

6-24-82  
MK

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic The Atelier Building

and/or common Edrington Bank; Cameron Alread Architect, Inc.

2. Location

street & number 209 W. 8th St.

N/A not for publication

city, town Fort Worth

N/A vicinity of

state Texas

code 048

county Tarrant

code 439

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name L. Cameron Alread, Jr.

street & number 209 W. 8th St.

city, town Fort Worth

N/A vicinity of

state Texas 76102

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Tarrant County Courthouse

street & number 100 W. Weatherford

city, town Fort Worth

state Texas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Sites Inventory

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1980

federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Texas Historical Commission

city, town Austin

state Texas

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Atelier Building is one of the more noteworthy and intact of Fort Worth's turn-of-the-century commercial buildings. Featuring stylish Sullivanesque bas-relief ornamentation, the Atelier Building's diminutive scale contrasts with that of surrounding, considerably larger structures. The structure has recently been rehabilitated.

The Atelier Building is a two-story, semidetached brick commercial building with hipped roof. The principal (north) facade features a single door, simple plate-glass store window and a marble veneer (unusual for Fort Worth) at the ground-floor level. The second floor has four one-over-one windows separated by extraordinary Sullivan-esque classical cast-stone ornamentation. A panel above the windows formerly contained the name of the building, and is surmounted by cast-stone ornamental discs. A chimney arises at each of the two front corners, with further classically inspired cast-stone panels and crowns. Scalloped rafter ends are found on the front and exposed sides of the roof.

The alley (east) side of the structure is faced with brick laid in common bond pattern. The wall is broken at both first- and second-floor levels with one-over-one windows set in arched openings. Security grillwork was recently added to the ground-floor windows.

The interior of the building has been remodeled numerous times over the years, and the most recent rehabilitation transformed the structure into modern office space. The major exterior change, and this to the main facade, was the removal of a plate-glass window and adjoining glass-brick window, neither original, and their replacement with a simple three-part modern window. The original configuration of that feature is not known, as there are no historic photographs of the building. The exterior of the building, painted at an unknown time, has been repainted a lighter color to emphasize the ornamental detailing. None of the changes has significantly affected the integrity of the building.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
X 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1905 **Builder/Architect** Attributed to Smith & Schenk

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

"The Atelier," with its scalloped wooden rafter tails, is one of two remaining, hip-roofed commercial buildings in Fort Worth's downtown business district. Although not unique when constructed, it is now a rare and attractive example of the small commercial buildings dating from the early 1900s, an example of growth for Fort Worth. The Atelier has sheltered many architects, bankers and others associated with Fort Worth's growth and development. Thus this building is noteworthy not only for its architectural features, but also for its association with personalities involved in the development of Fort Worth.

In May, 1904, Nashville, Tennessee capitalist Thomas Shadrack Weaver (1850-1911) purchased the land on which the Atelier Building now stands. He first constructed the adjoining Kingsley Building and, in 1905, began work on the Atelier Building.

The early 20th century was a time of tremendous growth in Fort Worth, as the city's population nearly tripled between 1900 and 1910. While doubtless many commercial buildings comparable to the Atelier Building were constructed at that time, few have survived in a recognizable form. The construction of the Atelier Building was apparently done as a speculative venture. The Atelier is distinguished among contemporaneous buildings for its modest but effective architectural detailing. The hipped roof with scalloped rafter ends, the marble-veneered, ground-floor entrance front and, above all, the bas-relief cast-stone ornamentation executed in a Sullivan-esque manner are all indicative of a sophistication uncommon in Texas commercial buildings of the period.

Weaver sold the Atelier building to bankers William Garland Newby and A.J. Long on November 26, 1906 for the sum of \$21,300.00. Otho S. Houston and W.L. Smallwood, the building's first tenants, operated a private unincorporated bank on the first floor. The second floor was occupied at this time by the architectural firm of Steward Wemyss-Smith and Lucius G. Schenk. They were most likely the architects of the building, as they are credited with giving it the title "The Atelier." On February 9, 1917, the building was purchased by W.R. Edrington and Company Bankers. This unincorporated bank occupied the building until 1920. The building is still sometimes called the Edrington Bank by people who recall Mr. Edrington's contributions to Fort Worth's growth and development.

Several architectural firms after Smith and Schenk occupied the second floor in these early years. In 1909, architect Marion L. Waller moved in, and in 1911 formed

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the architectural partnership of Waller & Field with Stanley E. Field.\* Field left in 1912, but another architect, Emil C. Muller, moved into the Atelier building soon after. Waller and Muller shared the second floor until 1915. By 1918, the second floor was occupied by several construction firms, and by the 1920s the Atelier building was occupied by construction, petroleum, cotton, and financial institutions.

In 1929, the Fort Worth Building and Loan Association became the ground-floor tenant, with architect Wyatt C. Hedrick as its president. The second floor became a store room for the Carnegie Library. In 1936, during the construction of the new library, the Atelier became the temporary home of the main Carnegie Library. The Fort Worth Building and Loan Association returned in 1937, remaining until 1941. Insurance and real estate offices were to occupy this building for the next 22 years. From 1971 to 1980 a seafood restaurant was located here, and in 1980 the Atelier Building was purchased by its present owner for use, once more, as architects' offices.

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\*While in the Atelier Building, Waller & Field designed the M.G. Ellis School (National Register, 1983) of Fort Worth.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Deed Records, Tarrant County Courthouse, Fort Worth

City directories for Fort Worth, 1900 to present

(see continuation sheet)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Haltom City, Texas

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>4</u>	<u>6</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>5</u>	<u>3</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>4</u> <u>5</u>	B	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	D	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
E	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	F	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
G	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	H	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

25x50 feet out of the northeast corner of lot 8 block 8 of the Hirshfield addition to the city of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas. Beginning at the northeast corner of said lot 8; thence south 60° west along the south (see continuation sheet)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Billie B. Williams, A.I.A. (with Peter Flagg Maxson, Texas Historical Commission)

organization L. Cameron Alread, Jr., Architect, Inc. date 1979 (1984)

street & number 209 W. 8th St. telephone (817) 332-6231

city or town Fort Worth state Texas 76102

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 14 June 1984

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Manuscript by Billie Williams covering personalities, organizations, and dates associated with the Atelier, on file at the Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

Resource Characteristics. Fort Worth: Historic Preservation Council for Tarrant County, 1982.

Tarrant County Historic Resources Survey: Principal Findings.

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side of W. 8th St. 25 feet, thence south 30° east parallel with Throckmorton St. 50 feet, thence north 60° east 25 feet to the west line of an alley, thence north 30° west 50 feet to the place of beginning.







