

**2.2.29 Washington Historic District**

Ordinance # 85-076  
July 30, 1985

**Washington Historic District**

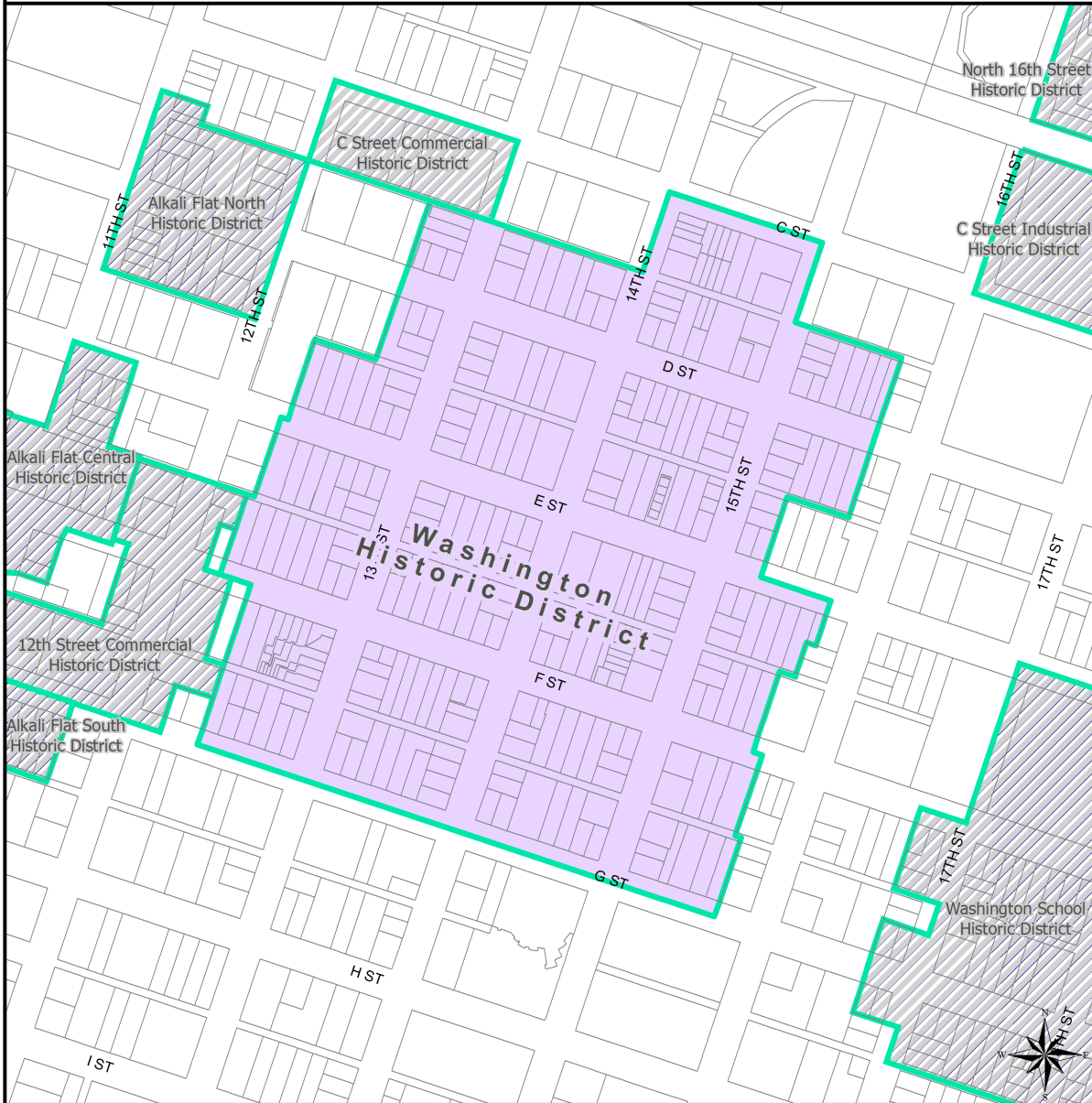
The Washington District covers a large area with a great many significant structures. The Historic District suffered somewhat from intrusions of modern apartment buildings but it remains a cohesive neighborhood with some similarities to Alkali Flat.

The buildings date from the 1870's and 1880's, but there are many buildings from the 1890's and a number from the 1900's as well. Despite the very long period during which this area was built up, it retains a surprising visual coherence due to the distinctive qualities of Sacramento architecture. Chief among these is the persistence of the high basement buildings, which gives continuity to Italianate, Eastlake, Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, and a variety of vernacular building types over a period of 60 years. It is the high basement buildings with many stylistic variations that provides the dominant fabric of this District. Perhaps the finest row of diverse high basement buildings in Sacramento is along F Street in the Washington District, culminating in the 1400 Block. Like Alkali Flat, the rows of high basement buildings are punctuated now and then by larger houses and apartments, which help to give definition and identity to the immediate surroundings. In another form, typical of Sacramento, many of these apartments are designed in the manner of single-family houses so as not to disrupt visually the consistent character of the streets. Most of these buildings are on F, G, or 13<sup>th</sup> Street. The best example is perhaps at 1221-23 F Street. The majority of the buildings in the District were built for working-class families, although there were more prosperous homes mixed in, which help to provide definition and identity to their immediate surroundings.

The Washington Historic District is bound most distinctly on the west, east, and north by commercial spillover from 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets, and by industries below the levee. On the south, the neighborhood once extended further but has been eroded by offices, commercial, and institutional land uses.

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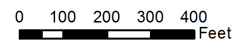
# City of Sacramento Historic Resources



Geographic Information System

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- Parcels
- Washington
- Other Historic Districts