NPS Form 10-900

OMB No. 1024-0018

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

591

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name City Hall

other names/site number Vallejo Old City Hall

2. Location

street & number 715 Marin Street [N/A] not for publication

city or town Vallejo [ ] vicinity

state California code CA county Solano code 095 zip code 94590

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _X_ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property _X_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ **national** ___ **statewide** _X_ **local**

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date 6/20/13

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official — Date

Title — State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action 8.13.13

Old City Hall
Name of Property

Solano County, CA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [x] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [x] building(s)
- [ ] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
0		sites
0		structures
0		objects
1		**Total**

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT/ city hall

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN/ Italianate

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: BRICK
walls: STUCCO
roof: COMPOSITION
other:

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Old City Hall is an Italianate two-story building with a rectangular plan and a flat roof. The building is adjacent to the Old Masonic Temple building on its south side. As such, only its east, west, and north elevations are exposed. The building is constructed of brick, which is clad with smooth stucco. Old City Hall underwent a certified rehabilitation in 2012. It is in good condition and retains all seven aspects of integrity.

Narrative Description

The main façade of the Old City Hall faces east onto Marin Street. It is symmetrical in design and composition. The first floor originally had three arched storefront bays, each with double doors and fanlights. The arches were made of rusticated stone. The storefronts were altered over time to accommodate commercial tenants. The current first story, which was rehabilitated in 2012, consists of three rectangular, rather than arched, bays. The rusticated stonework still exists on the pilasters at the corners of the building, while the two center pilasters are clad with smooth stucco. The storefronts within each bay consist of anodized aluminum and glass. The area immediately above the three bays is also clad with smooth stucco. Above the stucco, a molding wraps along the east façade and onto the north elevation, dividing the first and second stories. Above the molding, the north façade's second story has three pedimented windows, two double windows at either end and one single window in the center. All are four-over-four, double-hung wood sash windows with segmented arch top sashes. At each end of the façade, fluted pilasters stretch from the molding between the first and second stories to another molding above the windows. The top molding consists of a plain frieze and an overhanging cornice with small corbels. The molding, including the frieze, cornice and corbels, continues onto the north elevation.

The north elevation faces onto an alley and is asymmetrically organized. It consists of two parts – the Old City Hall portion and the original jail portion. On the first floor of the City Hall portion, there are three rusticated arches toward the west end. Two of the arches surround four-over-four arched wood windows. The third arch surrounds a metal slab door. The door is topped with a small vent that has been fitted with vertical bars. To the east of the arches, near the center of the elevation, there is a pair of non-original one-over-one wood windows in a simple wood frame; these were added in 2012 to serve a new apartment unit. The second story contains seven pedimented windows with segmented arch top sashes and one smaller window with no pediment or segmented arch, which appears to be non-original. The pedimented windows are four-over-four, double-hung wood sash. Midway along the elevation one of the windows has been altered. While it once contained a single window like the others, it has been replaced with a pair of windows similar in style to the originals. The original pediment over this window remains, illustrating its original similarity to the others.

The original jail portion is adjacent to the west end of the City Hall portion. It is a simple concrete box with a lower roof line than the adjacent City Hall. It is clad with smooth stucco and has one opening on the north elevation, a small one-over-one wood window. The building's west elevation is nearly solid, as it functions as the wall of a jail cell on the interior. It has three openings covered with metal grates at clerestory level and one window and one single door on the second story. The door leads to a metal fire escape. Utility pipes and meters are located around the elevation's openings.

The interior of the building has been remodeled numerous times to satisfy commercial tenants. As a result, original spaces, finishes, and features exist only in limited areas. In 2012, Old City Hall was adapted into a mixed-use building with commercial and residential spaces. The space that was occupied by the jail has been preserved and is still accessible from the alley.

(See continuation sheet.)

Old City Hall
Name of Property

Solano County, CA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

[X] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

[ ] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

[ ] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

[ ] D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

[ ] A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

[ ] B Removed from its original location.

[ ] C a birthplace or grave.

[ ] D a cemetery.

[ ] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

[ ] F a commemorative property.

[ ] G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Politics/Government

Period of Significance
1872 – 1927

Significant Dates
1872, date constructed

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

Period of Significance (justification)
Old City Hall was constructed in 1872 and continued to be used in that capacity until 1927 when the municipal government moved across the street to a newly constructed City Hall. Although the building does not appear on a Sanborn map until 1889, the 1872 date is found in many sources including the city landmark designation.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Old City Hall
Name of Property

Solano County, CA
County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Old City Hall is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion A for its association with the growth and development of the city of Vallejo, as well as Vallejo's early political development. The building is significant in local history in the context of politics and government. The city of Vallejo was incorporated in 1867, and much of its growth was tied to the railroad and shipping industries. Vallejo's first City Hall reflects the establishment and growth of the city. It was built at a time when the city was expanding and becoming a key player in the transportation and shipping networks of northern California in the last decades of the 19th century.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Old City Hall is significant as the center of politics and government in the growing city of Vallejo between 1872 and 1927 and as a reflection of the growth and development of Vallejo during this period. The building served as the city hall and jail for fifty-five years, during a crucial period in Vallejo's development.

Vallejo is a coastal city located northeast of San Francisco on San Pablo Bay. The land upon which Vallejo was later located was owned by General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo. In the early 1850s, he offered the state of California a portion of his land holdings for the construction of a capitol building; his goal was to make the town of Vallejo (which he referred to as Eureka) the location of the state capitol. The legislature accepted the proffered land in 1851, and a capitol building was constructed the next year.[1] From the beginning, there was disagreement over the move to the new location. Some legislators wanted the capitol to move to San Jose, where it had been previously located, or to Sacramento. Newspapers in San Francisco published articles opposing the move, fanning the discontent. Adding to the legislators' frustrations was the fact that conditions in Vallejo remained relatively primitive, and accommodations were lacking, both in terms of lodging and government space.[2] The capitol was relocated to Benicia in 1853, as Benicia offered better accommodations and a modern, brick capitol building. Vallejo was left to decline for a brief period before the arrival of the Mare Island Shipyard, after which it began to develop and grow again. The United States Navy purchased Mare Island, in actuality the southern portion of a peninsula, for use as a navy shipyard in 1853. The town's government was established in 1866, and a president, treasurer, secretary, and two lawyers were elected.[3] The City of Vallejo was incorporated in 1867.

(See continuation sheet.)

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

(See continuation sheet.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
____ previously listed in the National Register
____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
____ designated a National Historic Landmark
____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #_____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #_____

Primary location of additional data:

____ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
_X_ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: City of Vallejo Planning Division

[1] Kristin Delaplane, "Vallejo's Shot as State Capital is Short-lived," *Historical Articles of Solano County* (May 28, 1995): 1-2, http://www.solanohistory.org/509 (accessed February 5, 2013).
[2] Lee Fountain, "The Legislature in Vallejo," *Solano Historian* (May 1987): 7 and 9, http://www.solanohistory.org (accessed February 5, 2013).
[3] Kristin Delaplane, "Vallejo Faces Decline, Gains Business Footing," *Historical Articles of Solano County* (June 4, 1995): 2, http://www.solanohistory.org/510 (accessed February 1, 2011).

Old City Hall
Name of Property

Solano County, CA
County and State

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Longitude/Latitude Reference Points

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Assessor Parcel Number 0056-162-080, which corresponds to the attached map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the land area historically associated with the structure.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elysha Paluszek, Architectural Historian II
organization GPA Consulting date 2/28/13
street & number 231 California Street Telephone (310) 792–2690
city or town El Segundo state CA zip code 90245
e-mail elysha@gpaconsulting-us.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

  Longitude/Latitude Reference Point Map on continuation sheet substituted for USGS map.

Old City Hall
Name of Property

Solano County, CA
County and State

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property:	Old City Hall
City of Vicinity:	Vallejo
County:	Solano County
State:	CA
Name of Photographer:	Elysha Paluszek (applies to all photographs)
Date of Photographs:	1/25/2011 (applies to all photographs)
Location of Original Digital Files:	231 California Street, El Segundo, CA 90245 (applies to all photographs)
Number of Photographs:	4

Photo #1
East elevation (left) and north elevation (right), camera facing southwest.

Photo #2
East elevation (left) and north elevation (right) detail, camera facing southwest.

Photo #3
North elevation, camera facing southeast.

Photo #4
North elevation second floor window detail, camera facing south.

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Temple Art Loft Associates, LP

street & number 9 Cushing, Suite 200 telephone (949) 923 – 7800

city or town Irvine state CA zip code 92618

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

DESCRIPTION

Narrative Description (continued)

The building's first floor includes a commercial space at the east end, an apartment unit in the center, and the original jail at the west end. A stair and corridor is located along the south wall. The stair is original and retains its plaster walls. The only other original finishes on the first floor are located in the jail. The jail is divided into two spaces – an entry vestibule and a cell. The entry vestibule has been modified over time with various partition walls, but the original wood wainscoting remains on the original perimeter walls. The jail cell retains its exposed concrete walls and floor, as well as its metal-paneled ceiling.

The building's second floor retains its original circulation pattern, consisting of a single-loaded corridor along the south wall. The original aspects of the corridor include plaster walls, wood wainscoting, and wood panel doors with transoms and wood frames. The spaces off of the corridor were originally offices, but they now function as apartment units. The original plaster perimeter walls, floor and ceiling moldings, and window moldings were preserved in the new units as part of the 2012 rehabilitation.

Old City Hall retains integrity of design, materials, location, feeling, association, setting, and workmanship. The surrounding area remains populated by buildings constructed at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century. Exterior alterations consist of changes to the first floor storefronts on the east façade and alterations to the windows on the north elevation. The storefront alterations were conducted as part of the certified rehabilitation in 2012; they respect the façade's original three-bay composition and comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The changes to the windows on the north elevation are all minor. While the interior had experienced several insensitive alterations in the past, the 2012 rehabilitation project preserved original spaces, finishes, and features wherever possible, most notably in the second floor corridor and the historic jail, and returned numerous altered ceiling heights to their original levels. The building remains fully able to convey its historical significance.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Narrative Statement of Significance (continued)

Vallejo's continued growth was due in large part to the coming of the railroad. The route of the California Pacific Railroad between Vallejo and Sacramento was completed in 1870. The new railroad route allowed passengers on the transcontinental railroad to travel from Sacramento to Vallejo by rail and thence by boat to San Francisco in about four hours, down from about nine or seventeen hours by the previously used routes. The construction of the tracks to Vallejo faced opposition in San Francisco, as their construction made Vallejo a potential competitor as a shipping center. The Central Pacific Railroad was also heavily opposed to the completion of the tracks, going so far as to refuse permission for the California Pacific to cross its tracks, which was necessary to enter Sacramento and complete its line. The California Supreme Court ruled in favor of the California Pacific and the tracks were completed in 1870.

Once finished, the route served as the fastest means of travel between Sacramento, the terminus of the transcontinental railroad, and San Francisco.[4] The completion of the railroad brought about a boom in Vallejo's development. The city became a hub for railroad maintenance and construction. Freight was transported to the city to be loaded onto ships in the harbor for transport all over the world. The city became a center of grain export for the area's agricultural crops, as well as a center of flour milling. In 1869, Starr's Mills and Docks were opened in Vallejo. The flour mill company eventually processed grain from all over California and shipped the product all over the world. By the mid-1870s, flour mills and lumber yards were taking over grain shipping as the primary businesses in the city.

The prosperity enjoyed by Vallejo due to the influx of business fueled development. Town lots were subdivided for residential development. Hotels, stores, and houses were built. Schools, including the high school, and the Orphans' Home were established. The Good Templars' Home for Orphans was established in 1869, and an orphanage was constructed just outside the city.[5] The orphanage later became a golf course.

In 1870, the Central Pacific bought out the California Pacific. The former company sought to interfere with the success of the route to Vallejo. By 1879, the Central Pacific constructed rival tracks from Suisan to Benicia, connecting to Port Costa by ferry. The new route, as well as the business and freight it brought, bypassed Vallejo completely.[6] Port Costa became the area's central grain shipping harbor. Though this change resulted in tough economic times for Vallejo, it continued to grow slowly but steadily, and confidence remained in the future of the city. The population in the early 1870s was approximately 8,000 people.

As the city continued to grow, the city's government was confident enough in its future to erect new government offices and beautify Vallejo. In 1872, the city raised $50,000 for city improvements including the maintenance of the fire department, the establishment of a city park, and the construction of a city hall and jail. When completed, City Hall housed the fire department, police station, and jail on the first floor and city offices on the second floor.

In 1873, a campaign began to move the Solano County seat from Fairfield to Vallejo. Supporters argued that Vallejo was larger and more developed and therefore a better county seat than Fairfield. The county seat was moved to Vallejo in 1874, and the County Board of Supervisors met in City Hall in March of that year to discuss obtaining accommodations for the county government, some of which would be located in City Hall.[7] The move to Vallejo was met with opposition, however, and those who opposed the move formed a group called the Divisionites. As retaliation for the capitol move to Vallejo, the Divisionities pushed for the separation of Vallejo from Solano County. They advocated for the formation of a new Vallejo County, which would cut the city off from the rest of Solano County. A bill passed in the state senate and

[4] Thomas Lucy, "A History of the City of Vallejo," Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, no publication date, 20.
[5] Lucy, "A History of the City of Vallejo," 28; Delaplane, "Vallejo Faces Decline," 1.
[6] Lucy, "A History of the City of Vallejo," 24.
[7] Thomas Lucy, "Vallejo – The County Seat and The City and County of Vallejo," *Solano Historian* (December 1986): 14 – 15, http://www.solanohistory.org (accessed January 30, 2013).

assembly; however, a mistake was found in the bill that rendered it unconstitutional.[8] The Divisionites lost momentum after this setback and refocused their attention on moving the county seat back to Fairfield, which succeeded. City Hall served as the political center of the city and county during this brief but tumultuous period.

An economic depression beginning in 1873 affected Vallejo, exacerbating the decline that had set in when it was bypassed by the railroad in favor of Benicia. Growth slowed but continued. Brick works began opening in 1890 and proved to be a financial boon for the city, which continued to grow and develop in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

City Hall served as the headquarters for Vallejo's government until 1927, when the city moved its offices across the street to a new location (now the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum). Old City Hall was vacated, and the property was purchased by the Masonic organization that occupied the building directly to the south and joined to the Masonic Temple.

Old City Hall is significant under Criterion A for its association with Vallejo's beginnings as a city and the political events that shaped its early years. It housed the city government from 1872 to 1927, containing the county government offices for a brief time as well. It was the headquarters of city government during its formative years. The building reflects the residents' and government's growing confidence in the developing community, and it reflects the city's growth and increasing prosperity as it grew in the last decades of the 19th century. Old City Hall is designated a local landmark.

[8] Lucy, "Vallejo – The County Seat," 15.

Bibliography

Boghosian, Paula. State of California Historic Resources Inventory form, March 1979.

City of Vallejo Architectural Heritage Commission. Original City Hall City Landmark Designation, July 1982.

Delaplane, Kristin. "Railroad brings Solano on track in 1860s." Historical Articles of Solano County, January 7, 1996. http://www.solanohistory.org/542 (accessed February 1, 2011).

Delaplane, Kristin. "Vallejo faces decline, gains business footing." Historical Articles of Solano County, June 4, 1995. http://www.solanohistory.org/510 (accessed February 1, 2011).

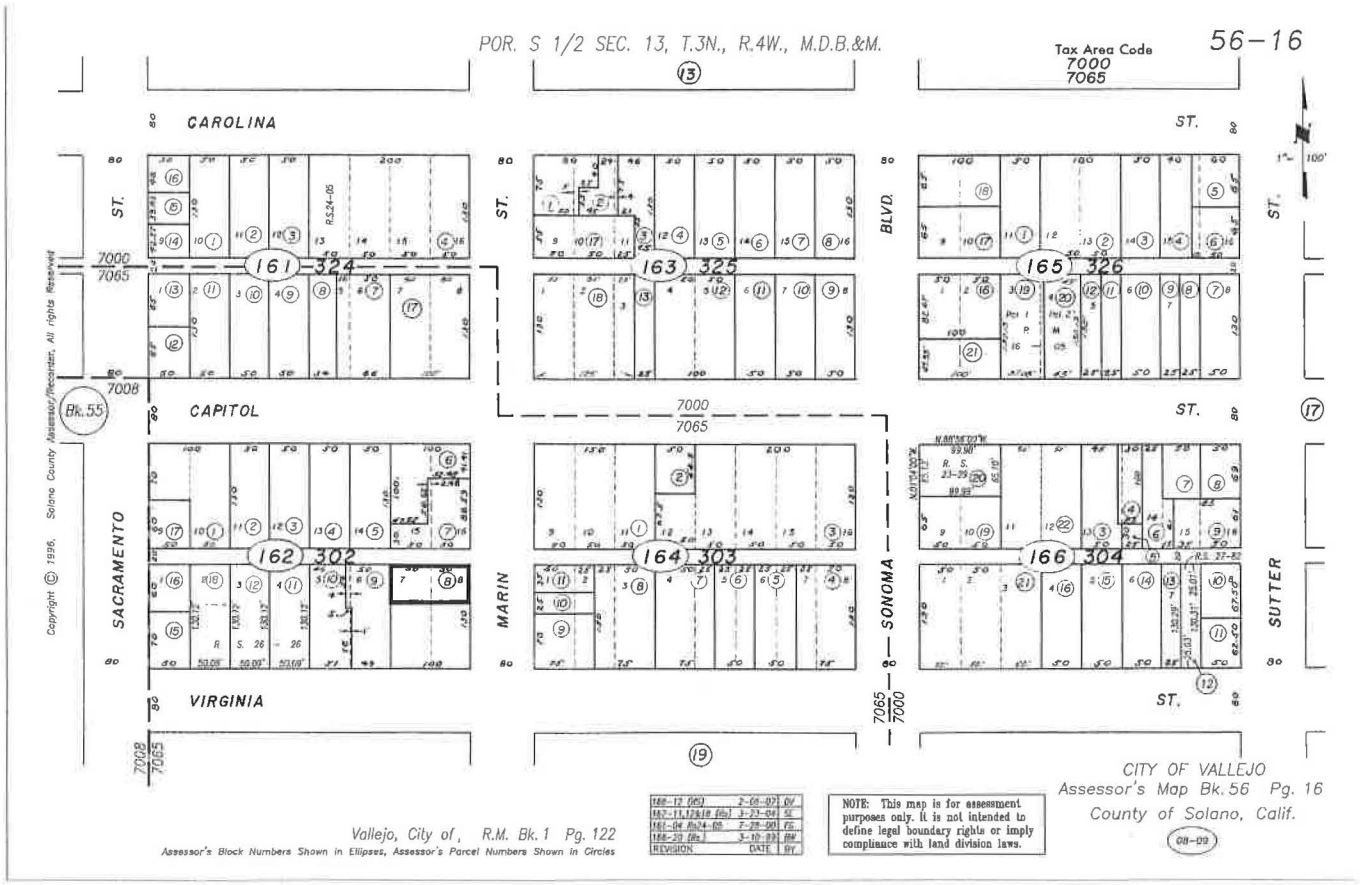
Delaplane, Kristin. "Vallejo's Shot as State Capital is Short-lived," Historical Articles of Solano County (May 28, 1995): 1-2, http://www.solanohistory.org/509 (accessed February 5, 2013).

Fountain, Lee. "The Legislature in Vallejo." *Solano Historian* (May 1987): 7 and 9. http://www.solanohistory.org (accessed February 5, 2013).

Lucy, Thomas. "A History of the City of Vallejo," Vallejo Historical and Naval Museum, no publication date.

Lucy, Thomas. "Vallejo – The County Seat and The City and County of Vallejo." *Solano Historian* (December 1986): 14 – 15. http://www.solanohistory.org (accessed January 30, 2013).

SKETCH MAP

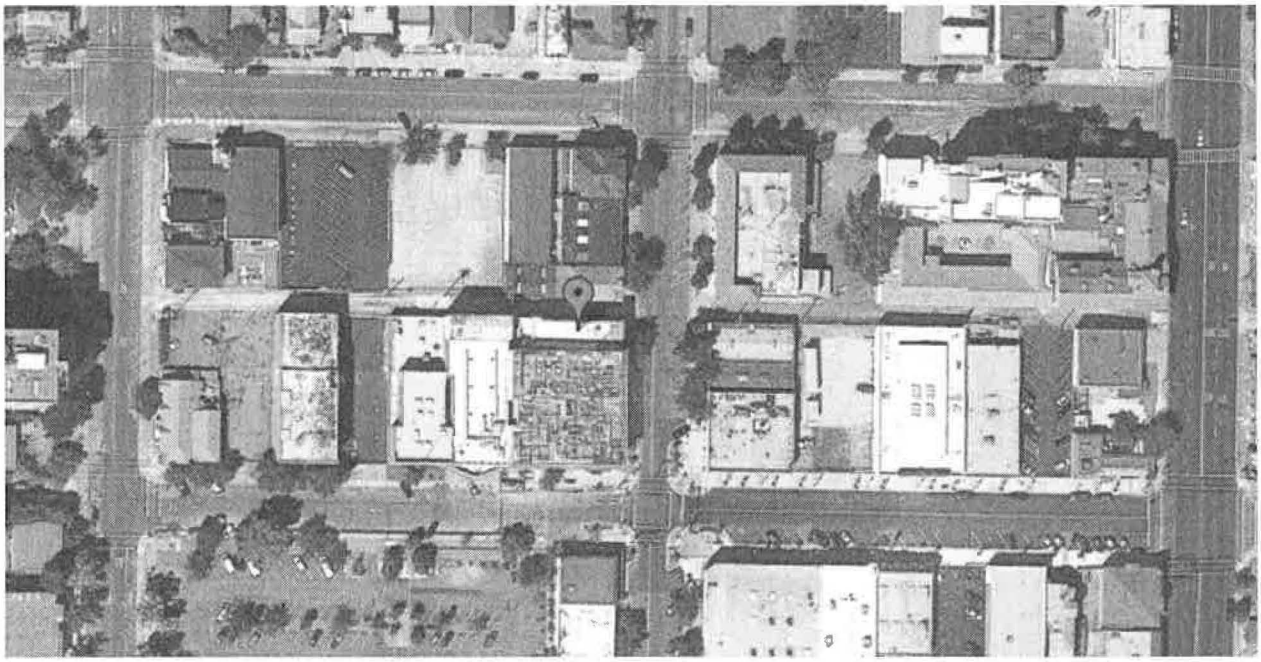


Property boundary outlined in bold.
Source: Solano County Tax Assessor

Longitude/Latitude Reference Point Map

Latitude: 38.102549

Longitude: -122.256846



American Recovery
Reinvestment Act
715
WE MOVED
TO 318

713
715
WE MOVED
TO 818 →
NO PARKING ANY TIME
ONE WAY

FIRE DOOR
DO NOT BLOCK

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: City Hall

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CALIFORNIA, Solano

DATE RECEIVED: 6/28/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/23/13
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/07/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/14/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000591

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:	N	DATA PROBLEM:	N	LANDSCAPE:	N	LESS THAN 50 YEARS:	N
OTHER:	N	PDIL:	N	PERIOD:	N	PROGRAM UNAPPROVED:	N
REQUEST:	N	SAMPLE:	N	SLR DRAFT:	N	NATIONAL:	N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

✓ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT 8·13·13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA_____

REVIEWER_____ DISCIPLINE_____

TELEPHONE_____ DATE_____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
1725 23rd Street Suite 100
SACRAMENTO, CA 94296-0001
(916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053
calshpo@ohp.parks.ca.gov

RECEIVED 2280
JUN 28 2013
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

June 20, 2013

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service 2280
1201 I (Eye) Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Subject: **Vallejo Old City Hall National Register of Historic Places Nomination**

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the **Vallejo Old City Hall** nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Located at 715 Marin Street in Vallejo's historic downtown, Vallejo Old City Hall is a two-story Italianate building constructed of brick and clad with smooth stucco. Old City Hall served as the headquarters for Vallejo's government from 1872, the year of its construction, until 1927 when the city moved its offices to a new location across the street.

On May 1, 2013 at its regular quarterly meeting held in Anaheim, the California State Historical Resources Commission determined that Vallejo Old City Hall meets National Register Criterion A at the local level of significance for its direct association with the growth and development of Vallejo from 1872 to 1927.

On May 18, 2011 the National Park Service determined Vallejo Old City Hall eligible for the National Register as part of the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Historic Preservation Certification program. Temple Art Loft Associates, LP is the Applicant. If you have questions contact please Jay Correia of my staff at 916-445-7008 or jcorr@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

for Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D.
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures

Old City Hall
Vallejo, Solano County
Staff Report

Vallejo Old City Hall is an Italianate two-story building with a rectangular plan and a flat roof. The building is adjacent to the Old Masonic Temple on its south side. As such, only the building's east, west, and north elevations are exposed. Constructed in1872 after the city raised $50,000 for city improvements; Vallejo's Old City Hall once housed the fire department, police station, and jail on its first floor and city offices on the second floor.

Vallejo's Old City Hall is eligible for listing in the National Register at the local level of significance under Criterion A for its association with the growth and development of the city of Vallejo, as well as Vallejo's early political development. The city of Vallejo was incorporated in 1867, and much of its growth was tied to the railroad and shipping industry. As Vallejo continued to grow, the city was confident enough in its future to erect new government offices and beautify Vallejo. In 1872, the city raised funds for improvements including the maintenance of the fire department, the establishment of a city park, and the construction of a city hall and jail. Old City Hall served as the headquarters for Vallejo's government from 1872 until 1927, when the city moved its offices to a new location across the street.

In 2012 Vallejo's Old City Hall underwent rehabilitation through the Federal Historic Tax Credit program to convert the building to housing and retail space. The project included improvements to the previously remodeled first floor storefronts so that they are more compatible with the surviving original portions of the building. While the interior had experienced several insensitive alterations in the past, the 2012 rehabilitation project preserved original spaces, finishes, and features wherever possible, most notably in the second floor corridor and the historic jail. The rehabilitation project also returned numerous altered ceiling heights to their original 1872 levels. The building retains a high degree of historic integrity.

Vallejo Old City Hall is nominated to the National Register on behalf of its owner, Temple Art Loft Associates, LP. Staff supports the nomination and recommends the State Historical Resources Commission determine that the Vallejo Old City Hall meets National Register Criterion A at the local level of significance with a period of significance from 1872 to 1927. Staff further recommends the State Historic Preservation Officer forward to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Jay Correia
Assisted by Matt Walker
April 8, 2013