Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 1 1981

DATE ENTERED JAN 8 1982

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LOCATIC	DN					
STREET & NUMBER	South Euclid Av	venue				
CITY, TOWN Ontar					OT FOR PUBLICATION	<u>це</u> т
			OF			
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CLASSIFI	CATION					
CATEGOR	Y OWNERSHIP	ST	ATUS		PRESI	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC		UPIED		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UN0	CCUPIED			PARK
STRUCTURE	BOTH	WOF	RK IN PROGRESS		EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDEN
SITE	PUBLIC ACQU	UISITION AC	CESSIBLE		ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES:	RESTRICTED		GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERE	ED <u>Y</u> ES: NO	UNRESTRICTED	· 1	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATIO
OWNER	OF PROPERTY					
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7⁻ DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
EXCELLENT GOOD FAIR	DETERIORATED RUINS UNEXPOSED	LUNALTERED	ORIGINAL SITE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ontario State Bank Black Building is a detached, two-story, ell-shaped commerical and professional business building which was constructed in three separate consecutive units, one abutting the other. In recent years the third unit was removed. When all three units were completed the "Bank Block" had 65 feet of frontage on Euclid Avenue and about 210 feet on Main Street. Units one and two had ell-shaped ground plans and unit three had a rectangula plan, giving the building an overall ell-shape. In later years the south end walls of shots two and three of unit two were extended for 40 to 60 feet. The exterior wall of the "Bank Block" are red brick in a stretcher bond (all wide) coursing. The boxed cornice with decorated frieze and brackets, decorated pediments, trim, ornate pilasters, sash, doors, filler panels above and below windows, and the porches across the back of the building are wood. The roof is essentially flat, sloping $l\frac{1}{2}$ in 12 from the rear. The only roofing visable from the ground is on the corner turret, gables and over the remainin oriel windows. The building's east facade fronts on Euclid Avenue and its north facade fronts on Main Street, each abutting the sidewalk.

The "Bank Block" contains elements of the Queen Anne and Eastlake Styles of architecture which were popular and often combined in Calif. in the 1880's. Elements of Queen Anne style which are present include windows of different forms and shapes (semi-circular, straight-topped and oriel), windows glazed with small panes of glass in the top portion, turret, gables, corbeled brick work and samll-scale classical detail. The ornate carved wood pilasters dividing the ground floor shops, the carved wood brackets and knobs of various forms are examples of Eastlake Style.

The most decorative elements of the "Bank Block" were the three oriel windows above the Ontario State Bank with pediments of the gable peaks. The oriel windows and pediments have been removed and plain industrial type steel windows, divided into 16 panes have been installed. The plain wood sash oriel windows of the second unit still remain, but the decorative pediments above them have been removed. The decorative pediment on the second unit gable has The other windows of the second floor are double-hung also been removed. plain wood sash with a finely detailed ornamental panel filling in the semicircular top of the window opening. These windows have slightly projecting plain lugsills. The windows of the former Ontario State Bank are semicircular tri-sectional plain wood sash with wood panels below. The fronts of all the ground floor shops, except shop two of unit two, have four large fixed panes of glass, above which there are eight small, one ; sash windows each divided into nine panes. Shop two of unit two has one large fixed window divided into four panes and one large fixed pane of glass, above which there are four small, one sash window, each divided into nine panes. Each of the ground floor shops has a plain flat recessed center doorway with plain wood double doors containing large, single rectangular glass panels above small, signle wood panels. Above the double doors is a rectangular glas There are four exterior ground floor entrances to stairways to the transom. second floor. They all have ornate carved wood pilasters on either side of their flat entrance openings.

Since the original construction a carport and storage shed were added to the back of the "Bank Block". Date of these additions is unknown.

Cont

FHR-8-300A (11/78) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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The structural soundness and general appearance of the building have deteriorated to the point where a restoration effort is needed. Shear cracks are visible in the exterior and interior brick walls and the main roof had numerous leaks in the past years. (The building was completely reroofed in 1977).

The decorative pediments atop the building's gables and the oriel windows over the former bank have been removed. The wooden porches on the first and second floors at the back of the building are in a highly deteriorated state. Expansion of the Pacific Electric Heating Company resulted in connecting openings being made in the interior walls of the first five shops west of the former bank. The exterior surfaces of the ground floor of the "Bank Block" were painted by the last film company which used the building as a setting.

Even though the integrity of the "Bank Block" has been deteriorated and altered somewhat, it still retains enough of its significant design, aspect and feeling to be recognizable.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION	
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE	
1500-1 599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE	
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER	
1800-1899		EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION	
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)	

1887 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

The significance of the Bank Block" can be assigned to three different areas: architecture, commerce, invention.

The architecture of the "Bank Block" is representative of the first era in the history of Ontario--an era of rapid, "Boom" growth and prosperity. Indeed, the 1880s were the "Boom Years", not only for Ontario, but for all of Southern Calif and companies, such as the Ontario Land and Improvement Co. which promoted the sale of land in Southern California prospered. The Ontario Land and Improvement Co. sold \$1,015,000 worth of real estate in Ontario within two years after purchasing the holdings of the Chaffey Brothers Limited in March of 1886.

The setting of the "Bank Block" on historic and beautiful Euclid Avenue (1882 and 1886) places it within half a block of the center parkway fountain erected by George Chaffey in 1883, within a block south and east of the San PEdro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake (Union Pacific) Railroad Depot (1904) and within a block of the Frankish Building (1915-16). Thus within a relatively small area it is possible to view architectural representatives the the first three eras in the history of Ontario. (NOTE: the Union Pacific Depot has been demolished)

The "Bank Blocks" distinctive architectural merit has been detailed in the statement of description. The "Bank Block" provides its viewer with an example of the combination of element from the Queen Anne and Eastlake Styles of architecture which were popular in California in the 1880's.

The "Bank Block" quickly became the business center of Ontario during it's early and formative years. The Ontario State Bank (Ontario's first) opened in the building in 1887. The other shaps filled rapidly with the city's finest merchants. The communities first newspaper was housed in the building for many years.

In 1903 E.H. Richardson moved into one of the three shops in unit 2 of the "Bank Block". He was an engineer for the Ontario Power Company when he first started making flat irons in 1902. He found the iron making business so good that he quit the Power Co. and moved into the "Bank Block", where he worked on making and improving flat irons. He felt irons could be heated quicker, more efficiently and more safely by electricity than on a stove. His business grew rapidly; and in 1904, he formed the Pacific Electric Heating Company. In 1905 he applied for a patent on one of his improved flat irons. In 1906 he was granted a patent for his now famous "Hotpoint" iron. The invention of this iron and the fact that the company was kept in Ontario led to Ontario being known as the "Iron Center of the World". Richardson became affiliated with General Electric and his company became the Ontario Works of the General Electri Company.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Register	of Historic Place	88		UTH NOT	VERIFIED	
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CITY OR TOWN Ontario, Ca	alifornia 91762			STATE	·····	
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NATIO	DNAL	STATE	X	LOCAL		
hereby nominate this criteria and procedur	ate Historic Preservation Of s property for inclusion in t es set forth by the National SERVATION OFFICER SIGNATU	he National Reg Park Service.				
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FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIF	Y THAT THIS PROPERTY IS	S INCLUDED IN	THE NATIONAL	REGISTER		<u> </u>
1 Beth Gars	ovenn			DATE	1/8/83	
ATTEST: ATTUR	E OF ARCHEOLOGY AND	HISTORIC PRE	SERVATION	DATE	1/2/82	

Designed by Max Erskies?



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