

PH0076384

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: California	
COUNTY: Santa Clara	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JAN 29 1973	

1. NAME

COMMON:
Civic Art Gallery

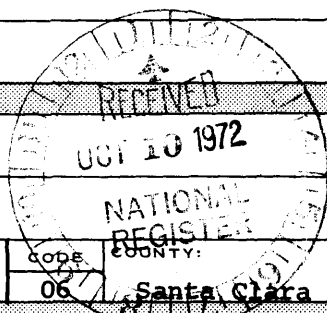
AND/OR HISTORIC:
(Old Post Office)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
110 Market Street

CITY OR TOWN:
San Jose

STATE: California CODE: 06 COUNTY: Santa Clara CODE: 085



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Art Gallery</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of San Jose

STREET AND NUMBER:
801 North First Street

CITY OR TOWN: San Jose STATE: California CODE: 06

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Santa Clara County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
191 N. 1st Street

CITY OR TOWN: San Jose STATE: California CODE: 06

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
California Historical Landmark

DATE OF SURVEY: April 21, 1972 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Department of Parks and Recreation

STREET AND NUMBER:
P.O. Box 2390

CITY OR TOWN: Sacramento STATE: California CODE: 06

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: California	COUNTY: Santa Clara	ENTRY NUMBER JAN 29 1973	DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

1. Romanesque style with rounded arches and clock tower.
2. The exterior of the three-story structure is constructed of sandstone, which was quarried locally in the Goodrich mines along with the stone used for the Stanford University Quadrangle. This building and the Stanford Quadrangle are the finest examples of Italian stone carving still standing in Northern California.
3. In the 1906 earthquake, the steeple toppled from the clock tower. Clock tower was rebuilt in 1908-1909 with James Knox Taylor, the architect. At that time, a three-faced clock designed and constructed by Nels Johnson, creator of the "Century Clock", was installed. Powered by gravity, the simple mechanism depends on 500-pound weights with cranking of the cables required every three to four days. This clock is only one of five Nels Johnson's clocks known to be in existence.
4. In 1935, the interior was remodeled and an addition was added by architect Ralph Wycoff.
5. At present, the interior of the building is being remodeled, converting it to an art gallery.

General setting and orientation:

Site is the north corner of Market Plaza fronting southeast and southwest, and is on a plot of ground bounded on the northwest 138.31 feet by San Fernando Street and on the southwest 137.84 feet by the line of Market Street. (1)

The site and building is located adjacent to the Market Plaza Park. It is intended to include this part as a part of the nominated property to preserve the character and setting of the Old Post Office building. The total area including the .438 acre building site is 3.057 acres. (See attached Site plan.)

MAY 2 1972
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SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

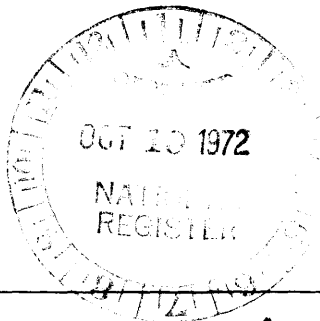
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Architectural</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

- A. Architectural Significance:
- The Old Post Office building is the only surviving Treasury building on the West Coast designed in the Romanesque style with which Henry Hobson Richardson's name is identified in the history of American Architecture.
- B. Physical History:
- Original and subsequent owners:
 1892-1933 Federal Government as Post Office
 1933-1935 Federal Government, Un-used
 1935-1971 City of San Jose as library
 1971- City of San Jose as art gallery
 - Date of erection: 1892-1895. Corner stone placed 1892.
 - Architect: Willoughby J. Edbrooke, Architect.
- C. Historical Events Connected with the Structure and Site:
- Originally, part of the plaza of the Spanish Pueblo, the A.M. Pico Adobe was built on the site.
 - Site is adjacent to location of the Statehouse of California during 1849-1850 when San Jose was the first capitol of the new state.
 - Site of San Jose Chinatown, 1860 until 1887 when the entire area was destroyed by fire.
 - The building was commenced under a contract awarded May 9, 1892, to J.J. and I.N. Day, was completed and occupied February 1, 1895; the cost of construction was \$160,548.33. (1)
 - The Old Post Office was the first Federal Building constructed in San Jose.
 - Building sold to the City of San Jose for use as public library in 1935.
 - Building now houses the San Jose Fine Arts Gallery.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(1) History of Public Buildings under the Control of the Treasury Department, Washington Government Printing Office, 1901.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37	20	01
NE	° ' "	° ' "		121	53	52
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **3.057 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Richard S. Zlatunich, Architect

ORGANIZATION: **Churchill-Zlatunich Associates Architects AIA** DATE: **June 1, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
3003 Moorpark Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: **San Jose** STATE: **California** CODE: **06**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name *[Signature]*

Title State Liaison Officer

Date September 27, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 1/29/73

ATTEST:
Wm J. Buntz
Keeper of The National Register

Date 1-26-73

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