

Diana Saloon
205 J Street
Sacramento, Sacramento County
California

HABS No. CAL-1706

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Western Office, Division of Design and Construction
450 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, California

PHOTOGRAPH-DATA BOOK REPORT
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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DIANA SALOON

Sacramento, Sacramento County, California

ADDRESS: 205 J Street between Second and Third Streets
OWNER: The Redevelopment Agency of the City of Sacramento
OCCUPANT: Now vacant; building to be removed to permit construction of a Freeway
USE: Formerly used as a saloon; recently occupied by a dealer in second-hand camping equipment, etc.

ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The one-story building was erected in 1852 by D. A. Whippley on the site of the "Stinking Tent", the first gambling hall which had been established in 1849. Built at a lower level, the structure was elevated when the street grade was raised. The rear basement doors are at the approximate level of the original grade.

DESCRIPTIVE ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

EXTERIOR

The front facade has a central square-topped opening flanked on each side by arched openings interspaced with cast-iron pilasters which have ornate paneled shafts and Corinthian capitals. These were cast by the Sacramento Iron Works. The brick-and-plaster moulded cornice band above the openings and the top parapet are mutilated; the entire facade, with its shabbily remodelled fenestration and unsightly advertizing, presents a very poor exterior appearance in its present state.

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INTERIOR

The basement with its dirt floor was apparently used only for storage. Down the center of the building there is a brick wall and a series of massive timber posts that support the 12" x 12" wood beams, the joists and the flooring.

The street floor space has a central row of 6x6 wood posts with prominent diagonal brackets that support a 6x12 wood beam carrying the exposed wood joists of the roof. The walls are exposed brick, painted.

TECHNICAL ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

GENERAL

Condition of Building: Sound structure, modified facade

Overall Plan Size: 40'-0" wide, 114'-0" long

No. of Stories: Basement and one story

EXTERIOR

Foundation: Brick

Wall Construction: 8" brick walls; plaster on brick on facade

Piers: Street facade - masonry (?) piers faced with cast-iron pilasters

Openings:

Doorways & Doors - pairs of round-arched openings flanking central square topped entrance

Windows - front windows not original; rear, wood double-hung

Roof:

Shape - flat

Covering - built-up composition

Framing - 3"x12" rafters over 6"x12" wood beam supported
by 6"x6" wood posts

Wall Finish: Plaster over brick on street facade; exposed brick
work on rear

Cornice: Brick with plaster

INTERIOR

Floor Plans:

Basement - space divided by a load-bearing brick wall;
12"x12" timber posts support beams and floor

First Floor - row of 6"x6" wood posts down middle of
large space

Floor Construction and Flooring:

Basement - dirt floor

First Floor - wood plank floor over 3"x12" joists
supported by 12"x12" wood beams

Wall & Ceiling Finish:

Walls - brick, painted

Ceiling - exposed 3"x12" wood joists

SITE

The building is located on the north side of J Street between Second
and Third Streets.

REFERENCES

Old Sacramento Inventory of Historical Buildings, Western Heritage, Inc., California Division of Beaches and Parks, Sacramento, California, 1962.

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