



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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## Key for Understanding Integrity Rating and Architecture Rating used in the SoMa Historic Resources Survey

### *Integrity*

Integrity, as it applies to historic preservation, is a measure of retention of sufficient historic fabric and character-defining features to convey its historical significance. Ratings were only assigned to buildings built in or before 1963. There are seven aspects of integrity, and the scale of 1-7 is shorthand for that list. The aspects are: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. All seven qualities do not need to be present for eligibility as long as the overall sense of the past time and place is evident.

### *Architecture Rating*

The second scale captures the overall quality of the architecture from 1-5. Ratings were only assigned to buildings built in or before 1963. The best buildings, rated 4 and 5 represent a combined 11% of the building stock, with only 30 examples rated as 5.

1. The most simple structures, such as kit buildings, or much altered structures. They are not significant for their architecture.
2. Background buildings that lack distinction. They could contribute to the feeling of a district, but are not individually significant for their architecture.
3. Prominent buildings that may have been designed by an architect. They could contribute to the feeling of a district, but are unlikely to be individually significant.
4. Large, prominent, and well designed buildings. They may be individually eligible for listing on the California Register.
5. The absolute best buildings. They may be individually eligible for the National Register.

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