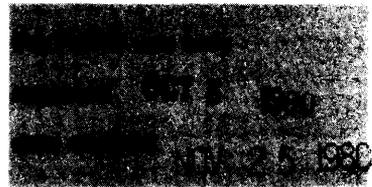


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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



1. Name

historic COMMERCIAL AND SAVINGS BANK
and/or common Bank of America Building

RECEIVED
SEP 13 1980

OHP

2. Location

street & number 343 Main Street _____ not for publication
city, town Stockton _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 14th
state California code 06 county San Joaquin code 077

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Main and Sutter Building Company
street & number Box 7576
city, town Stockton _____ vicinity of _____ state California 95207

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Recorder, San Joaquin County Courthouse
street & number 222 E. Weber Street
city, town Stockton _____ state California

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title _____ has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date _____ federal state county local
depository for survey records _____
city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This large, ten story structure is constructed of steel frame members, with red brick masonry, Utah sandstone and terra cotta detailing. The first floor is faced with polished granite, with superimposed, fluted pilasters punctuating the window openings, which are comprised of nine lights each. Each mullion is adorned with bead and reel decorations in relief.

The Main Street facade, which includes the primary entrance to the first floor lobby area, is of a neo-Classical design. Fluted Ionic pilasters flank the doorway, which is surrounded by bas-relief sculptures in the Utah sandstone. Bead and reel mullions are in the lights surrounding the doorway which has been replaced by aluminum-framed glass doors. All of the windows on the first floor contain these bead and reel patterned mullions. Above the doorway is a lintel with a crenelated design embossed onto it. The frieze has an embellished shield at each end with a row of egg and dart molding above. Dentils are below the uppermost coursing of molding in this frieze area. Additional garlanded shields are at each corner of the building's frieze at this level.

The second story is highlighted with sandstone facing. Small, double-hung windows are in pairs across the south side of the building. Another row of dentils and molded coursing defines this second horizontal band in the continuing ascent of this structure.

The third through the eighth floors are constructed of red brick masonry, with sandstone lugsills and window openings. Again, the windows are in pairs; four pairs on the southern side, twelve pairs on the eastern side (six in the original structure). The eighth story ends with a row of molded coursing and dentils.

The ninth story is singled out as yet another band of architectural interest. Each pair of smaller double-hung windows is separated by a band of red brick and sandstone masonry. A rich molding of egg and dart motif is below the masonry coursing.

The tenth and final floor has rounded windows, with embellished arch moldings comprised of an archivolt hood molding and coupled pilasters engaged at each side of the windows. A medallion rests in front of the lugsills of each of these tenth story windows. A highly enriched cornice with rows of dentils and brackets completes this structure's architectural statement, anchoring the upward reaches of this structure earthward.

As constructed in 1915, the Commercial and Savings Bank occupied a rectangular lot of approximately 50' by 65'. The structure was subsequently expanded, as described in Item 8, to occupy an L-shaped lot of 150' on its longest sides.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1915, 1924 **Builder/Architect** Dietrich and Liestner Construction

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

This structure is an excellent example of the Renaissance Revival style of architecture, with the strong influence of Louis Sullivan. This period of architectural expression was highly influenced by the Chicago School, whose greatest proponent was Louis Sullivan. Regimented zones, or bands of various detailing, leading to the most sophisticated design in the upper stories are all part of Sullivan's architectural style. The highly enriched frieze and cornice areas are also reminiscent of Sullivan. The "modern" skyscraper had come of age during this period, expressing new building technologies and an era of prosperity. It is these buildings of the Southern Mine boom age money which caused Stockton to become known as the "brick city".

The structure at the northwest corner of Main and Sutter Streets was originally built to house the Commercial and Savings Bank, opening in March of 1915. This bank was founded by John D. Raggio of Stockton in 1903. The present structure was constructed at a cost of \$250,000 by Dietrich and Liestner construction company. Originally, this ten story structure was only half as wide on the Sutter Street elevation. In 1923, a fire destroyed the Hotel Philson along this side of the original structure and also damaged some of the upper stories of the bank. The following year, plans were announced for a \$500,000 addition which would be an exact duplicate of the existing building. The northerly facade of the addition would also extend into an L-shaped floor plan. The addition was designed by Bakewell and Brown of San Francisco and construction was carried out by Lewis and Green of Stockton.

In 1929, the Commercial and Savings Bank was purchased by the Bank of Italy, later to become the Bank of America. A mezzanine was added to the rear of the bank lobby area and polished granite added to the first floor exterior. The opening ceremonies for the new occupants included a banquet, and an open house with floral decorations adorning the main lobby and basement vault.

Another addition at the north side of the building was erected in 1941 to provide more work area on the first floor and another entrance into the lobby.

In 1965, the Bank of America invested about a million dollars in an interior renovation of this structure. The Bank of America has since sold this building to the current owners, and has abandoned this building. The present owners are very anxious to preserve this structure and adapt its use to commercial and office space in an effort to revitalize the Central Business District in Stockton, and retain the architectural heritage expressed in the terms exemplified by this structure. Other buildings in this area of Stockton are undergoing a similar program of re-use and revitalization, forming an impressive district within the core area of Stockton of attractive office buildings and professional centers within the older buildings in existence.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Stockton Record, March 13, 1915.
 Wood, Coke, Stockton Memories. Fresno, 1977..
 Vranicar, Anthony. "The Bank of America Building, Stockton, California: An Historical Sketch". Unpublished paper, San Jose State University, 1978.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property .3
 Quadrangle name Stockton West

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>110</u>	<u>651081010</u>	<u>41201181410</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
E			
G			

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leslie Crow, Consultant

organization _____ date April 15, 1980

street & number 101 Gable Ave., Apt. D telephone (707) 446-6745

city or town Vacaville state California 95688

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Kenny McEllen*

title _____ date 9/19/80

For HCRS use only

Thereby certify that this property is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places

Frank W. Ray 4/25/80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *Patricia* 4/25/80
 Chief of the National Register

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED OCT 6 1980
DATE ENTERED NOV 25 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

9

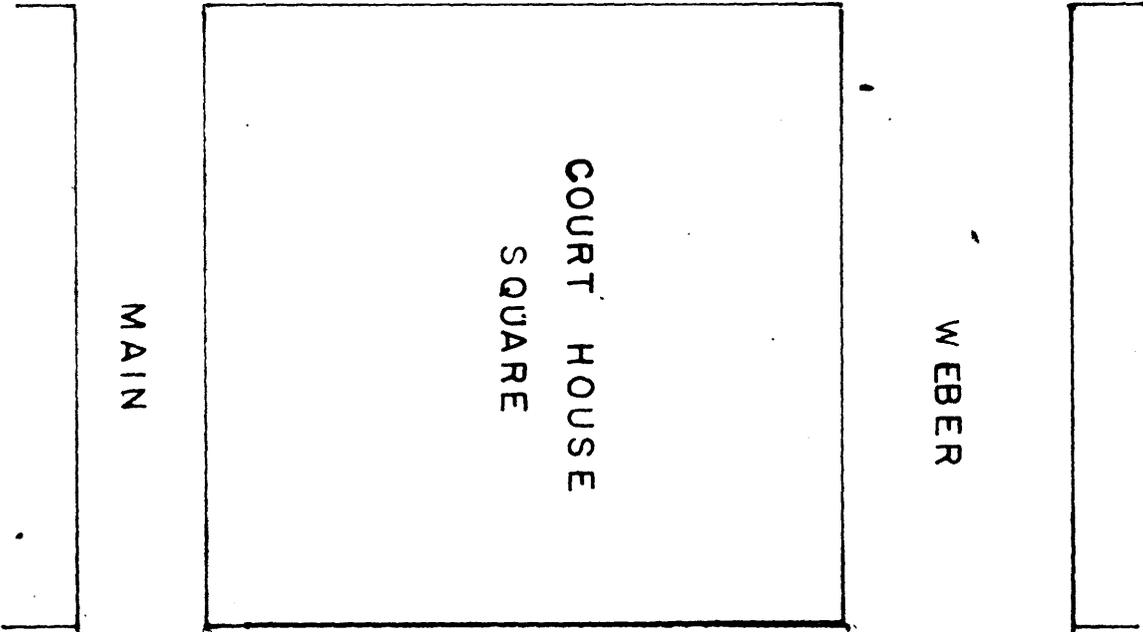
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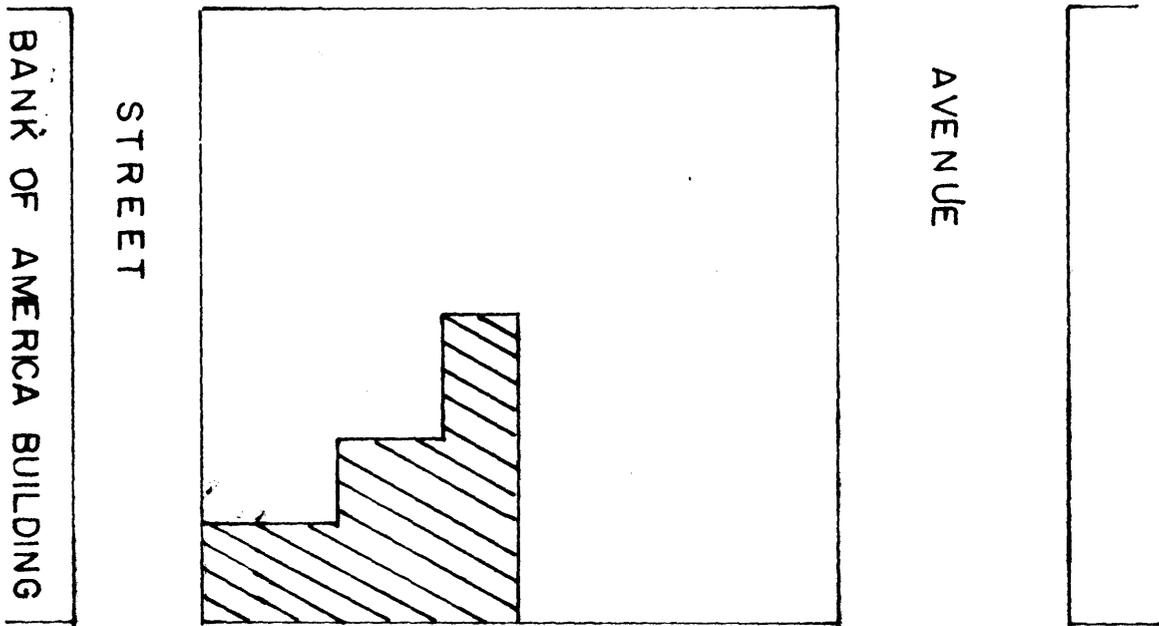
From a point at the NW corner of the intersection of Main and Sutter Streets, to a point 150' N., then W. 150 feet, then S. 36', E. 60.83', S. 50.6', E. 40.29', S. 65'; otherwise designated Parcel No. 149-160-08, is the area boundaries for this property. The nominated structure covers 100% of this parcel area.

BY _____ DATE _____ SUBJECT _____ SHEET NO. _____ OF _____

CHKD. BY _____ DATE _____ JOB NO. _____



SAN JOAQUIN ST.



SUTTER STREET

BANK OF AMERICA BUILDING
343 MAIN ST.
STOCKTON

