2.2.23 Merchant Street Historic District

Ordinance # 85-076
July 30, 1985
Merchant Street Historic District

The Merchant Street Historic District is significant as the site of Sacramento's early 20th-century banking center. The District also has the distinction of including Pioneer Hall, an early structure which retains a high degree of design integrity and has strong historical associations. The time span for the District ranges from 1868 for Pioneer Hall, to 1921 for the Merchant's National Bank Building. The District includes three banks, which relate in use, building material and classical detailing. The grouping of mature visually cohesive trees along 7th Street is an important feature of the area.

The District comprises a specific and distinct environment in scale, time frame, and general elegance of building style. All structures show strong classical influence in their architectural design. The structures exhibit deeply molded decorative detailing and surfaces of granite, concrete, terra cotta, and brick. These materials and classical detailing contrast sharply with the surrounding modern structures.

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