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LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HEARING DATE: March 3, 2021

Filing Date: Case No.:	February 3, 2021 2021-001255LBR
Business Name:	Central Drug Store
Business Address:	4494 Mission Street
	San Francisco, CA 94112
Zoning:	NCD- Excelsior Outer Mission Street Neighborhood Commercial District
	40-X Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot:	6796/011
Applicant:	Jerrold Tonelli
	4494 Mission Street
	San Francisco, CA 94112
Nominated By:	Supervisor Ahsha Safai
Located In:	District 11
Staff Contact:	Elton Wu - 628-652-7415
	Elton.Wu@sfgov.org
Recommendation:	Adopt a Resolution to Recommend Approval

Business Descriptions

Central Drug Store is a local, family-owned traditional pharmacy and general store in the Excelsior District since 1908. In addition to being a knowledgeable pharmacy medications and consultations, Central Drug Store sells household goods, toys, perfumes, colognes, and durable medical equipment. Central Drug Store originally started with William Brenner back in 1908 located at 4394 Mission Street. After a year in the business, Brenner moved the business to 4513 Mission Street. In 1918, Brenner moved the business to its current location at 4494 Mission Street. In 1921, Brenner sold the business over to Wilbur G. Stahl. Stahl operated and ran the Central Drug Store until 1927 and sold the business over to Claude L. DeVecenzi. Claude L. DeVecenzi included two additional business partners George DeVencenzi and William Tonelli in 1950 and operated two other pharmacies, which were Golden State Pharmacy and Rex Drugs. After working as a pharmacist at Central Drug Store for about 16 years, Dino Tonelli took over all three pharmacies. Over time, the business split off and Central Drug Store ran independently. When Dino Tonelli died in 1991, Jerry Tonelli, Dino's son, took over the business and manages the business with his mother, Elsie Tonelli. Both Jerry and Elsie have been running the business ever since.

Through its extensive history in the Excelsior neighborhood, Central Drug Store has been providing reliable service to the Excelsior neighborhood. Central Drug Store has served customers that are multigenerational from the community and the Bay Area. Central Drug Store has always been involved with making the community a better place. Dino Tonelli started the Excelsior Business Association and one of his main initiatives was to decorate the storefronts and streets around the Excelsior District for the Holiday Season.

Central Drug Store has been a community resource to the Excelsior community. They pride themselves in being a friendly, safe, and welcoming place for all people. They provide free medical advice and free counter counseling. Some important affiliations they are with are Coalition of Concerned Medica Providers (CCMP) and Retail Clerks Union Local 648. Through CCMP, Central Drug Store provides free medication and counseling to the low-income and people without housing. Retail Clerks Union Local 648 provides employees with livable wages, health insurance and pension plans. Besides hiring only family members, Central Drug Store hires students from local high schools to provide them with after school jobs. Central Drug Store has supported multiple organizations like Coalition of Concerned Medical Providers, Corpus Christi Church, St. Roberts Catholic Church YMCA, St. Johns High School, St. Ignatius College Preparatory High School, Archbishop Riordan High School, Italian American Social Club, Lucchesi Nel Mondo, Excelsior Action Group, Jerry Garcia Day, Sunday Streets SF, Knights of Columbus, Pharmacist Society of San Francisco, and the San Francisco Democratic Club.

The business is located in a Category B (Unknown / Age Eligible) structure on the northwest side of Mission Street between Santa Rosa Avenue and Francis Streets. It is within the Excelsior Outer Mission Neighborhood Commercial District (Neighborhood Commercial District) Zoning District and a 40-X Height and Bulk District.

Staff Analysis

Review Criteria

1. When was business founded

The business was founded in 1908.

2. Does the business qualify for listing on the Legacy Business Registry filf sozhowf

Yes. Central Drug Store qualifies for listing on the Legacy Business Registry because it meets all of the eligibility Criteria:

- a. Central Drug Store has operated continuously in San Francisco for 113 years.
- b. Central Drug Store has contributed to the history and identity of the Excelsior neighborhood and San Francisco.
- c. Central Drug Store is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define the organization.

3. Is the business associated with a culturally significant art craft cuisine tradition f

Yes. The business is associated with the pharmaceutical and health care industry



4. Is the business or its building associated with significant eventszpersonszandŏr architecturef

Yes. Their existing site, 4494 Mission Street, is located in the center of the Excelsior District. Although it is not been analyzed for its eligibility for historic resource status, the property has a well-preserved building façade and interiors in the Excelsior neighborhood since 1976 from their interior remodel.

The business encountered some significant people like Jerry Garcia, Monty Stickles, Juan Marichal, Paul Tonelli, Quentin Kopp, Jackie Speier, Benito Santiago, and Rinaldo Joseph "Rugger" Ardizoia.

5. Is the property associated with the business listed on a localzstatezor federal historic resource registry

No, this property is not listed on a registry. The business is located in a Category B (Unknown / Age Eligible) structure on the northwest side of Mission Street between Santa Rosa Avenue and Francis Streets. It is within the Excelsior Outer Mission Neighborhood Commercial District (Neighborhood Commercial District) Zoning District and a 40-X Height and Bulk District and is within an ongoing Neighborhood Commercial Corridor Historic Survey.

6. Is the business mentioned in a local historic context statement?

No, not as of the date of this Executive Summary, but it is located within the boundaries of an ongoing Neighborhood Commercial Corridors Historic Resources Survey.

7. Has the business been cited in published literatureznewspaperszjournalszetcif

Yes. Central Drug Store has been mentioned in San Francisco Chronicle and San Francisco Heritage. Central Drug Store has been mentioned in multiple awards like:

- Most Successful Year in the History of Blue Stamp Award by the Blue Stamp Committee
- Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition Small Business Award from previous Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
- San Francisco Certificate of Honor presented by former Mayor Edwin Lee
- Coalition of Concerned Medical Professionals Awards

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business

Location(s) associated with the business:

Current Locations:

• 4494 Mission Street (1918– Present)

Previous (No Longer Extant) Locations:

- 4394 Mission Street (1908 1909)
- 4513 Mission Street (1909 1918)

Recommended by Applicant

- Bright Neon "Central Drug Store" Letters
- The large display windows
- Decorative Blue Tiles
- Old-Time Glass Cabinet
- Mural on the side of the building facing Santa Rosa Avenue titled "The San Francisco You Should Know".



Painted by Precita Eyes Muralists

Additional Recommended by Staff

• None



Basis for Recommendation

The Department recommends the Historic Preservation Commission adopt a resolution recommending the business listed above be adopted by the Small Business Commission to the Legacy Business Registry.

ATTACHMENTS

Draft Resolution Legacy Business Registry Application:

- Application Review Sheet
- Section 1 Business / Applicant Information
- Section 2 Business Location(s)
- Section 3 Disclosure Statement
- Section 4 Written Historical Narrative
 - o Criterion 1 History and Description of Business
 - o Criterion 2 Contribution to Local History
 - o Criterion 3 Business Characteristics
- Contextual Photographs and Background Documentation





HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION DRAFT RESOLUTION NO.

HEARING DATE: March 3, 2021

Case No.:	2021-001255LBR
Business Name:	Central Drug Store
Business Address:	4494 Mission Street
	San Francisco, CA 94112
Zoning:	UMU- Urban Mixed Use Zoning District
	68-X Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot:	6796/011
Applicant:	Jerrold Tonelli
	4494 Mission Street
	San Francisco, CA 94112
Nominated By:	Supervisor Ahsha Safai
Located In:	District 11
Staff Contact:	Elton Wu - 628-652-7415
	Elton.Wu@sfgov.org

ADOPTING FINDINGS RECOMMENDING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION APPROVAL OF THE LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY NOMINATION FOR CENTRAL DRUG STORE CURRENTLY LOCATED AT 4494 MISSION STREET (PRIMARY ADDRESS), BLOCK/LOT 6796/011;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Administrative Code Section 2A.242, the Office of Small Business maintains a registry of Legacy Businesses in San Francisco (the "Registry") to recognize that longstanding, community-serving businesses can be valuable cultural assets of the City and to be a tool for providing educational and promotional assistance to Legacy Businesses to encourage their continued viability and success; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has contributed to the City's history and identity; and

WHEREAS, the subject business is committed to maintaining the traditions that define the business; and

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed public hearing held on March 3, 2021, the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed documents, correspondence and heard oral testimony on the Legacy Business Registry nomination.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends** that Central Drug Store qualifies for the Legacy Business Registry under Administrative Code Section 2A.242(b)(2) as it has operated for 30 or more years and has continued to contribute to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission hereby** recommends safeguarding of the below listed physical features and traditions for Y Central Drug Store.

Locationàsáz

Current Locations:

• 4494 Mission Street (1918– Present)

Previous (No Longer Extant) Locations:

- 4394 Mission Street (1908 1909)
- 4513 Mission Street (1909 1918)

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Businessz

- Bright Neon " Central Drug Store" Letters
- The large display windows
- Decorative Blue Tiles
- Old-Time Glass Cabinet
- Mural on the side of the building facing Santa Rosa Avenue titled "The San Francisco You Should Know". Painted by Precita Eyes Muralists

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission's findings and recommendations are made solely for the purpose of evaluating the subject business's eligibility for the Legacy Business Registry, and the Historic Preservation Commission makes no finding that the subject property or any of its features constitutes a historical resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the **Historic Preservation Commission hereby directs** its Commission Secretary to transmit this Resolution and other pertinent materials in the case file to the Office of Small Business March 3, 2021.

Jonas P. Ionin *Commission Secretary*

AYES:

NOES:



ABSENT:

ADOPTED: March 3. 2021





Legacy Business Registry

Application Review Sheet

Application No.: Business Name: Business Address: District: Applicant: Nomination Letter Date: Nominated By: LBR-2020-21-033 Central Drug Store 4494 Mission Street District 11 Jerrold Tonelli, Co-Owner February 2, 2021 Supervisor Ahsha Safai

CRITERION 1: Has the applicant has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years? X Yes No

4394 Mission Street from 1908 to 1909 (1 year) 4513 Mission Street from 1909 to 1918 (9 years) 4494 Mission Street from 1918 to Present (103 years)

CRITERION 2: Has the applicant contributed to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community? X Yes No

CRITERION 3: Is the applicant committed to maintaining the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms? X Yes No

NOTES: N/A

DELIVERY DATE TO HPC: February 4, 2021

Richard Kurylo Program Manager, Legacy Business Program

Legacy Business Program

Office of Small Business City Hall Room 140 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102 (415) 554-6680 legacybusiness@sfgov.org www.legacybusiness.org



Member, Board of Supervisors District 11



City and County of San Francisco

AHSHA SAFAÍ 安世輝

February 2, 2021

Richard Kurylo Legacy Business Program Office of Small Business City and County of San Francisco 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 140 San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: LEGACY BUSINESS STATUS FOR CENTRAL DRUG STORE

Attention Legacy Business Program:

I am nominating the Central Drug Store to represent District 11 in the San Francisco Legacy Business Directory. Central Drug Store, currently located at 4494 Mission Street in the Excelsior neighborhood, was established in 1908 by owner George Brenner. In 1921, Mr. Brenner sold the business to Wilbur G. Stahl who operated it until 1927. Claude L. DeVencenzi then purchased Central Drug Store. In 1950, George DeVencenzi and William Tonelli were brought on as coowners, and the three men together owned and operated three pharmacies: Central Drug Store on Mission Street at Santa Rosa Avenue, Golden State Pharmacy on San Bruno Avenue at Silliman Street, and Rex Drugs on Mission Street at Onondaga Avenue.

Dino Tonelli started as a pharmacist at Central Drug Store in 1949 after his service in the Army Air Corp and Air Force. Dino took over Central Drug Store, Golden State Pharmacy, and Rex Drugs in 1965. In 1984, Dino closed Rex Drugs due to rent increases by the new building owner, and Golden State Pharmacy split off from Central Drug Store. The Tonelli family took over ownership in 1965. Dino Tonelli passed away in 1991 doing what he loved – working in the pharmacy – at the age of 70. His son Jerry Tonelli, who worked with Dino as a pharmacist since 1978, took over day to day operations along with his mother Elsie Tonelli. Central Drug Store remains a family-owned business to this day.

Central Drug Store is a traditional pharmacy that has become an up-to-date pharmacy in technology, education, services, and medications, all while continuing to keep its classic look and feel. Central Drug Store takes pride in knowing their customers and patients, as well as being known as a friendly, safe, and welcoming place for all people. In addition to providing prescriptions, Central Drug Store provides free medical advice and over the counter counseling.

They have served generations of San Franciscans and still have customers well into their 90s that remember shopping at Central Drug Store as children. People that have moved out of the area will make a special trip just to come back from time to time. They always comment on how Central Drug Store is the one thing in the Excelsior that has remained the same.

Central Drug Store has always been a mainstay in supporting the Excelsior neighborhood that serves as an accessible pharmacy for all residents. Over the years, they have had a positive effect on the neighborhood. They regularly support the Coalition of Concerned Medical Providers, Corpus Christi Church, St. Roberts Catholic Church, YMCA, St. Johns High School, St. Ignatius College Preparatory High School, Archbishop Riordan High School, Italian American Social Club, Lucchesi Nel Mondo, Excelsior Action Group, Jerry Garcia Day, Sunday Streets SF, Knights of Columbus, Pharmacist Society of San Francisco, and the San Francisco Democratic Club. Central Drug Store also hires from within the neighborhood. Many of Central Drug Store's customer's children and grandchildren have worked at the store, and some have even met their future spouses while employed there.

The historic nature and the impact this business has made for the Excelsior community make the Central Drug Store an ideal District 11 representative in the San Francisco Legacy Business Directory.

Sincerely,

Ahsha Safai District 11 Supervisor

Section One:

Business / Applicant Information.

Please provide the following information:

- The name, mailing address and other contact information of the business;
- The name of the person who owns the business. For businesses with multiple owners, identify the person(s) with the highest ownership stake in the business;
- The name, title and contact information of the applicant;
- The business's San Francisco Business Account Number and entity number with the Secretary of State, if applicable.

NAME OF BUSINESS:	
Central Drug Store	
BUSINESS OWNER(S) (Identify the person(s) with the highest ownership stat	te in the business):
Elsie Tonelli and Jerrold Tonelli	
CURRENT BUSINESS ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE NUMBER:
Central Drug Store	415-585-0111
4494 Mission Street	EMAIL ADDRESS:
San Francisco, CA 94112	
MAILING ADDRESS – STREET ADDRESS:	MAILING ADDRESS – CITY AND STATE:
☑Same as Business Address	
	MAILING ADDRESS – ZIP CODE:
WEBSITE ADDRESS:	
n/a	
FACEBOOK PAGE:	
https://www.facebook.com/Central-DRUG-St	ore-469415426417663/
TWITTER NAME:	
n/a	
APPLICANT'S NAME:	APPLICANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER:
Jerrold Tonelli	
APPLICANT'S TITLE:	APPLICANT'S EMAIL ADDRESS:
Co-Owner	
SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESS ACCOUNT NUMBER:	
0005200	
SECRETARY OF STATE ENTITY NUMBER (If applicabl	e):
C0243767	

Section Two:

Business Location(s).

List the business address of the original San Francisco location, the start date of business and the dates of operation at the original location. Check the box indicating whether the original location of the business in San Francisco is the founding location of the business. If the business moved from its original location and has had additional addresses in San Francisco, identify all other addresses and the dates of operation at each address. For businesses with more than one location, list the additional locations in section three of the narrative.

ORIGINAL SAN FRANCISCO ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	START DATE OF BUSINESS
4394 Mission Street	94112	1908
IS THIS LOCATION THE FOUNDING LOCATION OF THE BUSINESS?	DATES OF LOCATION	OPERATION AT THIS
☑ Yes □ No		1908 to 1909
OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
4513 Mission Street	94112	Start: 1909
		End: 1918
	•	
OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
4494 Mission Street	94112	Start: 1918
		End: Present
OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start:

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start:
		End:

End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start:
		Endi
		End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start:
		End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start:
		End:
		End.

Section Three:

Disclosure Statement.

San Francisco Taxes, Business Registration, Licenses, Labor Laws and Public Information Release.

This section is verification that all San Francisco taxes, business registration and licenses are current and complete, and there are no current violations of San Francisco labor laws. This information will be verified. A business deemed not current with all San Francisco taxes, business registration and licenses, or has current violations of San Francisco labor laws, will not be eligible to apply for grants through the Legacy Business Program.

In addition, we are required to inform you that all information provided in the application will become subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

Please read the following statements and check each to indicate that you agree with the statement. Then sign below in the space provided.

☑ I am authorized to submit this application	on behalf of the business.
----------------------------------------------	----------------------------

- I attest that the business is current on all of its San Francisco tax obligations.
- ✓ I attest that the business's business registration and any applicable regulatory license(s) are current.
- ✓ I attest that the Office of Labor Standards and Enforcement (OLSE) has not determined that the business is currently in violation of any of the City's labor laws, and that the business does not owe any outstanding penalties or payments ordered by the OLSE.
- ✓ I understand that documents submitted with this application may be made available to the public for inspection and copying pursuant to the California Public Records Act and San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance.
- ✓ I hereby acknowledge and authorize that all photographs and images submitted as part of the application may be used by the City without compensation.
- ✓ I understand that the Small Business Commission may revoke the placement of the business on the Registry if it finds that the business no longer qualifies, and that placement on the Registry does not entitle the business to a grant of City funds.

Jerrold Tonelli

2/2/2021

Name (Print):

Date:

Signature:

CENTRAL DRUG STORE Section 4: Written Historical Narrative

CRITERION 1

a. Provide a short history of the business from the date the business opened in San Francisco to the present day, including the ownership history. For businesses with multiple locations, include the history of the original location in San Francisco (including whether it was the business's founding and or headquartered location) and the opening dates and locations of all other locations.

Central Drug Store, currently located at 4494 Mission Street in the Excelsior neighborhood, was established in 1908 by owner William Brenner.

The pharmacy was originally located at 4394 Mission Street. Around 1909, Central Drug Store moved to 4513 Mission Street. By 1918, William moved the pharmacy to its current location at 4494 Mission Street at Santa Rosa Avenue.

In 1921, Mr. Brenner sold the business to Wilbur G. Stahl who operated it until 1927. Claude L. DeVencenzi then purchased Central Drug Store. In 1950, George DeVencenzi and William Tonelli were brought on as co-owners, and the three men together owned and operated three pharmacies: Central Drug Store on Mission Street at Santa Rosa Avenue, Golden State Pharmacy on San Bruno Avenue at Silliman Street, and Rex Drugs on Mission Street at Onondaga Avenue.

Dino Tonelli started as a pharmacist at Central Drug Store in 1949 after his service in the Army Air Corp and Air Force. Dino took over Central Drug Store, Golden State Pharmacy, and Rex Drugs in 1965. In 1984, Dino closed Rex Drugs due to rent increases by the new building owner, and Golden State Pharmacy split off from Central Drug Store. Dino Tonelli passed away in 1991 doing what he loved – working in the pharmacy – at the age of 70. His son Jerry Tonelli, who worked with Dino as a pharmacist since 1978, took over day to day operations along with his mother Elsie Tonelli.

As a side note, Dino and Elsie met while working at Central Drug Store when Elsie was 16 years old. She's 93 now and still working at the pharmacy!

b. Describe any circumstances that required the business to cease operations in San Francisco for more than six months?

Not applicable.

c. Is the business a family-owned business? If so, give the generational history of the business.

Central Drug Store is a family-owned business. The Tonelli family took over ownership in 1965. Dino Tonelli, who started at Central Drug Store as a pharmacist in 1949, bought the pharmacy in 1965 from then owners George DeVincenzi, Claude L. DeVencenzi, and William Tonelli. Dino operated the business until his passing in 1991. Dino's wife, Elsie Tonelli, and son Jerry took over the business after Dino's passing. Jerry started at Central Drug Store as a stock boy and store clerk in 1971. In 1978, Jerry began working alongside his father as a pharmacist. All 7 of Elsie's children and many grandchildren and even great-grandchildren, have worked at Central Drug Store at one time or another.

d. Describe the ownership history when the business ownership is not the original owner or a family-owned business.

The ownership history of Central Drug Store is as follows:

1908 to 1921:	William Brenner
1921 to 1927:	Wilber G. Stahl
1927 to 1950:	Claude L. DeVencenzi
1950 to 1965:	Claude L. DeVencenzi, George DeVencenzi, and William Tonelli
1965 to 1991:	Dino Tonelli
1991 to Present:	Elsie Tonelli and Jerry Tonelli

e. When the current ownership is not the original owner and has owned the business for less than 30 years, the applicant will need to provide documentation of the existence of the business prior to current ownership to verify it has been in operation for 30+ years. Please use the list of supplemental documents and/or materials as a guide to help demonstrate the existence of the business prior to current ownership.

Documentation of the existence of the business verifying it has been in operation for 30+ years is provided in this Legacy Business Registry application.

f. Note any other special features of the business location, such as, if the property associated with the business is listed on a local, state, or federal historic resources registry.

The historic resource status of the building that houses the business is classified by the Planning Department as Category B with regard to the California Environmental Quality Act.

CRITERION 2

a. Describe the business's contribution to the history and/or identity of the neighborhood, community or San Francisco.

Central Drug Store is a traditional pharmacy serving the Excelsior District since 1908. It is an upto-date pharmacy in technology, education, services, and medications, all while continuing to keep its classic look and feel. Central Drug Store has a distinct history that makes it a once-in-alifetime place to work or shop. You just feel the history of the building when you walk in, and if you listen intently you'll hear her story.

Central Drug Store takes pride in knowing their customers and patients, as well as being known as a friendly, safe, and welcoming place for all people. In addition to providing prescriptions, Central Drug Store provides free medical advice and over the counter counseling. Above all, they provide excellent customer service to the people of the Excelsior District. They have served generations of San Franciscans and still have customers well into their 90s that remember shopping at Central Drug Store as children. People that have moved out of the area will make a special trip just to come back from time to time. They always comment on how Central Drug Store is the one thing in the Excelsior that has remained the same. They say it feels like home.

b. Is the business (or has been) associated with significant events in the neighborhood, the city, or the business industry?

When Dino Tonelli took over ownership in 1965, the Excelsior was a vibrant corridor with a camera shop, hardware store, stationary store, donut shop, bike shop, and clothing stores. True to its name, Central Drug Store was central to it all. Dino started supporting local churches and schools. He was the founding member of the Excelsior Businessmen Association. As a member, he was able to promote decorating the Excelsior's streets and store windows during the holidays. His store was one of the original businesses to participate in the Excelsior Blue Chip Stamp program. Dino was Chairman of the Blue Stamp Committee and earned an award for "Most Successful Year In The History Of Blue Stamp 1961."

Elsie and Jerry continue to support the same churches and schools. They've extended their community outreach by hiring local students, participating in Sunday Streets SF every year and are current members of Coalition of Concerned Medical Providers (CCMP). Through CCMP, Central Drug Store provides medications to the underserved, poor, and homeless free of charge. Jerry Tonelli is a current member of The Pharmacist Society of San Francisco and California Pharmacist Association. Elsie and Jerry also helped sponsor the mural on the side of Central Drug Store's wall, on Santa Rosa Avenue, that portrays the rich history of the Excelsior and its hope for the future.

c. Has the business ever been referenced in an historical context? Such as in a business trade publication, media, or historical documents?

Central Drug Store has been referenced in the following publications and has received the following honors:

- Most Successful Year In The History Of Blue Stamp Award presented by the Blue Stamp Committee, 1961.
- Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition Small Business Award presented by Congresswoman (now House Speaker) Nancy Pelosi, May 24, 2016.
- San Francisco Certificate of Honor presented by Mayor Edwin Lee, January 2013.

- Coalition of Concerned Medical Professionals Award presented for professional services to benefit underpaid workers, 2011.
- Associazione Lucchesi Nel Mondo San Francisco Award presented to Central Drug Store for its support of the Italian community, 2011.

d. Is the business associated with a significant or historical person?

Central Drug Store is associated with the following significant and/or historical people:

- Jerry Garcia, founder and front man for the Grateful Dead, was a regular at Central Drug Store as a young teen. He was likely found in the magazine section checking out the comics. He grew up near the store.
- Monty Stickles, San Francisco 49ers, regularly shopped at the store up until his passing in 2006.
- Juan Marichal, San Francisco Giants, would hang out and talk sports.
- Paul Tonelli, Morning radio show personality at 107.7 THE BONE and voice of the San Francisco 49ers, worked at Central Drug Store and continues to shop here for his prescriptions and everyday needs.
- Quentin Kopp, former San Francisco Supervisor and State Senator, was a regular at Central Drug Store.

Other people who have patronized Central Drug Store include the following:

- Jackie Speier, Congresswoman
- Benito Santiago, San Francisco Giants
- Rinaldo Joseph "Rugger" Ardizoia, New York Yankees

e. How does the business demonstrate its commitment to the community?

Central Drug Store has always been a mainstay in supporting the Excelsior neighborhood. Over the years, they have had a positive effect on the neighborhood. They regularly support the Coalition of Concerned Medical Providers, Corpus Christi Church, St. Roberts Catholic Church YMCA, St. Johns High School, St. Ignatius College Preparatory High School, Archbishop Riordan High School, Italian American Social Club, Lucchesi Nel Mondo, Excelsior Action Group, Jerry Garcia Day, Sunday Streets SF, Knights of Columbus, Pharmacist Society of San Francisco, and the San Francisco Democratic Club. Central Drug Store also hires from within the neighborhood. Many of Central Drug Store's customer's children and grandchildren have worked at the store, and some have even met their future spouses while employed there. Central Drug Store also reaches out to our local high schools (St. Ignatius, Riordan, Balboa, and Sacred Heart Cathedral) when looking for after school help. They also take pride in being a member of the Retail Clerks Union Local 648, which provides employees with excellent wages, health insurance, and pension plans.

f. Provide a description of the community the business serves.

The Excelsior District is a very diverse neighborhood, so the customers and patients of Central Drug Store are of many different nationalities, languages, ages (multi-generational), and lifestyles. Central Drug Store is a special welcoming place for all people of the Excelsior.

Now that Airbnb is prevalent in San Francisco, there have been numerous customers at Central Drug Store from Europe, Asia, and South America.

g. Is the business associated with a culturally significant building/structure/site/object/interior?

The building that houses Central Drug Store has been a pharmacy for over 100 years. Central Drug Store is one of the only, if not the only, original "small business" to survive in the Excelsior since 1908 and continues to thrive today. Housing a simple mom-and-pop pharmacy since the building's construction, the building is unique to the neighborhood because of its 1940s-1950s-style décor. The storefront is distinctive with its bright neon "Central Drug Store" lettering on the building, backed by black tiles. The large display windows are always decorated according to the holidays and seasons. Small blue tiles decorate the bottom half of the building, including the entryway, accenting the structure. Old-time glass cabinets hold beautiful gifts of perfume, colognes, wallets, various knick-knacks, and home items.

Central Drug's interior was remodeled once in 1976, with the exception of the pharmacy room that is very much the same as it was in 1908. The store has a warm, inviting feeling. Jerry remembers falling down in the front of Corpus Christi Church (down the block from the pharmacy) when he was 5 years old and skinning his knees. His grandmother brought him straight away to Central Drug Store. The pharmacist, George DeVincenzi, put him up on the counter, cleaned up the scrapes, and bandaged his knees. Jerry now works at that very same counter and has bandaged up his share of scrapes.

h. How would the community be diminished if the business were to be sold, relocated, shut down, etc.?

If Central Drug Store were to close, it would be a tremendous loss to the city of San Francisco and the Excelsior District. San Francisco was built by independently-owned businesses (i.e., small businesses). In order for San Francisco to retain its character, small businesses such as Central Drug Store need to be here.

CRITERION 3

a. Describe the business and the essential features that define its character.

Central Drug Store is a pharmacy and general merchandise store, selling goods ranging from durable medical equipment, perfume and colognes, toys/stuffed animals, gifts, and household goods.

b. How does the business demonstrate a commitment to maintaining the historical traditions that define the business, and which of these traditions should not be changed in order to retain the businesses historical character? (e.g., business model, goods and services, craft, culinary, or art forms)

Central Drug Store is committed to maintaining its historical tradition as a pharmacy and general merchandise store as it has since 1908. As a staple in the Excelsior, Central Drug Store will continue to be a place that the community can rely on for their prescriptions, generalized goods, and familiar welcoming faces and family.

c. How has the business demonstrated a commitment to maintaining the special physical features that define the business? Describe any special exterior and interior physical characteristics of the space occupied by the business (e.g. signage, murals, architectural details, neon signs, etc.).

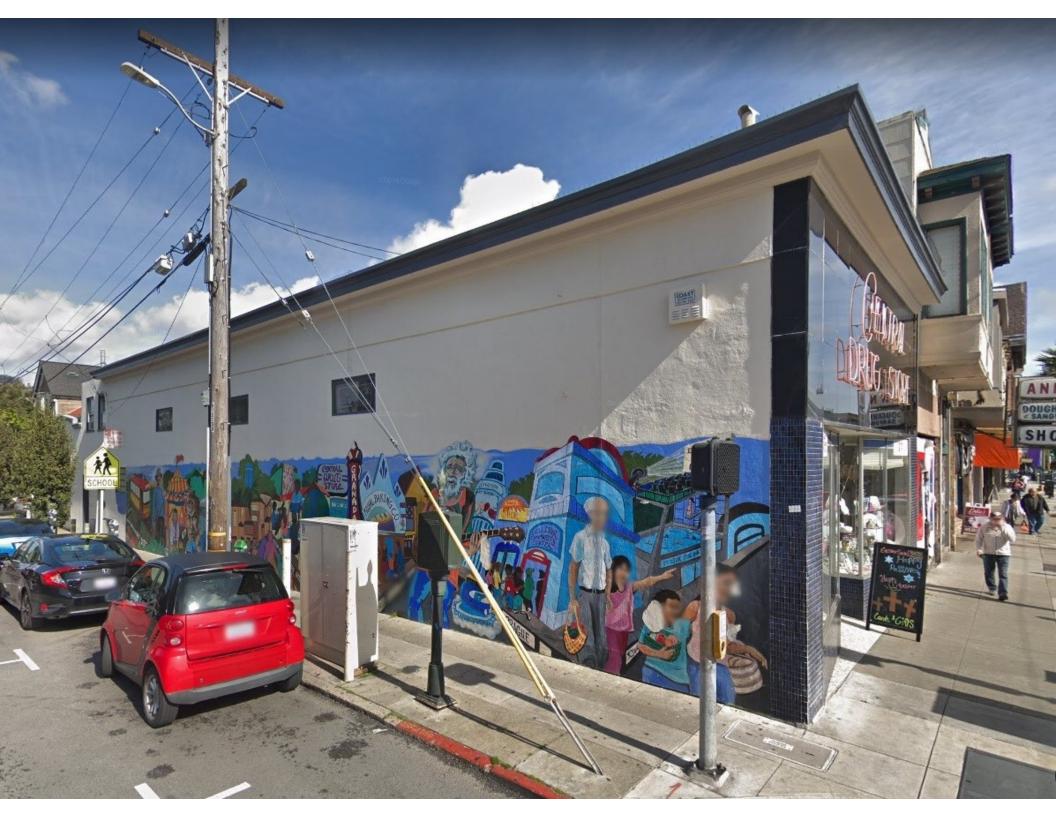
The business is committed to maintaining the building's 1940s-1950s-style décor, the bright neon "Central Drug Store" lettering on the building, the large display windows, the decorative blue tiles that adorn the bottom half of the building, the old-time glass cabinets, and the mural on the side of the building titled "The San Francisco You Should Know."

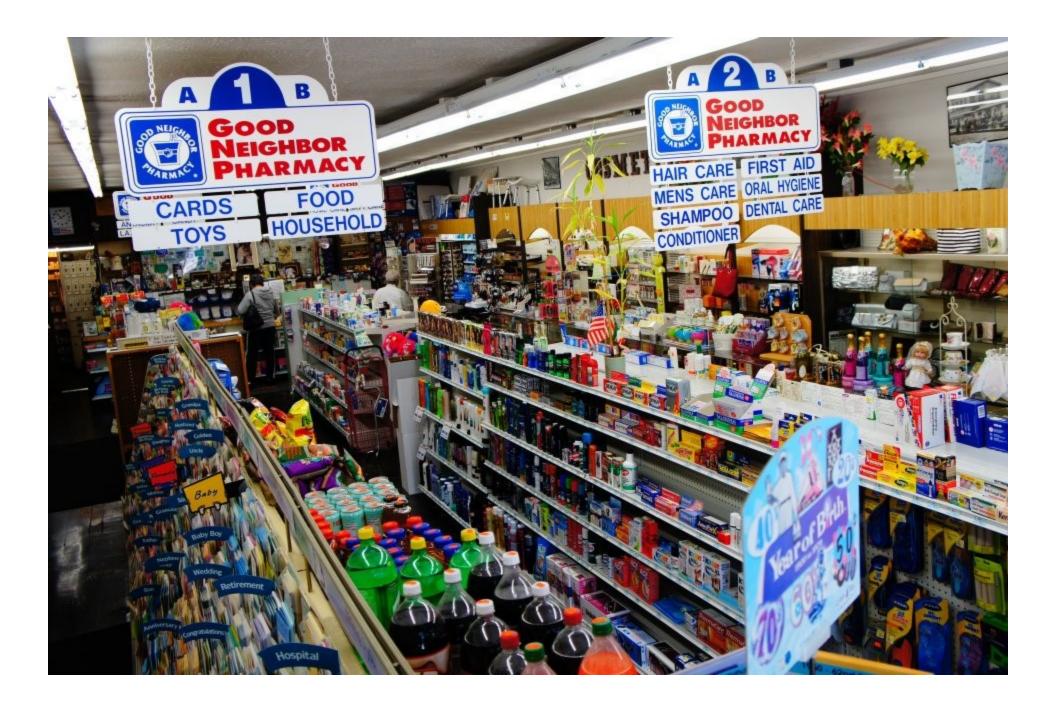
d. When the current ownership is not the original owner and has owned the business for less than 30 years; the applicant will need to provide documentation that demonstrates the current owner has maintained the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms. Please use the list of supplemental documents and/or materials as a guide to help demonstrate the existence of the business prior to current ownership.

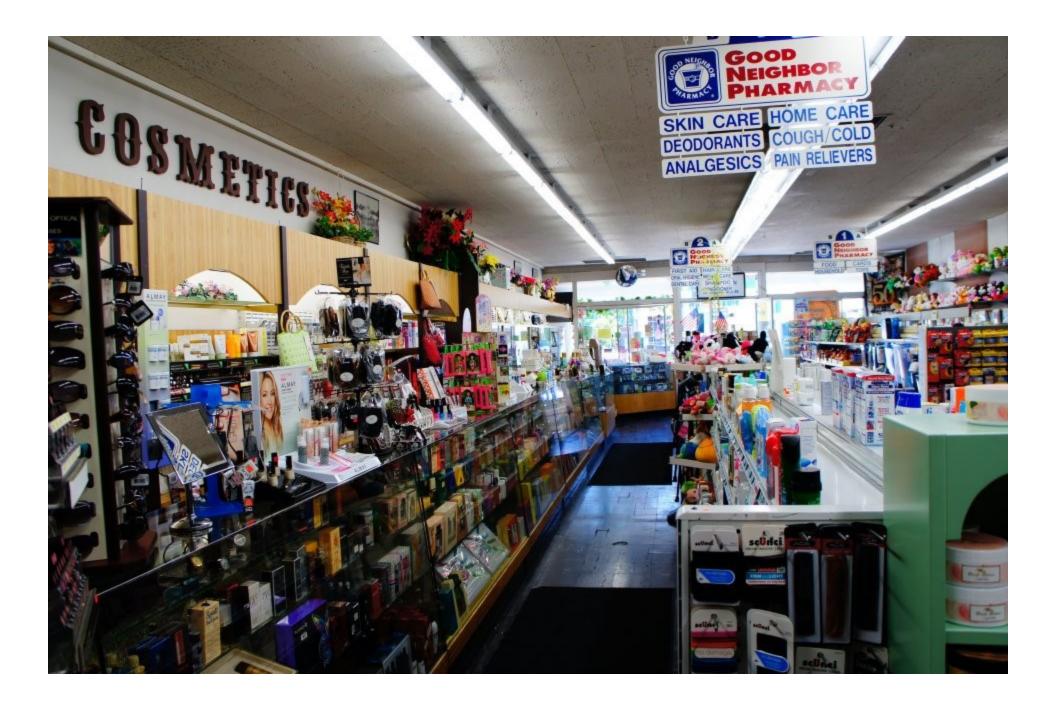
Documentation that demonstrates the business has been a pharmacy and general merchandise store for 30+ years is included in this Legacy Business Registry application including, but not limited to, the following:

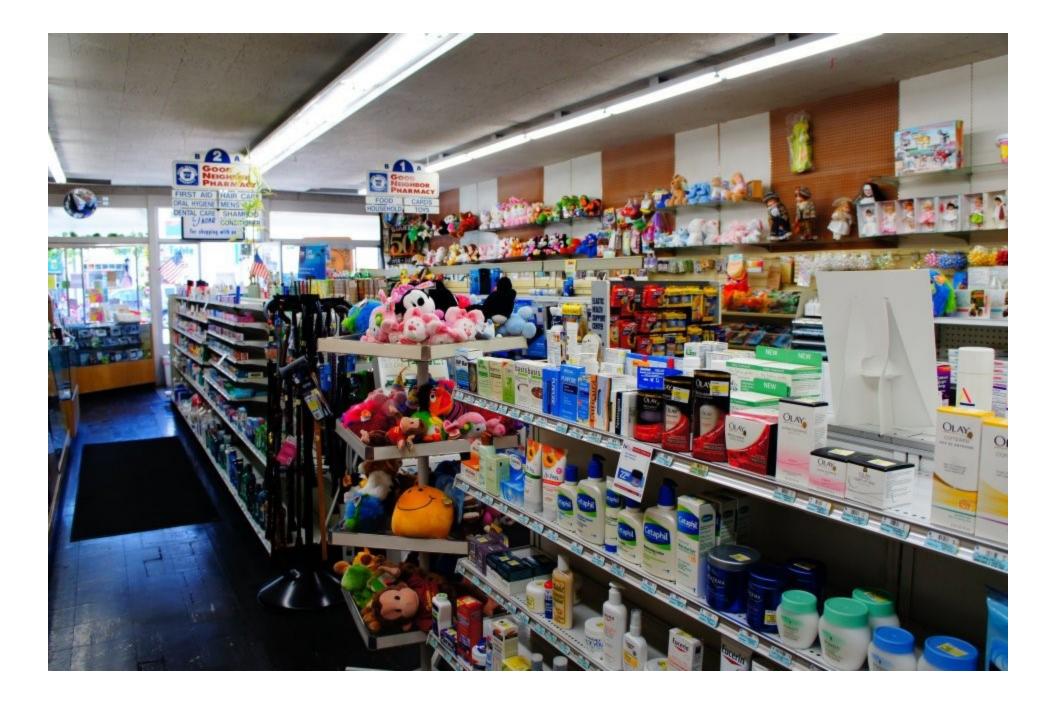
- A directory listing from 1908 with Central Drug Store listed at 4394 Mission Street.
- A directory listing from 1911 with Central Drug Store listed at 4513 Mission Street.
- A directory listing from 1922 with Central Drug Store listed at 4494 Mission Street.
- An advertisement in a San Francisco Chronicle from August 2, 1931, showing Central Drug Store at 4494 Mission Street listed as an "Authorized Sheaffer's Dealer." Although Central Drug Store may no longer be an authorized Shaeffer's dealer, the store still does sell general merchandise.

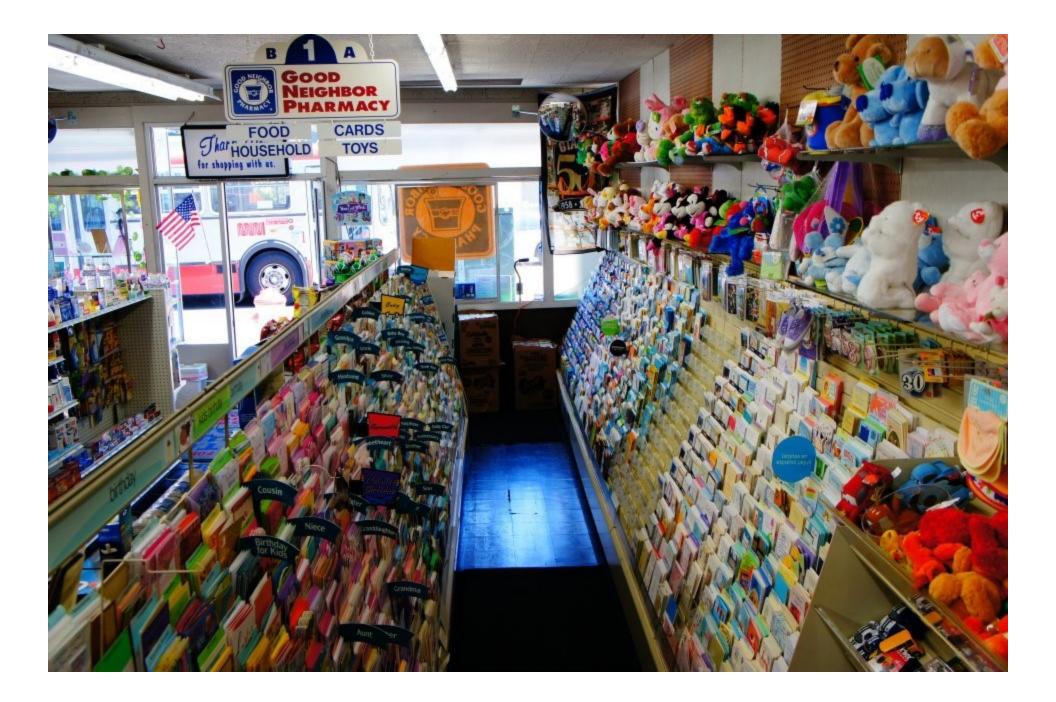


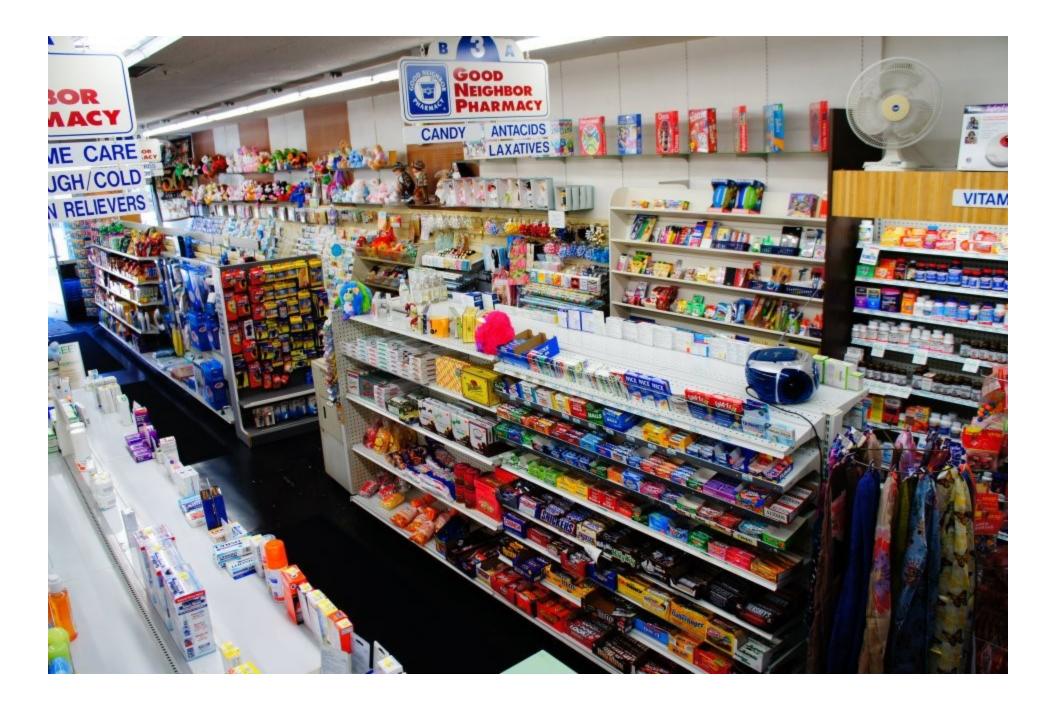
















Crocker Langley Directory – 1908 – Page 417

"Central Drug Store, 4394 Mission"



Crocker Langley Directory – 1911 – Page 391

"Central Drug Store, 4513 Mission"



Directory – 1922 – Page 452

"CENTRAL DRUG STORE, Wilbur G Stahl prop, 4494 Mission"



News Article - San Francisco Chronicle - August 1, 1931 - page 35

August 1, 1931 | San Francisco Chronicle | San Francisco, California | Page 35

August 2, 1931



-



For School Opening and Every Gift Occasion

Sheaffer's Balance' Lifetime' pens and writing accessories suggest themselves. See Sheaffer's advertisement on the back page of this color section, then inspect the complete Sheaffer line at the following authorized Sheaffer dealers' stores. There you'll be shown every courtesy and given intelligent service in the selection of lasting and appropriate writing equipment.

WHERE TO BUY SHEAFFER'S

Authorized Sheaffer Dealers:

wler, 133 Geary 701 Oak St. welry Co., 25 Mas Drug Co., Colma & macy, Bush & al Students, 1st re. & Parnassus nson & Maund, 1215 Polk St ert's Diamond Palace, 23rd y, 19th & Mi a Jeweiry Shop, 3547 Balboa tecker, 5645 Geary St. Pharmacy, 500 Balboa St. y Behrends, 2674 Mission S et's Pharmacy, 455 Clement rharmacy, 435 Cleanant in's Phar., 356 Post St. is Phar., 400 Geary St. is Phar., 400 Post St. Callan, 209 Post St. ic & Co., Upham & Rut-Inc., 135 Post St. Jewelry Co., Market & rell Drug Store, 4494 Mission in Co., 700 Grant Ave. World Publishing Co., 730 e. is, Geary & Stockton Pharmacy, 5800 Gear s Drug Store, 2095 Che gs Staty. Store, 76 W. Po Crocker Co., 565 Market Phar., 730 Irving St. spensary, 5199 Geary St. n & Co., 2308 Clement St Fish & Co., 254 Californ ann Co., 135 armacy, 2007 Chestin ug Co., 800 Clemeni s Phar., 598 Guerre Co., 239 Post St. el, 96 Third St. mporium ont Hotei Phar., Powell nt Hotel Fhar, Fowei an Phar, 401 O'Farrell g Phar, Mason & Geary Flood, 2644 Mission Hill Phar, 400 Dewey Bly Phar, 20th & Irving St. Edwin J. Edwin J. Drug Co., 1801 Van Ne State Phar., 2440 San Br Bros., 2248 Mission bros., 5th & Market Smith, 353 Market ys, 37 Powell H. Harris, Geary & d & Molkenbuhr, Sl . 1700 Market y. (J. M. Brooks), 18 Opt. & Staty.; 337 t. & Wood, 150 Post St. rug Co., 3165 Steiner St. n Phar., 2300 Fillmore Phar., 454 Post St. Drug Co., Sutter & in Dayton, 163 California welry Co., Ltd., 742 t lik, 1010 Fillmore St. Latham, 1508 Polk Phar., 1499 Grant Ave. Royal Phar., 700 Sutter Park Presidio Phar., t. Co., 22 Union St. 133 Kearny t Co., 182 Ellis St. acy, Post & Gough Sts. ., 1893 Hayes Phar, 2799 Mission St. & Co., Grant Ave. & y St. farg. 1624 Fillmore St. ag Co., 737 Portola Driv der, 760 Market har. No. 2, 2799 Mission har., 300 Columbus Ave

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https://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/EXCELSIOR-Locals-honor-Garcia-Jerry-Day-pays-2658576.php#photo-2135515

San Francisco Chronicle

EXCELSIOR / Locals honor Garcia / Jerry Day pays homage to singer's neighborhood roots

Carolyn Jones, Chronicle Staff Writer July 1, 2005 Updated: Jan. 20, 2012

Long before he was lead singer for the <u>Grateful Dead</u>, <u>Jerry Garcia</u> was a scrappy kid in the Excelsior -- pulling fire alarms, sticking his hands in wet cement, throwing cherry bombs in the Alemany tunnel.

"Seems like we were always in the back of a police cruiser," said Garcia's childhood buddy, <u>John Clark</u>, a writer and filmmaker who now lives in Orlando. "The Excelsior was a lot of fun for us. Harrington Street was our world."

The Excelsior is now embracing Garcia once again. Commemorating Garcia's 63rd birthday on Aug. 1 and the 10th anniversary of his death on Aug. 9, residents of the Excelsior are hosting Jerry Day at the McLaren Park amphitheater.

The free event, scheduled for Aug. 7, will feature four bands, food booths and arts and crafts.

Organizers are expecting 1,300 to 1,500 people to attend Jerry Day, which is in its third year. The purpose is to celebrate Garcia's life, art and music, as well as bring people to the Excelsior -- a neighborhood that doesn't get nearly enough attention, promoters say.

"I know what it feels like to grow up out there, not feeling like you're part of the city," said organizer <u>Tom Murphy</u>, who was raised in the Excelsior and now works in finance on the Peninsula. "We're trying to build pride, community spirit, bring positive attention to the neighborhood."

Garcia fans have also gathered 1,000 signatures to rename the McLaren Park amphitheater after the world-famous singer and guitarist. Three years ago, they printed and sold T-shirts with Garcia's artwork to raise money for a new playground at the park. In all, they netted \$5,000. The playground was completed in 2003.

There's also a movement to declare his childhood home, at 87 Harrington St., a landmark and place a plaque out front.

"Jerry Garcia and his accomplishments help put the Excelsior on the map," said Supervisor <u>Gerardo Sandoval</u>, who represents the neighborhood.

Sandoval is particularly pleased with the Garcia celebration because "it's a well-kept secret that I'm the only Deadhead on the board. I have more than 50 shows under my belt."

Garcia's family has been very supportive of Jerry Day and efforts to commemorate his childhood, Murphy said. His family donated an original Garcia painting to auction to raise money for Jerry Day. The painting will be auctioned at a fund-raiser Thursday at Cafe Mama, 4754 Mission St.



This is a 1994 file photo of singer JERRY GARCIA. Tired of diehard Grateful Dead fans clogging city homeless shelters while waiting for the next concert, Santa Cruz mayor, Scott Kennedy, is asking Jerry Garcia to share the cost of deadbeat Deadheads by giving to the shelters that feed the homeless and roaming Dead fans. Band spokesman Dennis McNally, skeptical about the extent of Santa Cruz's Deadhead problem, said band has made contributions to cities whose social services have been tapped by fans. (AP Photo/File)



GARCIA/C/20AUG99/PK/HO-This is a photo of Jerry Garcia dressed as a cowboy in his youth. HANDOUT

Fans say they can hear the Excelsior's influence in Garcia's music. Although he was a hippie icon for three decades, he also favored bluegrass, blues and other working-class types of music -- a throwback to his youth in the blue-collar Outer Mission.

Sandoval noted that Garcia was originally trained as a Spanish classical guitarist, a reflection of the traditional lifestyle and Latin influence of the Excelsior.

Garcia isn't the Excelsior's only famous son. Boston Red Sox Hall of Famer <u>Joe Cronin</u>, Mix Master Mike of the <u>Beastie Boys</u> and former heavyweight champion <u>Pat Valentino</u> also hail from the foggy streets of the Outer Mission.

"North Beach had Joe DiMaggio; we have our own Hall of Famer," Murphy said.

Garcia grew up at 121 Amazon St., then moved when he was 5 to his grandmother's house at 87 Harrington St., where he lived until he was a teenager. Clark lived a few doors down at 32 Harrington.

"We were pretty inseparable," said Clark, who later wrote a book called "Dead Angel" about his childhood with Garcia.

Garcia, at the time of his death in 1995, was also working on a book about his youth, called "Harrington Street." It was published posthumously. Clark first met Garcia in the comic book aisle at the <u>Central Drug Store</u>, which is still in business near Mission and Excelsior Avenue. They spent their youth "mostly getting into trouble and having fun," Clark said.

They built tree houses, played Union and Confederate soldiers in vacant lots, made an underground fort complete with periscope, went on Easter egg hunts at McLaren Park, cleaned the park's horse stables in exchange for rides, and exploded a lot of firecrackers.

"As a kid, Jerry was very fun-loving, very kind. A little lost, in a sense," Clark said. "I remember once we were walking down the street and he was singing 'When the Red Red Robin Comes Bob-Bob-Bobbing Along,' and thinking, 'Boy, I hope he doesn't become a singer.' "

Clark and Garcia stayed in touch over the years, although Clark never considered himself a Deadhead.

Nonetheless, he plans to return to the Excelsior for Jerry Day and emcee the event.

"I haven't been back to McLaren Park in years," he said. "I still remember stealing the Easter eggs out of Jerry's basket there."

Harrington Street

In Jerry Garcia's posthumously published "Harrington Street" (<u>Delacorte Press</u>, \$22.95), he writes about his childhood. These are some of his memories of his Excelsior neighborhood:

"When I lived at 87 Harrington St., the neighborhood church was Corpus Christi (body of Christ) located one block northeast of Harrington Street and occupying about one half block of area. It was, when we first moved there, a typical wooden frame, sort of classic little old church-in-the-lane cum here's the church, here's the people, open the doors, etc.... kind of deal."

On another page, he wrote:

"The Excelsior district of San Francisco was ethnically mostly Italian and Irish. My family was pretty much Spanish-Irish, a stricken combination of Catholicism's Weirder Interpretations. ... So one block, scarcely 100 yards from the door at 87 Harrington, was God's House! In those days they still had the wonderful Latin Mass with its resonant sonorities and mysterious ritual movements, the incense, the music, choir, organ, bells, candles, the muted light through the stained glass windows."



ABOUT

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Visit our Excelsior District page for more content:



Top 5 Excelsior Commercial Buildings

March 23rd, 2020

No Comments »

We have already admired, written about, and helped with landmark designation for the terrific <u>Royal Baking Company building</u> at 4769-4773 Mission Street, but there are a number of other great commercial buildings in the Excelsior. While there are gems farther out Mission (we love the old Art Deco realty office at <u>5401 Mission Street</u>), we're not going south of Geneva Avenue for this post. As with our <u>top 5 residential buildings</u> and <u>top 5 institutional buildings</u>, this list is very subjective. Let us know if you have a favorite one not mentioned!

Central Drug Store

(4494 Mission Street, built 1910)



The form is simple (a rectangle), but the drugstore on the corner at 4494 Mission Street at the corner of Santa Rosa Avenue has a couple of big reasons for making this list. Central Drug Store is the oldest still-operating business in the Excelsior District, having opened in this spot in 1910. A circa 1950 alteration to the building gave us the sleek Vitrolite sign with "Central Drug Store" in neon. Jerry Garcia bought comic books here when he was a boy, and he is still playing the guitar on the south side of the building along Santa Rosa Avenue in the 2009 work by Precita Eyes Muralists, *The San Francisco You Should Know.*



Detail of The San Francisco You Should Know on side of Central Drug Store building.







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