Chamber of Commerce), April 16, 1926, No. 114, p. 1.

Oakland Chamber of Commerce, "Industrial Facts about Oakland and Alameda  
County." Pamphlet. 1935.

Oakland City Directory, 1912-1943.

Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey, research files and inventory forms on  
Waterfront Warehouse District properties, 1979-95; architect and builder  
files; context statement on unreinforced masonry buildings, 1995, and  
industry, railroads and shipping, 1991. Data on file at the Community  
and Economic Development Agency, Strategic Planning Department, 250  
Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3330, Oakland, California.

*Oakland Enquirer*. "Work Begun on Big Safeway Building," Thursday, April 18,  
1929, p. 22.

Oakland History Room, Oakland Public Library, biographical and subject indexes  
(obituaries, clippings, pamphlets) and photo collection

"Oakland to Have New Warehouse," *Uno Animo* (Published monthly by and for the  
Employees of Safeway Stores, Inc. and Affiliated Companies) March 1929,  
p. 13.

*Oakland Tribune*. "Oakland Welcomes First W. P. Train," August 22, 1910, p 1.

*Oakland Tribune*. "Wholesalers' and Jobbers' Center: A new commercial  
district that invites patronage of east bay merchants," January 17,  
1917, p. 93.

*Oakland Tribune*. "Western States Grocery Company in New Home; Make Rapid  
Growth Here," December 5, 1926, Development Section, p. 1.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section   9   Page   44   Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

*Oakland Tribune*. "Skaggs-Safeway Stores Plan New Structure," February 19, 1928, Development Section, p. 1.

*Oakland Tribune*. "Tube Portal Buildings Bulking Large on Waterfront Skyline," April 9, 1928.

*Oakland Tribune Year Book*, 1931, p. 158.

*Oakland Tribune Year Book*, 1932, p. 108.

*Oakland Tribune Year Book*, 1949, p. 74.

*Oakland Tribune Annual*. "New and Greatly Enlarged East Bay Factories 1916 - 1917," 1917.

"Our Fiftieth Year," *Safeway News*, February/March 1976, Vol. 31, No. 2.

Posey, George A. "Estuary Subway, Largest Single Tube in World, to Open This Year; Subway Connects Oakland and Alameda for Pedestrian, Automobile and Street Car Traffic." *Oakland Tribune Yearbook*, 1928, pp. 50-51.

Posey, George A. "Estuary Subway, Joining Cities of Oakland and Alameda, Gains National Fame as Engineering Feat; to be Completed this Year." *Oakland Tribune Yearbook*, 1927, pp. 50-51.

Posey, George A. "Great Estuary Subway Now Nearing Completion; Engineering Feat to Join Sister Cities of Oakland and Alameda." *Oakland Tribune Yearbook*, 1926: 60-61.

Richards, Alfred. "Miracle Mile," *Westward*, October 1953: 10-11.

Safeway Stores Annual Report (Safeway Stores Incorporated): 1976.

Sanborn Map Company, Insurance Map of Oakland, Vol. 2: 1912 revised to 1913, 1912 revised to 1927, 1912 revised to 1934, ...to 1951; 1953 rev to 1968.

*San Francisco News*. "Fuller Firm Among Real S. F. Pioneers: Partnership was started in 1849 when west was wild and woolly," October 14, 1935.

Saroni, A. B. "Saroni's Thirtieth Anniversary: An intimate account of a successful Oakland wholesale business that grew and grew and grew." *Port of Oakland Compass*, April 1936: 3-4; 14.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 45 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of the nominated district is shown on the sketch map at page 46.

Boundary Justification:

The district boundary demarcates a coherent group of buildings of similar styles, uses, and ages associated with the industrial, shipping, and warehousing activities that developed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century adjacent to the Port of Oakland's Inner Harbor along the Western Pacific Railroad Third Street tracks. It includes all the warehouses and adjoining properties which were expressly located proximate to the Western Pacific Freight Depot and Third Street railroad and spur tracks as well as the warehouses which sprung up around the Posey Tube during Oakland's post-World War II building boom.

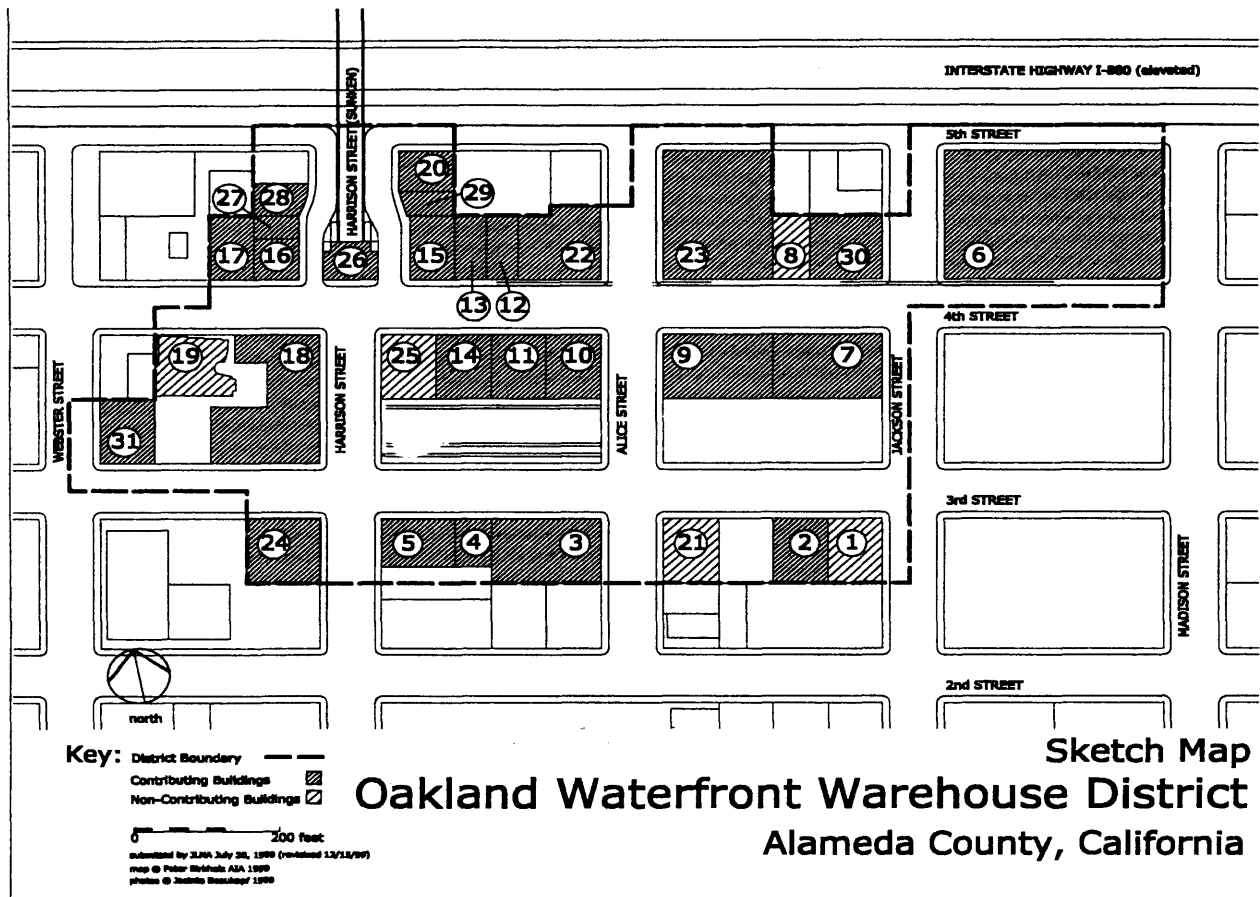
The north, south, east, and west boundaries are true to the district's historical architectural styles, uses and ages. The western edge of the district is fixed by vacant lots, some new construction, and Oakland's Produce Market District, a commercially and architecturally distinctive area that for over 80 years has served as the East Bay region wholesale produce center. The eastern boundary stops at an unimproved lot employed historically as a rail yard for the Western Pacific Railroad Company. Interstate 880 demarcates the northern boundary. The southern boundary terminates at a line of buildings of different ages and historical uses.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 46 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

Sketch Map

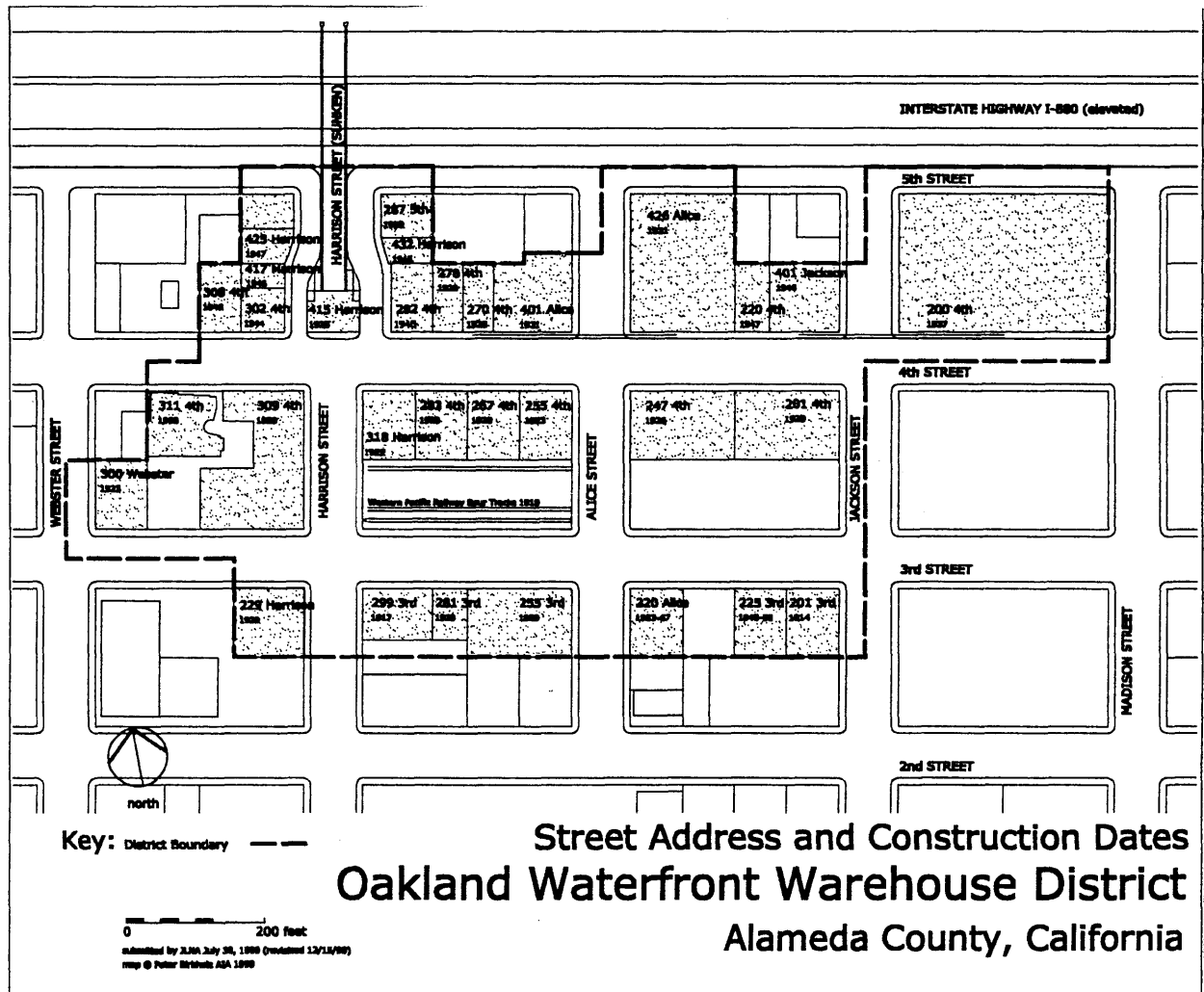


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 47 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

Street Addresses and Construction Dates Map



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 11 Page 48 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

---

Additional Documentation

---

**11. Photographs**

Unless otherwise specified, all negatives are located with Jacinta Bouwkamp, c/o Jack London Neighborhood Association, 247 Fourth Street, Loft 201, Oakland, California 94607. Photographs identified as Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey (OCHS) photographs are identified by OCHS roll and negative number.

Buildings are identified in captions by name at photograph date, current address, and the item number used in both the text (Section 7) and on the sketch map.

- a. Aerial view of Waterfront Warehouse District, from the top, the Nimitz Freeway (Interstate 880), the northern boundary; the north-south streets from L to R, Webster, Harrison, Alice, and Jackson; the east-west streets from bottom to top, Embarcadero, Second (both outside the District), and 3rd, 4th, 5th Streets (within the District).

Negative Number AV6100-9-33, Photographer Pacific Aerial Surveys, 8407 Edgewater Drive, Oakland, CA 94621, August 24, 1998

- b. Roger's Automotive, 425 Harrison Street (28), view looking northwest.

Photographer Jacinta Bouwkamp, July 1999.

- c. 4th Street, looking east, circa 1950: L, foreground to background, G & R Drug Co., 292 4th Street (15); French Fries, Inc. 278 4th Street (13); Cello-Pak, 270 4th Street (12); Food Cash & Carry, 401 Alice Street (22); United Grocers Ltd., 426 Alice Street (23); R, foreground to background, Envy Enterprises, 318 Harrison Street (25); Allied Paper Company, 283 4th Street (14); Christian Building, 267 4th Street (11); C. L. Greeno, 255 4th Street (10); Western States Grocery Warehouse, 247 4th Street (9); Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters, 201 4th Street (7).

Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey, Oakland City Planning Department, 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 3330, Oakland, CA 94607; (510) 238-3941.

- d. 4th Street, looking east: L, foreground to background, Posey Tube Portal, 415 Harrison Street (26); Paper Works, 292 4th Street (15); French Fries, Inc., 278 4th Street (13); Food Cash & Carry Annex, 270 4th Street (12); Food Cash & Carry, 401 Alice Street (22); R, foreground to background, 318 Harrison, 318 Harrison Street (25); Allied Paper Company, 283 4th Street (14); Christian Building, 267 4th Street (11); C. L. Greeno, 255 4th Street (10); Fourth Street Lofts, 247 4th Street (9).

Photographer Jacinta Bouwkamp, July 1999



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 11 Page 49 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

---

- e. Structure ornament, cast concrete decorative automotive wheel, Posey Tube Oakland Portal, 415 Harrison Street (26), closeup view looking south.  
Photographer Jacinta Bouwkamp, July 1999.
- f. Stephanos Building, 287 5th Street (20), northeast view.  
Photographer Jacinta Bouwkamp, July 1999.
- g. Cost Plus World Market International Headquarters, 200 4th Street (6), view from 5th and Jackson Streets looking east.  
Photographer Jacinta Bouwkamp, July 1999.
- h. 4th Street, looking west, spur track (32); L to R: Allied Paper Co., 283 4th Street (14); 318 Harrison, 318 Harrison Street (25); Posey Tube Portal, 415 Harrison Street (26); Paper Works, 292 4th Street (15); French Fries, 278 4th Street (13); Food Cash & Carry Annex, 270 4th Street (12); Food Cash & Carry, 401 Alice Street (22).  
Photographer Jacinta Bouwkampe, July 1999.
- i. Safeway Stores Corporate Headquarters, 201 4th Street (7), view from corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Jackson Streets looking west.  
Photographer Jacinta Bouwkamp, July 1999.
- j. C. L. Greeno, 255 4th Street (10), view from 4th and Alice Streets looking southwest.  
Photographer Jacinta Bouwkamp, July 1999.
- k. Building entry pediment, ornamental plaster and painted wood, C. L. Greeno, 255 4th Street (10), close up view looking south.  
Photographer Jacinta Bouwkamp, July 1999.
- l. American Bag Company/Union Hide Company, 299 3rd Street (5) circa 1917, view looking southeast.  
Wickham Havens Album, 1917 edition, p.50. Oakland Public Library, Oakland History Room, 125 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, CA 94612.
- m. Foreground, railroad bumper (32), at 300 Harrison Street looking northeast. Background L to R, southern façade of Allied Paper Company, 283 4th Street (14); Christian Building, 267 4th Street (11); and C. L. Greeno, 255 4th Street (10).  
Photographer Jacinta Bouwkamp, July 1999.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 11 Page 51 Oakland Waterfront Warehouse District  
name of property  
Alameda County CA  
county and state

Photo Location Map

