

PRIMARY RECORD

Page 1 of 1 Resource Name or #: 1117-1123 8th Street

P1. Other Identifier: Bel Vue Apartments, American Cash Store and Apartments

*P2. Location: *a. County Sacramento

b. Address: 1117-1123 8th Street City Sacramento Zip 95814

*c. USGS 7.5' Quad Sacramento East Date: 1992

*e. Other Locational Data: APN#: 006-0098-021

***P3a. Description:**

The three-story brick building is surfaced with tan face brick on the upper facade. The standard brick of which the building is constructed is visible on both north and south elevations. The building is divided horizontally into a base/street level which has been remodeled, the central two stories with windows accessing apartments, and the dominating cornice with its large paired brackets, ornamental soffit, and deep overhang. Patterned brick panels decorate the frieze between the brackets under the projecting eaves. The cornice edge is punctuated by small round "buttons" regularly spaced. The cornice, soffits and brackets are of sheet metal. Windows of the upper floors of the facade are primarily tripartite and double hung. On the alley (north) and south elevations the window openings are arched with inset double hung windows.

The street level has been altered. The entrance is recessed in a wall of used brick, and the adjacent restaurants are resurfaced with metal-framed windows, and glass or vitrolite panels. The remodeling design image extends along the 8th Street facade of the adjacent building at 1125-1131 8th to the corner and around it on L

*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP 6

*P4. Resources Present: Building Structure Object Site District Element of District Other (Isolates, etc.)



P5b. Description of Photo:
View to east

***P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source:** Historic
 Prehistoric Both
1909, remodeled 1954

***P7. Owner and Address:**

***P8. Recorded by:**
Historic environment Cons.
Paula Boghosian
5420 Home Court
Carmichael, CA 95608

***P9. Date Recorded:**
10/15/01

*P10. Survey Type: Intensive

P11. Report Citation*: Sacramento City Historic Architecture Survey Update 2001

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Sketch Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record
 Linear Resource Record Archaeological Record District Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record
 Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List)

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 1 of 1

*NRHP Status Code 5D1

*Resource Address: 1117-1123 8th Street

B1. Historic Name: American Cash Store and Apartments

B2. Common Name: Bel Vue Apartments

B3. Original Use: Retail and apartments

B4. Present Use: Retail and apartments

***B5. Architectural Style:** Craftsman influences on upper facade

***B7. Moved?** No Yes Unknown **Date:**

Original Location:

***B8. Related Features:** The building has been combined into a property parcel that includes the building directly south on the corner (1131 8th) and 801-809 L Street.

B9a. Architect: George Sellon

b. Builder: unknown

***B10. Significance:** Theme ---

Area ---

Period of Significance 1909 - **Property Type** commercial **Applicable Criteria** C

The original appearance of the apartment building strongly reflects Craftsman-derived design influences, and some of the oriental references that contributed to the Arts and Crafts stylistic movement. The building was designed as a combination of the American Cash Store on the street level and American Apartments, by George Sellon, the first state architect. Sellon began his architectural career in Chicago, and is said to have once been part of Frank Lloyd Wright's atelier. The heavy cornice, support brackets, and oriental-derived details are somewhat reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright's Imperial Hotel in Japan. Perhaps Sellon was influenced by the design philosophies of his atelier.

This building was erected in 1909 as the home of the American Cash Store grocery on the ground floor and the American Apartments above. Well known and respected Sacramento architect George Sellon designed the building. In 1910 the American Cash Store built a 3-story grocery warehouse on the north ½ of the lot. Eventually the lower floor of this structure became the kitchen for the restaurant (1115) and the upper floors became part of the apartments. By the late 1920s the tenants were W. J. Atkinson, meats, and H. King, grocer, (1117). They were joined in 1929 by Muzio French & Italian Bakery. By 1939 the American Apartments were renamed as the Bel-Vue, the same name used today. A variety of retail tenants have inhabited the first floor spaces over time. The space at 1117 has been most often used as a restaurant, as it is today. The current appearance of the ground floor façade was created during a 1954 remodel which included the building immediately to the south.

The building is listed on the Sacramento Register and although it has experienced some alterations on the street level, has retained much of its original image on the upper levels. The property contributes to the Downtown Historic District

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: -

***B12. References:**

Sacramento City Building Permits

Sacramento City Directories

Sacramento Archive and Museum Collection Center

B13. Remarks:

***B14. Evaluator:** Paula Boghosian, Historic Environment Cons.

***Date of Evaluation:** 12/15/01

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)