

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

(State use only) Ser _____ Site _____ Mo. _____ Yr. _____
 UTM _____ Q _____ NR 3 SHL _____
 Lat _____ Lon _____ Era _____ Sig _____
 Adm _____ T2 _____ T3 _____ Cat _____ HABS _____ HAER _____ Fed _____
 10 - 724020 - 4171320

IDENTIFICATION

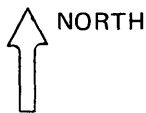
- Common name: Louie's Place
- Historic name, if known: L. Levaggi Saloon
- Street or rural address: 30048 Yosemite Blvd.
 City: LaGrange ZIP: 95329 County: Stanislaus
- Present owner, if known: James D. Horn Address: 3225 Yosemite Blvd.
 City: Modesto, CA ZIP: 95351 Ownership is: Public Private
- Present Use: Bar Original Use: Saloon
 Other past uses: _____

DESCRIPTION

- Briefly describe the present physical appearance of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

The L. Levaggi Saloon is a two story concrete building, fortress-like in appearance with a ornamental parapet. Decorative shallow round arches broken by central keystones have been placed over the first floor windows and door. A cast piece of heraldic sculpture further ornaments the facade above the entrance. Almost mannerist in its aesthetic bearing, the L. Levaggi Saloon offers a most unusual three bay facade: the smooth concrete surface has been articulated by a series of oversize rectangular indentations (approx. 18"x12") rendered in alternating horizontal and vertical patterns. This may have been done to imitate another type of construction, possibly ashlar masonry, or, it may have been purely a decorative technique. Imprinted on the central bay of the parapet and in the keystone of the entrance arch are "1897. L. Levaggi" and "1897. L.L." The sides of the building are poured-in-place concrete, stuccoed over and then etched to
 (See continuation sheet.)

- Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):



- Approximate property size:
 Lot size (in feet) Frontage 73'x160'
 Depth _____';
 or approx. acreage _____.
- Condition: (check one)
 a. Excellent b. Good c. Fair
 d. Deteriorated e. No longer in existence
- Is the feature a. Altered? b. Unaltered?
- Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary)
 a. Open land b. Scattered buildings
 c. Densely built-up d. Residential
 e. Commercial f. Industrial
 g. Other _____
- Threats to site:
 a. None known b. Private development
 c. Zoning d. Public Works project
 e. Vandalism f. Other _____
- Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s): 5/3/78

NOTE: The following (Items 14-19) are for structures only.

14. Primary exterior building material: a. Stone b. Brick c. Stucco d. Adobe e. Wood
f. Other Concrete
15. Is the structure: a. On its original site? b. Moved? c. Unknown?
16. Year of initial construction 1897 This date is: a. Factual b. Estimated
17. Architect (if known): _____
18. Builder (if known): _____
19. Related features: a. Barn b. Carriage house c. Outhouse d. Shed(s) e. Formal garden(s)
f. Windmill g. Watertower/tankhouse h. Other Well; horse trough. i. None

SIGNIFICANCE

20. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site when known):

The L. Levaggi Saloon is an unusual structure, stylistically and technologically. It is an idiosyncratic design for the late 1890's, and may represent the personal flair of the patron. Built to replace a wood saloon that had burned to the ground, the L. Levaggi building is furthermore an early example of the use of concrete construction for socially prominent structures. Concrete was not used with any frequency prior to the early twentieth century; little was known about the medium and when it was employed, it was usually for utilitarian purposes. One of the earliest attempts to use concrete in a building of architectural pretension was that of Percy and Hamilton in their Stanford University Museum of 1890. The L. Levaggi Saloon represents another interesting example of early usage.

21. Main theme of the historic resource: (Check only one): a. Architecture b. Arts & Leisure
c. Economic/Industrial d. Exploration/Settlement e. Government f. Military
g. Religion h. Social/Education

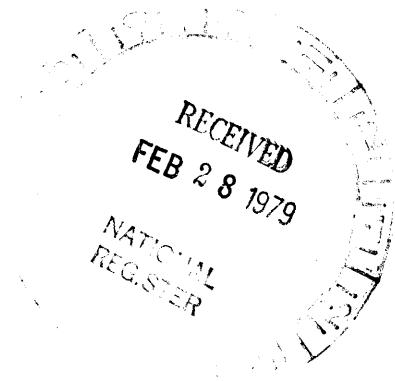
22. Sources: List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews, and their dates:

23. Date form prepared: _____ By (name): _____
Address: _____ City _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ Organization: _____

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Continuation Sheet



Description

resemble block construction. Metal plates (approx. 5"x5") have been bolted into the wall surface at the floor level between the first and second stories, spaced at approximately eight foot intervals. These are undoubtedly structural reinforcement. Metal shutter supports are also still extant. A concrete horse trough and well stand in front of the building.

A wood porch upheld by slender metal supports has been added at a later date, bisecting the facade horizontally at the first floor level. In the rear a two story wood porch has also been added. The first floor of the facade is now stuccoed and painted pale green.