

HOLLYWOOD BANK IS IN ITS NEW BUILDING

Scores of Citizens Inspect Beautiful Home of Institution; Tributes Sent.

HOLLYWOOD, Fla., July 5.—Opening of the Hollywood Bank and Trust Company new quarters in the bank's building in Hollywood boulevard at Twentieth street was attended today by many citizens, who inspected one of the most beautiful lobbies in the South.

In the lobby, which was designed by Adolph Vollmer, architect, of Miami, who had charge of the plans and detailed specifications for the Hollywood Beach Hotel, were scores of bouquets of flowers sent by many friends of the bank.

Among those who sent flowers were J. W. Young, chairman of the board of directors of the bank; the Hollywood Associated Companies, Hollywood Nurseries, the First National Bank of Miami, the Coral Gables First National Bank, the Miami Beach First National Bank, the Little River Bank and Trust Company, the Bunny Supply Company, Paul R. John, mayor of Hollywood; Ralph A. Young, a city commissioner, and the First National Bank of Fort Lauderdale.

J. L. Griffin, a vice president of the First National Bank of Miami, and a vice president of the Hollywood institution, and E. L. Bowie, cashier, received the many visitors throughout the day and escorted them through the various departments, including the large and modern safe deposit vault.

The Hollywood Bank and Trust Company is a member of the First National group, and George B. Romfh, a vice president of the Miami institution, is president of the bank here.

According to the recent financial statement, published in compliance with the quarterly call by the state comptroller, the Hollywood bank now has more than \$800,000 in deposits. Paid-in capital amounts to \$50,000, surplus \$50,000 and undivided profits, \$52,000.

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First National Bank of Hollywood, then First Hollywood Bank, as it appeared in the 1920s (City of Hollywood Records and Archives).

Figure 3. Article from July 3, 1927, describing the opening of the new bank building (*The Miami Herald* 1927).



Figure 7. The First National Bank of Hollywood as it appeared in the 1950s after the completion of the first major renovation in the 1940s (City of Hollywood Records and Archives).

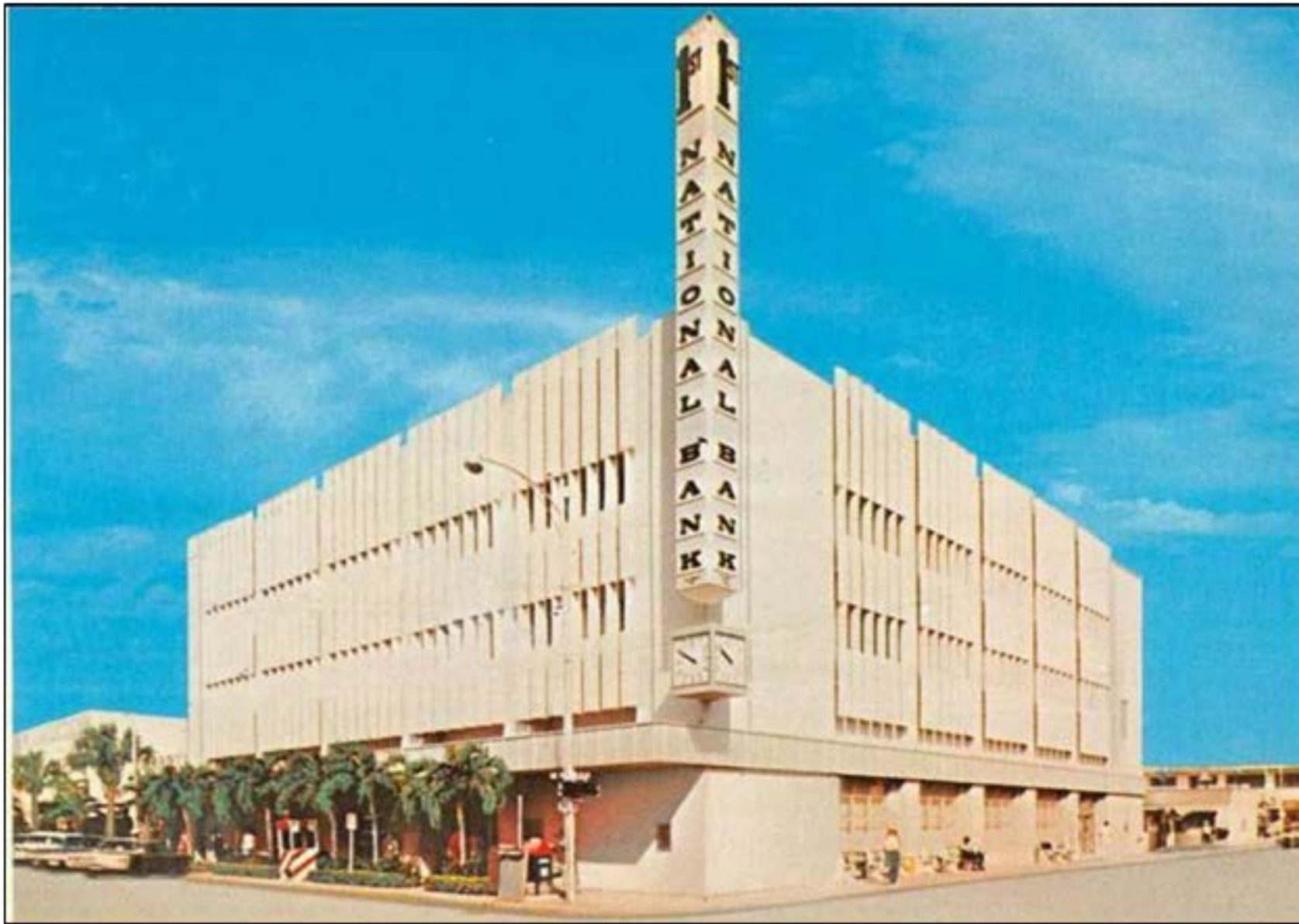


Figure 9. The First National Bank of Hollywood as it appeared after the second major renovation in the 1960s (City of Hollywood Records and Archives).

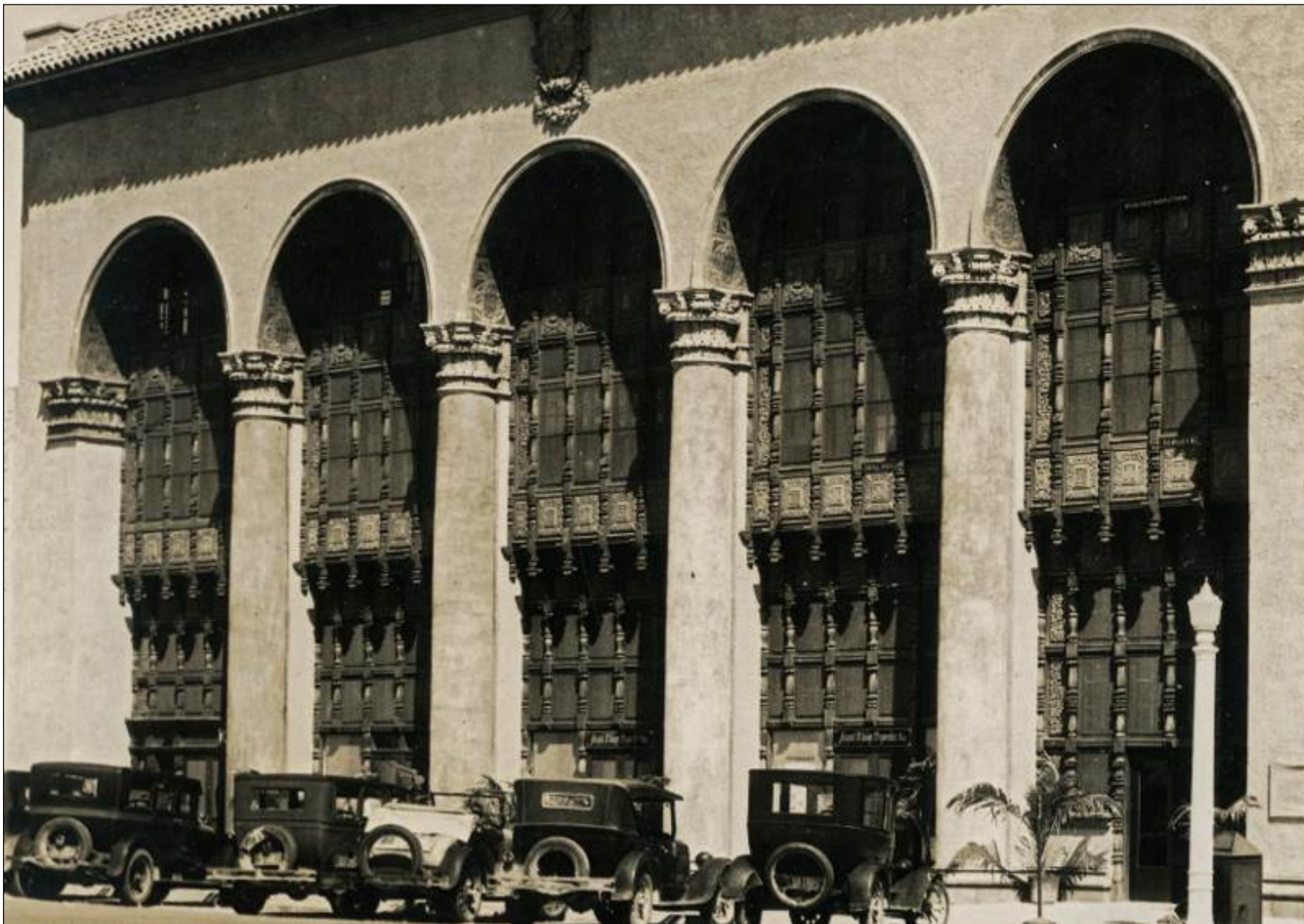


Figure 11. South front elevation of the First National Bank of Hollywood along Hollywood Boulevard as it originally appeared in the 1920s (City of Hollywood Records and Archives).



Figure 12. A comparison of the 1920s photograph (left) and the 1940s photograph (right) clearly shows the removal of the ornamental medallion from the south façade, as well as the removal of the pent roof with Cuban clay tiles and the ornamental Pecky Cypress brackets.



Figure 13. A comparison of the 1920s photograph (left) with the 1940s photograph (right) shows the removal of the original arches and concrete inlaid panels.



Figure 14. A comparison of the 1920s photograph (left) with the 1940s photograph (right) showing the decorative sill relief being removed from the façade.



Figure 15. First National Bank of Hollywood as it appeared in the 1950s, following the initial renovation (City of Hollywood Records and Archives).

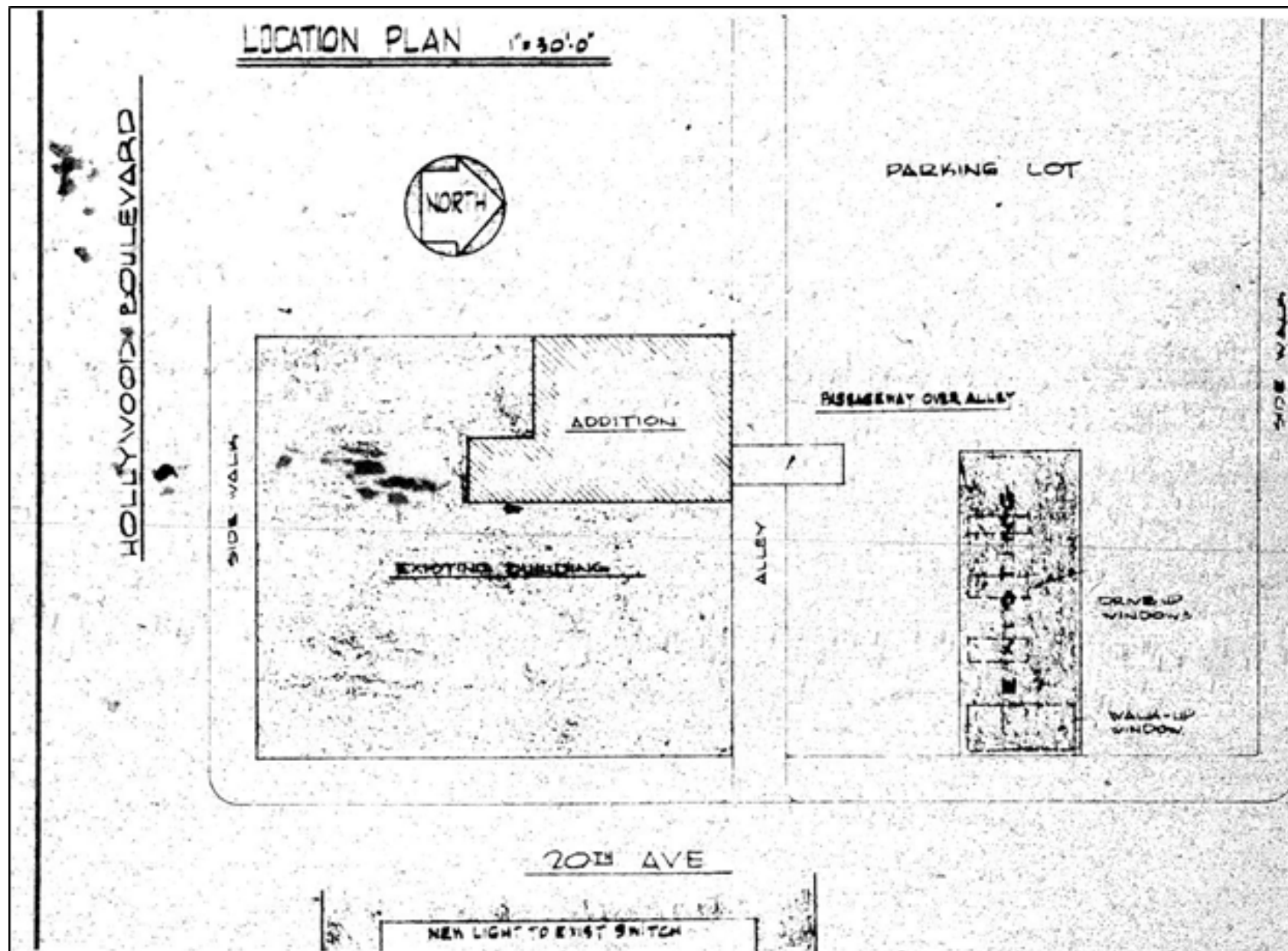


Figure 17. Page from the 1965 *Addition and Renovation* plans, showing the location of the addition on the northeast corner of the building (City of Hollywood Records and Archives).



Figure 18. Line drawing for the 1965 renovation (left) and the appearance of the building after the renovation in the 1960s (right) (City of Hollywood Records and Archives).



Figure 20. Photograph from January 2020 showing the modern arches and other decorative elements that were added to the south side façade facing Hollywood Boulevard in the 1980s.



Figure 21. Photograph from January 2020 showing the east elevation facing North 20th Avenue, showing the decorative arches added to the façade in the 1980s.



Figure 22. Photograph from January 2020 showing the main entrance on the west elevation, added in the 1980s.



Figure 23. First National Bank of Hollywood (8BD00567), facing northwest from the intersection of Hollywood Boulevard and North 20th Avenue.



Figure 24. View of the five arched openings on the south elevation recreated in the 1980s, facing northeast.



Figure 26. First floor interior showing the lack of historical fabric, with the former main southside entry visible on the center left and the new westside entry visible on the center right, facing southwest.



Figure 27. Close-up view of damage on one of the interior columns, with the metal rebar clearly visible, facing southeast.



Figure 28. The southwest corner section of the original plaster molding, visible here in red, is all that remains of the original ceilings, facing west.



Figure 29. The original bank vault, located near the northeast corner on the first floor, remains operable, facing northwest.



Figure 30. Interior of the historic bank vault, with the modern bars visible separating different sections of the interior, facing north.



Figure 36. Poor condition of infill at the bottom of one of the eastside windows, facing southeast.



Figure 37. Tops of two of the windows located on the east side, with older wood and newer aluminum visible in the infilled section, facing southeast.

EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

- The First National Bank of Hollywood (8BD00567) was initially documented in 1996. The resource is located within the boundaries of the NRHP-listed Hollywood Boulevard Historic Business District (8BD03284), it is considered non-contributing to the district.
- 2001 Hollywood Boulevard NRHP nomination form for the district states, “This building retains none of its historical or architectural significance” (Krassy and Shiver 1999). The NRHP nomination form for the district was completed by the Bureau of Historic Preservation, and SHPO signed off on the document in January 1999.
- The First National Bank of Hollywood (8BD00567) is ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP.
 - The resource may be considered significant under Criterion A as it is associated with the earliest period of construction and development in the City of Hollywood and was one of the buildings originally commissioned by the founder of Hollywood, Joseph Wesley Young.
 - This direct association with Young and his early design of the city make this resource significant under Criterion B for its connection to a significant historical person.
 - However, the resource is not significant under Criterion C for architecture as the substantial alterations to the building made during the multiple renovations over the years have destroyed the building’s historical architectural integrity such that it no longer embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type period or method of construction.
 - Finally, the resource is not significant under Criterion D because it lacks the potential to yield further information of historical importance.
- The building does not possess ***adequate historic integrity*** for listing in the NRHP. The National Register Criteria for Evaluation, produced by the NPS, states that, besides meeting one or more of the above criteria, a property also must have “integrity” of “location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association” (NPS n.d.). This means that the property must retain enough of its historical physical character to represent its historic period and associations adequately.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD CRITERIA & SUPPORTING DATA

1. “The building, structure, improvement, or site is designated on either a national, state, or local level as an historic preservation district or an architectural landmark of Site.”

The building at 2001 Hollywood Boulevard qualifies as “historic” as it is over 50 years old. However, it was not and is not considered a contributing resource to the NRHP-listed Hollywood Boulevard Historic Business District (8BD03284) due to its lack of historic materials and architectural integrity. The building no longer retains aspects of integrity related to design, materials, workmanship and/or feeling. Moreover, the building no longer possesses its original historic character.

2. “The building, structure, improvement, or site is of such design, craftsmanship, or material that it could be reproduced only with great difficulty and/or expense.”

The materials used in the construction of the building in 1927 were concrete and local wood sources. The concrete structural elements remain but are altered. All the exterior and interior wood materials have been removed and replaced with modern finishes. The sources of local wood products are no longer extant, thus any attempt to reconstruct the building’s historic features would be very difficult and of great expense.

3. “The building, structure, improvement, or site is one of the last remaining examples of its kind in the neighborhood, the county, or the region.”

The building is not among the last remaining examples of its kind and its current state does not possess characteristics that make it stand out as an obvious type of business, nor is it indicative of a style of a determinable purpose.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD CRITERIA & SUPPORTING DATA

4. “The building, structure, improvement, or site contributes significantly to the historic character of a historically designated district.”

The building is recorded as a non-contributing resource to the NRHP-listed Hollywood Boulevard Historic Business District, thus it plays no role in the viability of the district.

5. “Retention of the building, structure, improvement, or site promotes the general welfare of the city by providing an opportunity for study of local history, architecture, and design or by developing an understanding of the importance and value of a particular and heritage.”

Due to the substantially altered condition of the building’s exterior and interior and the nature of its utilization, that of Class-A business space, it no longer provides information related to historical architecture and design.

6. “There are definite plans for reuse of the property if the proposed demolition is carried out, and those plans will adversely affect on the historic character of the Historic District.”

Design plans for the redevelopment of the property will be provided to the City for review. The plans have been developed with a sensitivity to the aesthetics of the NRHP-listed Hollywood Boulevard Historic Business District and will consist of a style harmonious to the surrounding architecture within the NRHP district. New construction will be compatible with surrounding buildings regarding design style, mass, scale, and rhythm to reflect the characteristics of the Historic District and current zoning regulations. There will be no adverse effect to the historic district, as the current building is a non-contributing structure.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD CRITERIA & SUPPORTING DATA

7. “The Unsafe Structures Board has ordered the demolition of a structure or the feasibility study determines that the retention of the building would deny the owner of all economically viable uses of the property.”

The demolition of the building has not been required by the City of Hollywood. However, many aspects of the building do not meet current building codes and structural requirements related to hurricane resilience.