

Oakland's Cathedral Building goes upscale

The Oakland Federal Building, built in 1914, is located at the intersection of two of Oakland's main thoroughfares: Broadway and Telegraph. The Federal Realty Building was built by architect Benjamin Geer McDougall who designed the steel framed building.^[2] It was renamed the Cathedral Building in 1969 because of its churchlike spires and design.

The nearby downtown architecture, including City Hall, Old Oakland, The Rotunda, the former I. Magnin store, the Paramount Theatre and the Fox Theatre, evokes the glory days of Oakland's storied past. However, the Cathedral Building is Downtown Oakland's most significant historical landmark office building featuring distinctive neo-gothic architecture and has been placed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#).

The Cathedral Building was the first [Gothic Revival style](#) skyscraper west of the Mississippi River.^[2] It is also called the "Wedding Cake" for its appearance, which resembles New York's [Flatiron Building](#).^[2] Its narrow, triangular form is a result of its location on [Latham Square](#), where [Telegraph Avenue](#) branches off diagonally from Broadway.

Located near Oakland City Center at Broadway and Telegraph it offers many retail opportunities and is adjacent to Oakland's Government Center. (federal, state, and city offices). Immediate access to both 12th Street and 19th Street BART stations plus numerous AC transit bus lines make it easily accessible.

References

1. ^{^ a b c} ["National Register Information System: Impromptu Web Query"](#) (database). [National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places](#). http://www.nr.nps.gov/iwisapi/explorer.dll?IWS_SCHEMA=NRIS1&IWS_LOGIN=1&IWS_REPORT=100000081. Retrieved 2008-09-21.^[*dead link*]
2. ^{^ a b c d} Eve Mitchell (September 12, 2008). ["Luxury condos rise in landmark Oakland skyscraper"](#). *Contra Costa Times*. http://www.contracostatimes.com/business/ci_10450554.
3. [^] www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci_10430041