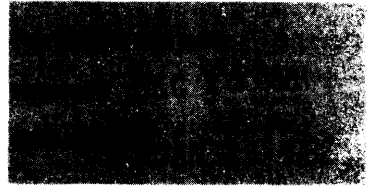


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



**1. Name**

historic Tupper and Reed building

and/or common Metropol Restaurant

RECEIVED  
APR 14 1981

**2. Location**

street & number 2275 Shattuck Avenue \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Berkeley \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 8th

state California code 06 county Alameda code 001

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> museum</span>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> park</span>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> private residence</span>
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> religious</span>
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> scientific</span>
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> transportation</span>
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <span style="margin-left: 100px;"><input type="checkbox"/> other:</span>

**4. Owner of Property**

name Alan Klein

street & number 545 Panoramic Way

city, town Berkeley \_\_\_ vicinity of state CA 94704

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Alameda County Courthouse

street & number 1225 Fallon St.

city, town Oakland state CA 94612

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

1. State Historic Resource Inventory  
 title 2. Berkeley Urban Conservation Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no  
 date 1. Sept. 1977 Survey  
 date 2. May 1978 \_\_\_ federal 1 state \_\_\_ county 2 local

depository for survey records 1. California Office of Historic Preservation  
2. Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association  
 city, town 1. Sacramento state California  
2. Berkeley

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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

Situated in the heart of downtown Berkeley, the "Tupper and Reed building" is a two-story clinker brick structure with a gabled slate roof and towering chimney. A forecourt provides access to either story as well as to the basement. To the right, a narrow stairway leads to the small balcony set off with graceful balustrade and the design is repeated for effect a few feet wide in a corresponding position on the left side of the building.

Sited on a cross pattern with a western bay, the building measures 35 feet wide and 91.51 deep. Commissioned by two partners in a music business, the face of the 1925 building originally featured a full glass front which displayed instruments. The back of the fireplace served as the back wall of this display area. The immense fireplace remains the central feature of the ground floor, but the glass face has been changed to brick and windowpanes and the area now serves as a private office.

A fire in 1959 destroyed some 60% of the interior. Restoration and duplication of the original interior has been undertaken with care. An example of this effort are the wooden pillars on the ground floor, two of which survived the fire and served as models for replacements. Dark wood beams further complement the red brick walls and archways. Upstairs, two small fireplaces are original features which accompany brass chandeliers, wallpaper, and wainscoating.

Architect Yelland designed an interior hall in the left center of the building which opens all the way up to the ceiling of the second floor. A large balcony hangs over the side of the space below and there are large French doors which open from the second floor to view the first floor in this part of the building.

Heavy ivy growth has covered much of the exterior for many years, hiding stencil artwork and surrounding a niche of two columns and relief sculpture in a small alcove on the front of the second floor. Also free from the ivy is the original iron silhouette of a spirited piper atop the high chimney.

# 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** completed 1925      **Builder/Architect** Hansen, Robertson & Zumwalt, builder  
W.R. Yelland, architect

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The 1925 Tupper and Reed building is historically significant as a superb example of the "storybook" style of the "Hansel and Gretel" period. The two-story building provides a unique romantic setting for commercial enterprise on the main downtown street. It is also a good example of the architect's work. Though he also designed in other styles throughout northern California, William Raymond Yelland (1889-1966) is best known for his rustic, "olde world" style. Other local architects who designed in this style include Carr Jones and the Fox Brothers, whose Foxcourt in Berkeley was recently nominated to the National Register.

Most of the examples of this medieval charm are homes, tucked away in the hills. The Tupper and Reed building, on the other hand, stands among its less imaginative neighbors, offering commercial space and a great deal more besides. Yelland allowed for the feeling of welcome and intimacy by creating the inner courtyard which precedes the main doors instead of beginning the commercial space at the line where the building meets the sidewalk.

These same feelings of warmth and gentility are apparent in the interior as well. The uneven brick fireplace, which Yelland personally supervised, has served as a center of conversation for townspeople for many years. Though the building was commissioned to serve primarily a commercial function, the design of its interior and exterior fostered a sense of community enrichment as well. Another example of this was the music store's sponsoring of live orchestras. From the upstairs overhanging room which opened to the main floor below, bands and ensembles often entertained the Tupper and Reed customers.

The larger space on the second floor was used by the Sign of the Piper restaurant which opened its doors the year the building was completed. It served "homecooked" meals to Berkeley regulars for 25 years and was also a favored setting for many a sorority tea. The iron piper still beckons from the chimneytop, a remnant of the original enterprises.

Current use of the building includes a popular cafe in the basement, an elegant restaurant on the main floor, and upstairs office space which has housed tenants from stockbrokers to an art gallery to a newspaper's editorial offices.

Yelland's objective in combining viable commercial space with the

(continued)

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bay Area Houses Sally Woodbridge, ed. Oxford University Press, 1976	Architect and Engineer Nov. 1925; Dec. 1923; Aug. 1927; Aug. 1934	Berkeley: The Town and Gown of it George Pettitt North Howell Books, 1977 (continued)
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# 10. Geographical Data

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**  
**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

Acreeage of nominated property 0.08 acre  
 Quadrangle name Oakland West Quadrangle scale 1:24000

**UMT References**

A	1 1 0	5 1 6 1 4 5 1 3 1 0	4 1 1 9 1 2 1 4 0	B					
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing		
C				D					
E				F					
G				H					

**Verbal boundary description and justification** Building occupies its original lot identified as Book 57 Block 202<sup>9</sup> Parcel 12 - formerly south 35' of lots 19 & 20, Blake Tract #3.

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Candace Ford Tolbert and Frances Carol Tolbert  
 organization Berkeley Architectural Heritage Assn. date March 24, 1981  
 street & number P.O. Box 1137 telephone 415/845-6591  
 city or town Berkeley state California 94701

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national     state     local

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature]

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 10-21-81

**For HCRS use only**  
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register  
 Entered in the National Register date 1/21/82  
 Keeper of the National Register  
 Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief of \_\_\_\_\_

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

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DATE ENTERED	JAN 21 1982

CONTINUATION SHEET	ITEM NUMBER	PAGE
SIGNIFICANCE	8	two

comfortable ambiance that charming aesthetics can promote is evident in many of his buildings. He designed a firehouse, restaurants, and an entire shopping complex (now demolished) in this same mixed vein, as well as an apartment complex that seems transported from a European village. Several of the area show pieces are private residences designed by Yelland.

Nephew of the respected early Californiana painter R.D. Yelland, the architect received his degree from UC Berkeley in 1913. He opened his own office in 1917 after a short stint under Bernard Maybeck and was also associated with Miller and Warnecke architectural firm in Oakland, now the prestigious John C. Warnecke and Associates, San Francisco.

The Tupper and Reed building stands as a fine example of commercial architecture combined with imaginative and personal elements throughout. As Architect and Engineer magazine noted in its article on the new building in 1925:

" . . . True, the building is absolutely out of harmony with its surroundings, but what of it? Are the surroundings really worth being taken into account? So many stores, here, there and everywhere are mere storage depots . . . not unattractive in themselves, but where conditions prevail unfavorably to any eye or body comfort, where one goes to do business and departs as quickly as possible.

" But here at Tupper and Reed's, one comes to stay and linger. "

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET	ITEM NUMBER	PAGE
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Bibliographical References	9	two
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Berkeley Monthly  
"Under the Sign of the  
Piper" July 28, 1977

Interviews:  
Robin Yelland Gentile, architect's daughter  
Harry Tupper, brother of John Tupper who  
commissioned the building  
Marguerite Taylor, owner,  
Sign of the Piper restaurant



SHATTUCK  
AVE.

WANGER BLOCK  
(1903)

approx. 100' x 100'

entry →

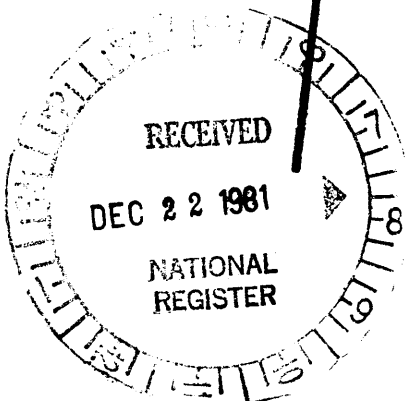
TUPPER + REED  
BLDG.

approx. 35' x 100'

courtyard

SPIRO BLDG.  
(1926)

Approx. 35' x 100'



TUPPER & REED BUILDING,  
2275 Shattuck Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94704