State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code 6Z
Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

 *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) 1430-1444 Bush Street

P1. Historic name of building (if any): Western Radiator and Fender shop
P2. Location: *a: County San Francisco ☐ Not for Publication ■ Unrestricted
*b. USGS 7.5' Quad _____ Date _____ T ___; R ___; ___¼ of ___¼ of Sec ___; _____B.M.
c. Address 1430-1444 Bush Street City San Francisco Zip 94109
d. UTM: Zone _____; _____mE/ _____ mN *e. Assessor's parcel #: Block 667, lot 5

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

This is a two-story auto repair shop with brick walls and steel structural columns. According to the building permit, there are "exterior and interior columns of steel," meaning, in all likelihood, that the "exterior" columns were placed immediately adjacent to the brick walls. The front wall is made of tan-colored brick. Simple cornices stretch across the building just beneath the parapet and at the second floor level. The brick columns are decorated in a restrained manner with minimalist capitals of brick in both the first and second stories. The second story is divided into three bays of equal width, each devoted to windows that now have modern, replacement frames or sash. The first story is divided into four bays, the outer two being for vehicle entry and the inner two for pedestrian entrances and a storefront. Of these latter two, one has paired wooden doors and a wooden transom that appears to be original. The other may have originally been a vehicle entrance but now has a modern metal frame storefront window and door.

*P3b Resource Attributes: HP8 – industrial building

*P4. Resources Present:
■ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object ☐ Site ☐ District ☐ Element of District ☐ Other

P5b. Description of Photo:
(View, date, accession #)
View looking north
June 2009

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source: ■ Historic ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both
1913; building permit

*P7. Owner and Address:
ANDREW M & MIRIAM CANEPA
100 SANTA YNEZ AVE
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94112

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address)
William Kostura
P. O. Box 60211
Palo Alto, CA 94306

*P9. Date Recorded:
August 2009

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)
intensive

P11. Report Citation*: (Cite survey report.) William Kostura. *Van Ness Auto Row Support Structures*. San Francisco Department of City Planning, 2010.

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

PAPER
37, 41 and 45
FIRST STREET
SAN FRANCISCO
AUT CROCKER-LANGLEY DIRECTORY AUT
2031
NEW RADIATORS AND LATEST STYLE FENDERS
MADE FOR ANY CAR OR TRUCK
1430-32
BUSH STREET
Western Radiator
and Fender
Mfg. Co.
TELEPHONE Prospect 1717
ERNEST WILDENHAYN
MARTIN & GIRERD
Automobile Supplies
American Taximeter Co, 1426 Bush
AMERICAN VEHICLE CO, 809 Mills

Advertisement from the 1914 city directory, page 2031, for Western Radiator and Fender Co., proprietor Ernest Wildenhayn, newly located in this building.

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

***NRHP Status Code** 6Z

***Resource Name or #** (Assigned by recorder) 1430-1444 Bush Street

B1. Historic Name: Western Radiator and Fender shop

B2. Common Name: _____

B3. Original Use: auto specialty services shop B4. Present Use: auto specialty services shop

***B5. Architectural Style:** none

***B6. Construction History:** (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)
Built in 1913. Window sash altered at an unknown date.

***B7. Moved?** ■ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown **Date:** _____ **Original Location:** _____

***B8. Related Features:**
none

B9a. Engineer: Leland S. Rosener b. Builder: O. W. Britt

***B10. Significance: Theme** automobile industry **Area** San Francisco
Period of Significance n/a **Property Type** auto repair shop **Applicable Criteria** n/a
(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

History

This building was built in 1913 for owner L. A. Myers, a prolific real estate developer, to designs by an engineer, Leland S. Rosener. It has been occupied by a variety of auto specialty service and repair shops since its construction, usually by two or three such businesses at a time. The first long-term occupant was the Western Radiator and Fender shop, proprietor Ernest Wildenhayn, at 1430 Bush (1913-1923). Roughly concurrently, the general auto repair shop of C. F. Degen and B. F. Morse occupied the space at 1434 Bush (1916-1923). Other long-term occupants included Schwerin Brake Service at 1430 Bush (1932-1964 -- and currently, per signage); and Muffler Man, at 1444 Bush (1953-1964). Other auto-related businesses in this building included F. J. Sexton, auto repair (1914); Bush Street Auto Top (1927); John Peterson, auto painting (1927-1930); Joseph Manegold, trimmer (1929); and Automotive Painting Crafts (1940). One non-auto-related business has occupied the building: J. H. Keefe, interior decorator (1924-1940).

(See Continuation Sheet, page 4.)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) _____

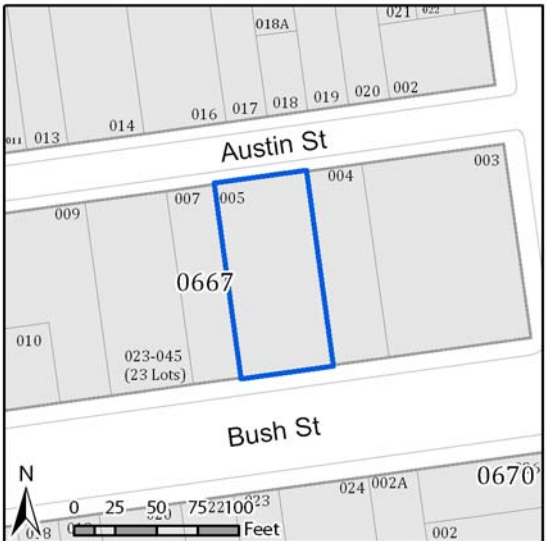
***B12. References:**
Building permit #50618 (August 6, 1913), at S. F. Building Inspection Dept., 1660 Mission Street
Building and Engineering News, August 13, 1913, 27:2
Crocker-Langley and Polk's city directory and PT&T reverse directories, 1914-1964
1929 Sanborn insurance map: auto painting

B13. Remarks:

***B14. Evaluator:** William Kostura
Date of Evaluation: August 2009

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch map with north
a



History (continued)

To summarize, this building's primarily use was to house businesses offering automotive specialty services (radiator and fender, brakes, mufflers, auto painting, tops, and trimming), which it did during 1913-1923, 1927-1930, and 1932-1964, for a total of 47 years (counting through 1964, the end year of the period being studied for this report). Concurrently, it also housed businesses offering general auto repair, during 1914 and 1916-1923, for a total of nine years.

Integrity

All of the window and pedestrian openings in this building except for one have modern metal frames or sash. This is a substantial alteration. The rest of the building – brick walls and piers, and cornices – remains intact. In sum, this building retains integrity of location; integrity of design and association is largely intact; and integrity of materials, workmanship, and feeling are substantially diminished. Integrity of setting is diminished through some modern construction in the vicinity. To summarize the integrity of this building in another way, it can be described as "fair."

Evaluation

This is one of more than 100 buildings along the Van Ness Avenue corridor that have a history as automobile support structures, and that are being evaluated for possible historic significance according to the criteria of the California Register of Historical Resources. With a few exceptions, these buildings were auto showrooms, public garages, auto repair shops, auto parts and supplies stores, and auto painting shops. The time period that is being studied is from the initial years of the automobile industry in San Francisco through 1964. Among the factors that have been considered when evaluating a building are its date of construction, its longevity of auto-related use, the importance of its occupants in local auto industry history, integrity, and architectural quality. These factors, and how they apply to evaluations of buildings, are discussed in a cover report, *Van Ness Auto Row Support Structures, 1908-1964*.

Dating to 1913, this is oldest building in the study area that was primarily devoted to automotive specialty services, and is also one of the oldest auto-related buildings of any kind. It was devoted entirely or in part to businesses offering auto specialty services for 47 years, for excellent longevity of this use. In the hierarchy of auto-related uses being studied in this report, auto specialty services ranks low, behind auto showrooms (the most important), public garages, multi-use buildings, tire shops, and auto supplies and accessories stores. The integrity of the building can be described as fair, in that it has lost almost all of its original window sash, but the rest of the façade remains intact.

Under Criterion 1, this building's strong points include its very early date of construction and its great longevity as an automobile specialty services building. These points are largely countered by the low ranking of auto specialty services in the hierarchy of uses in this study, and the building's fair integrity. In sum, this building does not appear to be eligible for the California Register under Criterion 1. Because none of the occupants of this building was prominent in the automotive industry in San Francisco, it also does not appear to be eligible under Criterion 2. Finally, this building is generally lacking in style details, and is very modest for its period. Thus, it also does not appear to be eligible under Criterion 3, for its design.