This parcel contains two buildings. The first building, Building 1, (Photograph 1) is a former residence with a commercial storefront addition. The storefront is a CMU addition with a flat roof, brick façade featuring decorative glazed tiles at the base. Windows are fixed wood-frame windows. The main entrance is at the center of the building and is set with a single-entry glazed wood door with a metal kickplate. Security screens are evident on the interior of the building’s windows and entrance. On the northeast corner of the main façade is a neon sign that reads “Art Ellis Supply, Inc. Art Ellis.” It is suspended from a pole shaped like a paintbrush (Photograph 2). Another sign is affixed to the northwest corner of the building that says “Kicxn Ultd.” The former residence portion is a wood-frame, two story building topped with a hipped gable roof with closed eaves. Beneath the north gable is grooved siding and an oval louvered vent. The roof is clad in composition shingles (See Continuation Sheet).
B1. Historic Name: Unknown
B2. Common Name: Art Ellis
B3. Original Use: Residential and Commercial
B4. Present Use: Commercial
*B5. Architectural Style: No Discernable Style
*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alteration, and date of alterations) ca. 1915 – residence; ca. 1949 – commercial storefront; ca. 1964 – rear building
*B7. Moved? ☑ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown Date: ____________ Original Location: ____________
*B8. Related Features: None
*B10. Significance: Theme Architecture and Commercial Development Area Sacramento
   Period of Significance 1915 and 1952 Property Type Commercial Buildings Applicable Criteria N/A
   (Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

These two properties are not eligible for the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) or the Sacramento Register of Historic and Cultural Resources (SRHCR).

This parcel was developed in ca. 1915 when a residence was built (Sanborn Map Company 1915:119). It was one of several residences built in this area of Sacramento during the late 19th and early 20th century. Early residents of the property included William C. Steen, a policeman, who lived here between 1915 and 1919. By 1930, the residence was occupied by Charles R. and Cora B. Sims (Sacramento Directory Co. 1915, 1919, 1930). Throughout the 1940s, the property was occupied by a variety of people, mostly middle-class workers who worked as clerks, salesman or signal men (Sacramento Directory Co. 1940). In 1945, Private Delbert Parker, a former World War II prisoner of war, lived there (The Sacramento Bee 1945:2). During the post-World War II years, Sacramento, like much of California, experienced a tremendous amount of growth. Many residences, particularly along J Street, built commercial additions on the front of the residences. These occupied the former front yard of the property. It was during this time that a commercial storefront was added to the property. The residential portion was still used as a rental property but the commercial space was occupied by such businesses as the Farmers Insurance Group and L&R. Auto Parts. The Agardus Van Soest Art Gallery occupied the commercial space in 1952. The longest commercial tenant was Art Ellis Paint Store, which began operations as early as 1956 (Sacramento Directory Co. 1949, 1952, 1956). Today, the Art Ellis is still in operation and the space is also home to a local clothing store. (See Continuation Sheet)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes)
*B12. References: See Continuation Sheet
B13. Remarks:
*B14. Evaluator: Patricia Ambacher, MA
*Date of Evaluation: November 2015
   (This space reserved for official comments.)
Description (cont)

The former residence has a variety of siding including original grooved wood siding and replacement T-111 siding (Photograph 3). Visible fenestration on the east and west façade include original 1/1 wood-frame windows (Photograph 4). Other windows, particularly on the south elevation (rear), are filled with plywood. A secondary entrance is can be found on the south elevation. It is set with a single-entry wood door covered by a screen door. It is accessed by a flight of wooden stairs.

The second building (Building 2) is located south the main building. It is rectangular in plan with a flat roof and a straight-edge parapet on its west side. The building is sheathed in corrugated metal with what appears to be a CMU addition to its west side (Photograph 5). Sliding metal doors are on the south elevation. Painted on the CMU addition’s west side is a mural (Photograph 6).

Significance (cont)

The Mercado Loco is not associated with significant events or trends in Sacramento or regional history and does not meet CRHR Criterion 1 or SRHCR Criterion A. The property is generally associated with the commercial development of Sacramento but research does not support that the property played an important role within that context. Rather it was one many businesses started during the peak of the post-World War II years. The property is also not associated with the lives of persons important at the local, State or national level as required under CRHR Criterion 2 and SRHCR Criterion B. Over the years the property, particularly the residence had many owners and renters. Most were working class people that did not make significant contributions to history. Architecturally, the property does not embody distinctive characteristics of its type, period or method of construction because the building is not an important example of a residence converted for commercial purposes. It is rather a common example of its type and better examples can be found in Sacramento, including 2425 J Street, 2431 J Street, and 2516 J Street. These examples have more stylistic elements to the commercial additions and do not entirely obscure the original residence. Evidence does not support that the property was designed by a master architect. Architecturally the building is not significant and does not meet CRHR Criterion 3 or SRHCR Criteria C, D, or E. Lastly, the property is not likely to yield information important to history and does not meet CRHR Criterion 4 or SRHCR Criterion F.

In summary, the property at 2508 J Street is not historically or architecturally significant is not considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

References (cont)


Photographs (cont)

Photograph 2. Art Ellis sign, camera facing west
Photographs (cont)

Photograph 3. 2508 J Street, south elevation, camera facing northeast

Photograph 4. 2508 J Street, camera facing northwest
Photographs (cont)

Photograph 5. Building 2, camera facing northwest

Photograph 6. Mural on Building 2, camera facing east