

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 29 1978
DATE ENTERED SEP 20 1978SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Wong K. Gew Mansion

AND/OR COMMON

RECEIVED

JAN 9 1978

OHP

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

345 West Clay Streets

CITY, TOWN

Stockton

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

14

STATE

California

VICINITY OF
CODE

06

COUNTY

San Joaquin

CODE

077

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

 DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

 PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

 OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES, RESTRICTED
 YES, UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Bo Lee

STREET & NUMBER

2920 Canal Drive

CITY, TOWN

Stockton

VICINITY OF

STATE

California 95204

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

San Joaquin County Assessor's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Stockton, California

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Stockton Historical Landmarks, ed. Raymond Hillman

DATE

1976

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY 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

The Wong Gew Mansion is a large, 2-1/2 story frame house of shiplap construction located in a modest residential district of Stockton, California. The house is built in a conglomerate style, predominantly federal revival typical of the large period houses of the 1920's.

There are pilasters at the corners and boxed cornices with brackets and friezes on the walls and eaves. There is a veranda across the front of the house which has since been enclosed. The roof of the porch forms a balcony off the second floor which has since been screened off and covered to make a sun porch. There are three dormers with gables and returns. Each dormer has a semi-circular sash window. On the east end of the house, there is a large first-floor bay window and balcony. There is a chimney on the west end of the house. At the rear of the building is a two-story porch which since has been enclosed on the second floor.

The interior of the house is furnished with Honduras mahogany wainscoting, bannisters and doors. There were originally 12 rooms, a kitchen and two sleeping rooms for servants. There is an elaborate fireplace with a Yum Nan marble mantle in the living room. The mantle reportedly cost \$2,200 at the time of construction.

The house sits on a 100 foot by 150 foot lot with a detached two-car garage. There is a private well for domestic and garden use. The house is surrounded by an elaborate wrought iron fence. The gateposts were made using design details similar to the house. The design of the whole property is in keeping with the design character of the house.

Except for the alterations noted above, the Wong Gew Mansion retains its architectural and historic integrity. The additions that have been made could be removed without damaging the house. The mansion is painted pale green and trimmed in yellow, colors which are compatible with the building's historic association with the Chinese owner and builder, Wong Gew. The house has been very well maintained. It is in excellent condition.

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

Ethnic History

SPECIFIC DATES 1921 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Losekann and Cloudsley

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wong Gew Mansion, built in 1921, is significant for its historic associations with Stockton's Chinese community. The house is one of the best examples of period architecture in the Stockton area and is significant for its craftsmanship and detailing.

Wong Gew came to California from China in the 1880's, settling first in San Francisco and then moving to the San Joaquin Valley. In Stockton, Wong Gew became a prominent gambler and established several large gaming houses, including the Tong King Company in the Roosevelt Hotel. He was also one of the developers of the superbly crafted Lincoln Hotel, since destroyed. Wong Gew's financial success is particularly striking because of the intense anti-Asian feeling in California at the time. Gambling was one of the few avenues to economic advancement open to Chinese people during the early twentieth century. Despite Wong Gew's success, he was still subject to the racial prejudices of the time. Consequently, Wong Gew was required to build his new home south of Main Street because Chinese were not permitted to live north of that line. Wong Gew made the best of this legal stricture, however, and built a private school for teaching Chinese religion and culture that still stands. Wong Gew hired the firm of Losekann and Cloudsley to design the building. The Stockton City Hall was also designed by this company.

Surrounding homes are more modest than the nominated property, which tends to dominate the area. Local pride is very evident in the Wong Gew Mansion, since Stockton has declared it a local historical landmark. The only major intrusion in the neighborhood is a stucco apartment building which stands next to the mansion. Except for the few intrusions and alterations noted above, the Wong Gew Mansion retains its historic and architectural significance and is a cultural asset to the neighborhood in which it is located and the Stockton metropolitan area.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Raymond W. Hillman, ed., Stockton Historical Landmarks (Stockton: Mills Press, 1976), pp. 34-35.
Conversation with owner Bo lee, Fall 1974.
Conversation with Ted Itaya, Fall 1974.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 100' X 150' - less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES 150

A 1 0 | 6 5 0 8 0 0 | 4 2 0 0 2 5 0

B | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | |

D | |

E | |

F | |

G | |

H | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is parcel 9, a 100' by 150' lot at the northeast corner of Clay and VanBuren streets on block 95 south of Mormon Channel on the San Joaquin County Assessor's map.

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

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Albert Hurtado, Historic Preservationist

November 22, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Office of Historic Preservation

DATE

(916) 322-8710

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 2390

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Sacramento, California

STATE

95811

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

Kerry Miller

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 3/9/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

R. B. Rettig

DATE 9/20/78

ATTEST: *William L. Brown*

DATE 9/14/78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

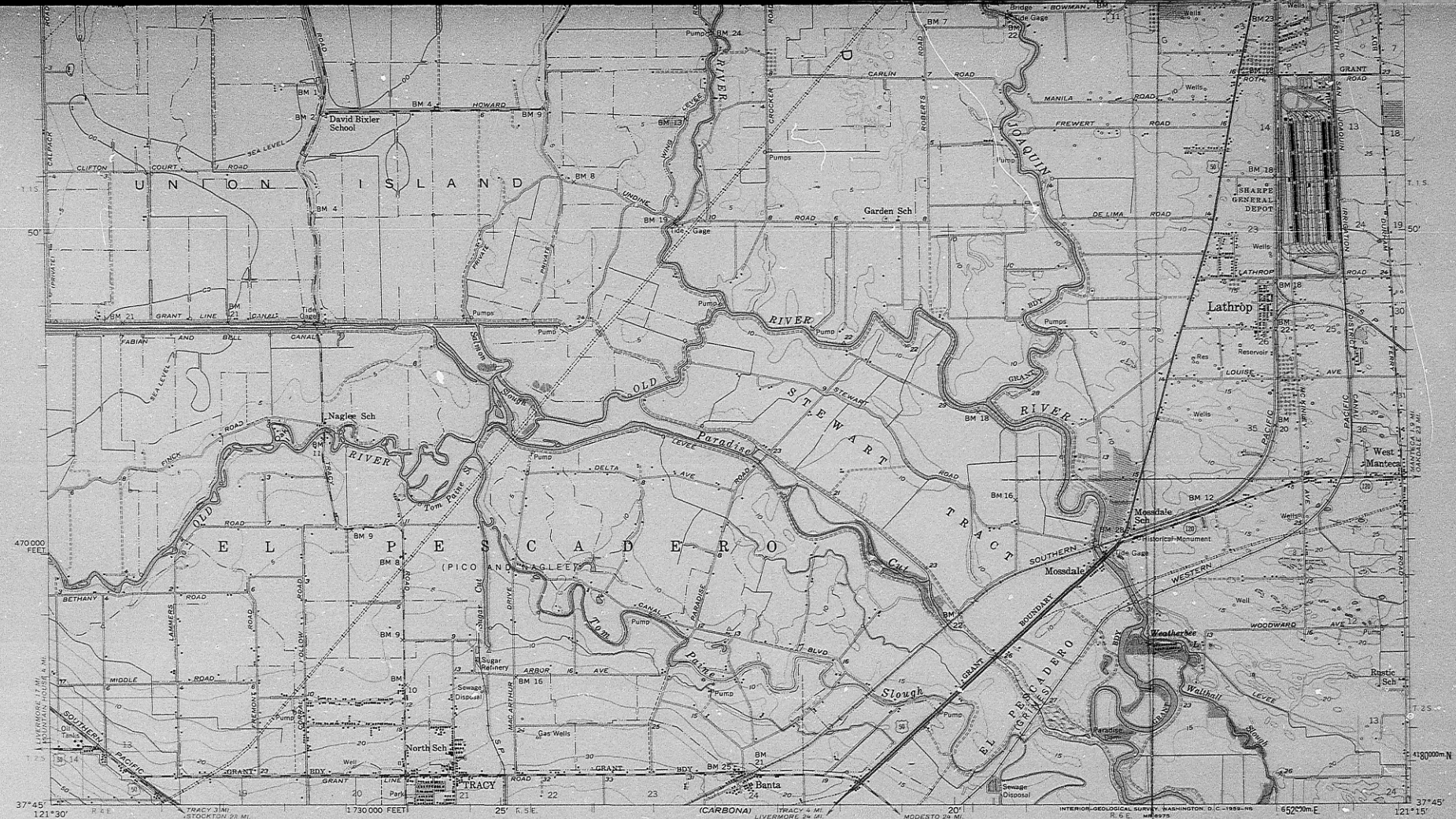
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
EDMUND G. BROWN, GOVERNOR
HARVEY O. BANKS, DIRECTOR OF WATER RESOURCES

STOCKTON QUADRANGLE
CALIFORNIA—SAN JOAQUIN CO.
15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Wong Gew Mansion
Stockton, California
Zone 10
650800 4200250
130





Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS

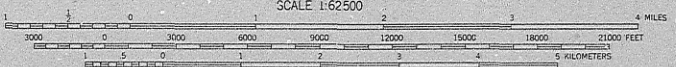
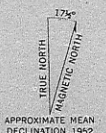
Compiled in 1958 from 1:24,000-scale maps of the
 Stockton West, Holt, Union Island, and Lathrop quadrangles
 surveyed 1952

Culture and drainage from photomosaic by CSBR. Aerial photographs
 taken 1949. Topography from planetable surveys by USGS 1952

Hydrography from USC&GS chart 5527 (1952)

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on California coordinate system, zone 3
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 10, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
 Dashed land lines indicate approximate locations
 Dotted land lines were established by private surveys



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
 DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER 2, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy duty	Light duty
Medium duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

THIS AREA ALSO COVERED BY 1:24,000 SCALE MAPS OF
 STOCKTON WEST, HOLT, UNION ISLAND, AND LATHROP
 2.5-MINUTE QUADRANGLES, SURVEYED IN 1952

STOCKTON, CALIF.
 N3745—W12115/15
 1952

DOE
 SEP 20 1978

Woods