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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED DEC 5 1978
DATE ENTERED JAN 19 1979

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

none known

AND/OR COMMON

1254-56 Montgomery Street

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1254-56 Montgomery Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

San Francisco

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

06

VICINITY OF

STATE

California

CODE

06

COUNTY

San Francisco

CODE

075

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___DISTRICT

___PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

___UNOCCUPIED

___COMMERCIAL

___PARK

___STRUCTURE

___BOTH

___WORK IN PROGRESS

___EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ENTERTAINMENT

___RELIGIOUS

___OBJECT

___IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

___GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___BEING CONSIDERED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

___NO

___MILITARY

___OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

William J. Reilly

STREET & NUMBER

1256 Montgomery Street

CITY, TOWN

San Francisco

STATE

California

VICINITY OF

94133

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

San Francisco City Hall

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

San Francisco

STATE
California

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

City Planning Department Architectural Survey

DATE

1976

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

100 Larkin Street

CITY, TOWN

San Francisco

STATE
California 94102

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building at 1254-56 Montgomery was constructed around 1865 on the site believed to be the former location of Hudson's Windmill. The Windmill, shown in a lithograph dated 1851 probably fell victim to the fire on July 4, 1861 which destroyed many of the structures on Telegraph Hill. The site is a secondary summit of Telegraph Hill. The building was only one story in 1865, but an analysis of the interior layout reveals a two story design was contemplated from the beginning. Photograph "A", taken in 1865, shows the building as one story. By the 1890's the second story had been added. (See Photograph "B").

The building is a flat front Italianate structure highlighted with northwest corner bay windows. The front facades of the building are distinguished by double hung sash windows surmounted by formal cornices, and further embellished by applied pilasters. The corner bays utilize these same decorative devices. The roofline is delineated with a bracketed cornice with soffit, and at one time was highlighted by a roof balustrade and central pediment.

The only real structural change occurred in 1939. The city lowered the street in front of the building by 12 feet. This change necessitated the stairs which show in the current photographs labeled "E."

6 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1865

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building is both architecturally and historically significant. Architecturally it is an interesting variation of the formal Italianate style of the 1860's designed to accommodate the needs of a rooming house. Historically, the building is important as one of a handful of buildings on Telegraph Hill which have survived the 1906 fire. As can be seen from Photograph "C" and Exhibit "D" which shows the boundaries of the fire, the fire was contained at Montgomery Street. A rather humorous account of how the local residents helped save these buildings is related in San Francisco's Telegraph Hill. A tenant of the building, one Gioranni Doneri with his oldest son and neighbors cooled the walls of the building with burlap sacks soaked in wine from casks in the basement.

The building was originally a rooming house. In its original configuration there were 25 rooms, all with a door to a hall, and most with additional doors to any adjoining room in case a family wished to rent more than one room. At some uncertain time, the building was converted to six "railroad flats." Some of the walls have been removed to enlarge the living spaces; baths and kitchens have been squeezed in at the rear of each flat. The current use is six apartments.

Although the interior has been altered, the basically unaltered exterior contributes to the neighborhood's sense of time and place. The building remains an important architectural component in San Francisco's historic Telegraph Hill.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Myrick, David. F. San Francisco's Telegraph Hill (Howell-North Books, 1972).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .053 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME San Francisco North

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES 580

A 10 | 552680 | 4183700

B [] | [] | []

C [] | [] | []

D [] | [] | []

E [] | [] | []

F [] | [] | []

G [] | [] | []

H [] | [] | []

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Southeast corner Union and Montgomery Streets, San Francisco, CA. The building is bounded by Union Street on the north, Montgomery on the west, and private residences on the south and east.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

William John Reilly

ORGANIZATION

DATE

September, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1256 Montgomery

415-983-3101

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

San Francisco

California

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

Ann M. Egan

TITLE

DATE

11-29-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

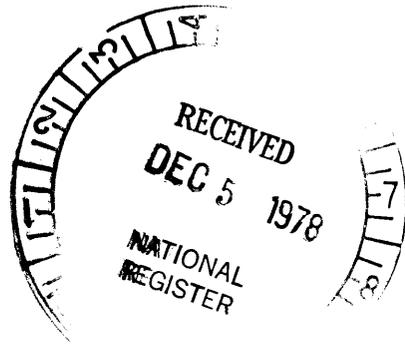
ATTEST: *Charles A. Hurling*
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Joseph J. ...
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 1-17-79

DATE 1-18-79

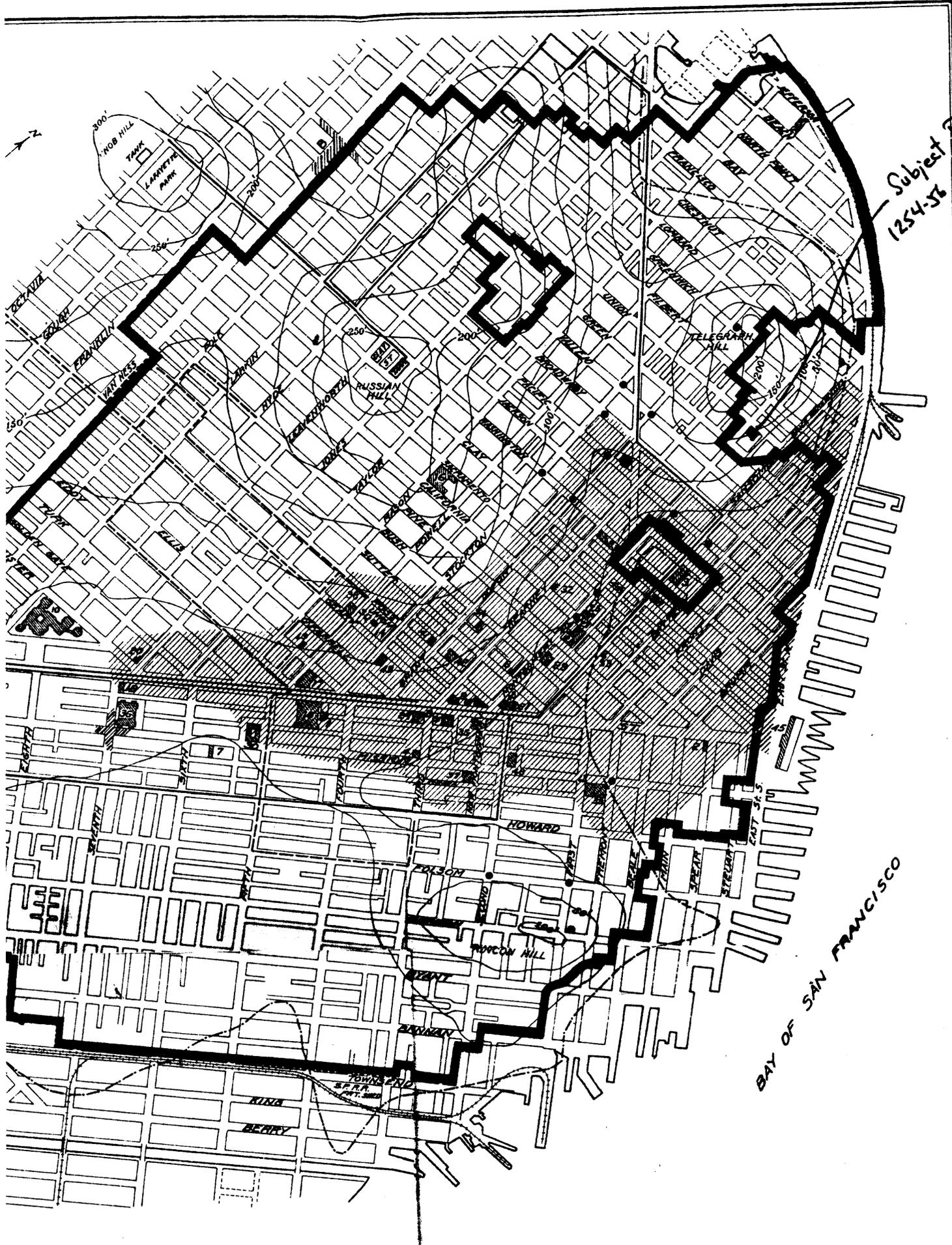
EXHIBIT C

C
1256 Montgomery, SF 94133
Photographer unknown
1906
Univ. of California, Riverside
Front View from Russian Hill



SUBJECT
PROPERTY





Subject Property
1254-56
Montgomery

BAY OF SAN FRANCISCO

EXHIBIT D

1254-56 MONTGOMERY

SAN FRANCISCO CA

WILLIAM J. REILLY

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