DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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1976

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE II	NSTRUCTIONS IN HOW T TYPE ALL ENTRIES			S
NAME				
HISTORIC				
	ck and Adjoining Com	mercial Ruildings		
AND/OR COMMON	ek and hajorning com	mererar barrarings		
LOCATION				
STREET & NUMBER 2901 - 2903 . 2	905, 2907, 2909, and	2915 Hewitt Ave.	NOT FOR BURLICATION	
CITY, TOWN	500, 2507, 2505, and	2310 11011100 71101	NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DIST	RICT
Everett		VICINITY OF #2		
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Washington		53	Snohomish	061
CLASSIFICA	ATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENT USE
X DISTRICT	PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	XCOMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	XYES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
		NO	MILITARY	OTHER:
OWNER OF	PROPERTY			
NAME Ma and Mas	Pon Nowland			
Mr. and Mrs.	ben Newland			
1411 Rucker	Avenue			
CITY, TOWN	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		STATE	
Everett	-	VICINITY OF	Washingto	n
LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR	RIPTION		
COURTHOUSE,				
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ET	^{rc.} Snohomish County	Administration Bu	ilding	
STREET & NUMBER				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
	Everett		Washingto	n
REPRESEN'	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		
TITLE				
Washington S	tate Inventory of Hi	storic Places		
DATE				
1974		FEDERAL X	STATECOUNTYLOCAL	-
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS	Washington State	Parks & Recreation	Commission	
CITY, TOWN		, at it's a itelefactor	STATE	
	01 <i>y</i> mpia		Washington	า



_EXCELLENT

 $\frac{X}{GOOD}$

__FAIR

CONDITION

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

__UNALTERED XALTERED

CHECK ONE

X_ORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Swalwell Building is a substantial three-story brick masonry business block in the Richardsonian Romanesque Style designed by leading early Everett architects Charles Hove and August F. Heide. Erected on the East Side of the Everett peninsula in 1892, it was perhaps the finest building in the town's easterly community which grew up around the Snohomish River landing. It was exceptional in that it exceeded two stories. Today, it is one of the few sound buildings of early date still standing anywhere in downtown Everett, and it is the best preserved example of its kind. The Swalwell Block and its neighboring two-story structures built shortly after the turn of the century form a nearly contiguous block of historic street architecture in the midst of a transitional commercial district. The properties are being revitalized and restored. Over-all plans for the portion of the block fronting on Hewitt Avenue call for the installation of street trees, compatible sidewalk lighting, and the connectin of certain of the adjoing retail spaces by internal passageways.

The Swalwell Block and adjoining commercial buildings are located in the SE14, Section 20, T.29N., R.5E., of the Willamette Meridian. The Swalwell Block is situated on Lot 9 and Large Lot 10 of Block 655 of Swalwell's Second Addition to the Plat of Everett. The Diefenbacher, Weber, and Glassberg Buildings are situated on Lots 5 and 6, Lot 7, and Lot 8, respectively. Lot 4 is vacant. Lot 3 is occupied by the Wuerch Building, a two-story brick building, four bays wide, which is similar in detail to the Glassberg and Weber Buildings. Large Lot 1 and Lot 2 are unimproved and are the only parcels included in the nomination which are not owned by the Ben Newlands. The buildings front on Hewitt Avenue, a main east-west thoroughfare. rear property lines abut an east-west alley which traverses the block. The nomination encompasses the entire south third of Block 655, plus Lot 11 on the north side of the alley. The latter, which fronts on Pine Street, is occupied by a one-story bungalow. On the remaining two-thirds of the block are frame single-family dwellings, some of which date from the turn of the century, and some of which are smaller bungalows and post war cottages. A few of the lots on the remainder of the block are vacant.

Properties across from this historic enclave, on the south side of Hewitt Avenue, are not included in the nomination at this time. Directly opposite the Swalwell Block is an open, black-topped property developed in recent years for use as a filling station. Gasoline pumps have been removed, however, and the garage, typically set back from the street, lately has been remodeled for restaurant purposes. It is faced with used brick and weathered boards. The easterly half of the block opposite the district nomination is dominated by the long, light-colored facade of a twostory brick masonry retail and apartment building dating from the turn of the century. It has the simplest of classical detail consisting of capitals atop brick piers and a conventional entablature with attic story. The immediate neighborhood north of Hewitt Avenue is residential. The old home of William G. Swalwell, now considerably altered, is no more than a block away on Pine Street. The area south of Hewitt Avenue generally tends toward light industrial and warehouse uses. Hewitt Avenue itself is an historic commercial zone, now much eroded. One or two important buildings contemporary with the Swalwell Block are still extant in the neighborhood, but they are freestanding and are either irrevocably altered or in dilapidated condition. The Swalwell-Swartout Block, more commonly known as the McCabe Building, was a concurrent, but temporary investment of Swalwell's at the corner of Hewitt

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Secondary ownership of two unimproved lots:

William G. Gable, Sr. 2920 Hewitt Avenue Everett, WA 98201

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Avenue and Chestnut Street, only two blocks to the east. It is now visually and environmentally isolated between a freeway ramp and the Snohomish River.

The Swalwell Block (2901-2903岁 Hewitt Avenue) is a three-story brick masonry building on granite and concrete foundation. It is a simple, rectangular form measuring approximately 58 by 75 feet. The building is faced with red-brown pressed brick masonry building on granite and concrete foundation. It is a simple. rectangular form measuring approximately 58 by 75 feet. The building is faced with red-brown pressed brick and cut greystone (tinted concrete blocks, or "cast" stone), both of local manufacture. Its cornices are copper. The ground story facade has been altered somewhat, but its original greystone facing material simulated the traditional use of rock-faced masonry associated with the Richardsonian Romanesque. The central round-arched stairway portal giving access to upper stories from the street was originally flanked by round columns of greystone with composite capitals, now gone. At the corners of the facade, and marking off end sections of the long Pine Street elevation, are rusticated greystone piers which are still painted in black and white bands as if in imitation of the striped archivolts and vault ribs of certain Romanesque churches. Also typical of the Richardsonian Romanesque is the handling of second and third stories in which nearly equal emphasis is given to vertical and horizontal elements. Except for the central arcade of the facade, all openings are linteled, or flat-arched, and strip pilasters set off each two-story set of paired double-hung sash windows. spandrels are decorated with sheet metal and a variety of patterned and textured brick work, some of which required special molds. Of interest is the "hob nail" effect of projecting headers in spandrels of the arcade. At the outer edges of soffits of the arches is a variation of medieval billet molding in which small circular and block-shaped bricks alternate. Setting off the central five-bay arcade of the facade are slender pendant buttresses corbeled out from second story window posts. These taper to a point below the sills and flare into the corbel table above the spandrels. Typically, the depth of window reveals reinforces the effect of the building's heavy bearing walls. Consisting of a flared corbel table and attic story, or blind parapet is separated into sections by square balustrade "posts", some of which undoubtedly doubled as chimneys. A distant historic view of about 1907 shows that the central bays of the Swalwell Block facade were once surmounted by a false gable, probably of copper, which may have served as an escutcheon for the date or name of the building. On the Pine Street elevation somewhat unusual features are the attenuated slits with greystone sills which relieve two wide, uninterrupted piers extending the height of the second and third stories.

In the interior, the stairhall has retained all of its fir trim including a high tongue-in-groove wainscot, stylized newel posts and spool-turned balusters. The second floor landing receives natural light from a sky light in the roof above the stairwell. Designed for office space, converted to hotel rooms, and eventually

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maintained as apartments, the upstairs has remained reasonably unmodified, spatially. The ground story spaces have been somewhat more revised. However, the original built-in iron-front vaults are still intact in the former bank space now occupied by the Pines Tavern. Ultimate revitalization plans for the Swalwell Block call for repair and restoration of the exterior as required and development of the ground story as shop and restaurant space.

The building adjacent to the Swalwell Building at 2905 Hewitt Avenue was built in 1906 as the loan office, musical goods and jewelry store, and residence of Maurice Glassberg. It is a two-story, brick masonry building, four bays wide and measuring 25 by 65 feet. It is faced with buff-colored pressed brick and contrasting tan bricks with "soft" or rounded corners which trim corner uprights and strip plasters between the second story windows. Windows are of the double-hung sash variety and have cast stone lintels. Spandrels are corbeled upward to a "frieze" of recessed panels in the brickwork. Above the panels a sheet metal cornice with brackets caps the facade. A low brick parapet appears to have been removed from the building. Renovation of the interior of the Glassberg Building has already been completed. In the ground story is a shop and gallery space in which use was made of brick wall surfaces (some are exposed) and most of the original wood trim, hardware, The second story apartment space was remodeled. When the Star Shoe Store and residence of Emil E. Weber was erected on the adjoining lot to the east, at 2907 Hewitt Avenue, in 1918, the pattern of the Glassberg Building was duplicated with minor exceptions. The Weber Building was made 11 feet deeper; the trim bricks are red-brown instead of tan, and the corners of the trim brick are conventially angled rather than rounded. Fir trim in the second story apartment is intact, including baseboards, classical architraves over doorways, and a portiere arch with columns and paneled bases. It is planned that the second story will be used for office space. The ground story will be developed as shop space or a restaurant. A similar building at 2915 Hewitt Avenue was operated by August M. Wuerch around 1902. Wuerch maintained his establishment at the address from 1902 to 1911. The building measures 25 by 58 feet. Now occupied by the Riverside Tavern, the ground story has been altered. No immediate development plans for the Wuerch Building have been advanced, as the present occupants are operating the premises under a long-term lease.

The Diefenbacher Building (1903), 2909 Hewitt Avenue, was financed by Everett saloon and hotel proprietor John Diefenbacher and designed by August F. Heide at the time of his partnership with Seattle architect Emil deNeuf. Rooflines of the Glassberg Building and, later, the Weber Building precisely conformed to the height of this two-story brick masonry building. The Diefenbacher Building has tripartite groupings of bay windows at the second story which suggest that the architects sought to adopt appropriate characteristics of the progressive Commercial Style. The building measures 50 by 104 feet. Its taut surface is

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faced with red brick and is trimmed with cast stone, which makes up pier bases and capitals and the architrave over second story windows. Sheet metal was used for the cornice and the ground story architrave with its three fascias. At the ground story, the symmetrical facade is organized into retail bays on either side of a central round-arched stairway entrance. Within the reveal beneath the corbeled archivolt of the portal arch is a leaded glass fan light. The building name is displayed in a cut stone panel above the arch. The second story, originally designed for office space, is amply lighted from the street by the groupings of three bay windows on either side of a central bay. Uprights in the bay window groupings are minimal, metal-sheathed "posts". Flanking the central bay and setting off the building corners are wide brick piers with pilasters which "carry" the cast stone architrave. The elaborate stamped metal cornice includes ovolo molding and leaf-carved modillions. The second story contains a number of office suites, each of which is afforded natural lighting from internal light wells. Even though the space lately came to be used as a rooming house, neither the layout nor the trim has been significantly altered. The stairhall, too, is intact with its fir trim. Plans are to return the second story to office use with a minimum of alteration to the original fabric.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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SPECIFIC DATES 1892-1918

BUILDER/ARCHITECT August F. Heide & respecitve partner Charles Hove and Emil deNeuf

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Swalwell Block (1892) is significant to the City of Everett as one of few, and doubtless the finest of commercial buildings remaining from the town's initial boom engendered by eastern capital and the Everett Land Company headed by Henry Hewitt, Designed by Everett Land Company architects A. F. Heide and Charles Hove in the Richardsonian Romanesque Style, it was a duplicate of Hove and Heide's Hewitt Block, headquarters of the Everett National Bank, built at the same time on the opposite end of Hewitt Avenue. When the Hewitt Block was demolished in recent months, the Swalwell Block became the largest and best preserved example of early-day commercial building in which materials were supplied by local industries painstakingly fostered by the Land Company. The building's principal investor was William G. Swalwell, a public-spirited pioneer who remained active in the development of Everett long after the days of the initial boom. Two-story buildings neighboring the Swalwell Block on the east were constructed between 1902 and 1918, during later periods of economic revival. Together, the properties form a contiquous block of historic street architecture. As yet there has been no in-filling in three vacant spaces fronting on Hewitt Avenue in this block. The historic enclave is being revitalized and restored by present owners for compatible new uses.

The Swalwell Block was constructed between April and October, 1892, at the height of the boom created by sale of land at the Everett townsite. Although the boom was cut short by the Silver Panic in 1893, in a remarkably brief period a number of substantial brick buildings had been erected. The Swalwell Block's cost of construction was estimated at between \$30,000 and \$35,000. It was designed by Hove and Heide, architects who traditionally handled the important commissions of the Everett Land Company. Their involvement in a major project on Everett's East Side was unusual, however, for architectural work in that precinct in the early days was normally monopolized by Frederick Sexton, who consistently managed to underbid his competitors. It is perhaps indicative of the sense of mission with which the town proprietors approached the upbuilding of the site that the architects were able to provide nearly identical plans for Henry Hewitt's Everett National Bank on the Bay Side and for William G. Swalwell's First National Bank building on the River Side of the peninsula. Both buildings were commenced in the same month. Swalwell's building was opened for use on October 10, a month or two in advance of Hewitt's Block. At the basis of the Land Company's plan for developing the townsite was the encouragement of a variety of manufactories and industries which would help to make builders reasonably self-sufficient at the outset and strengthen Everett's economy in the long run. The three or four brick manufactories operating on the peninsula at an early date greatly facilitated the burst of building activity between 1891 and 1893. Bricks for both Hewitt and Swalwell Blocks are believed to have been

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Dilgard, David and Riddle, Margaret. "Survey of Everett Buildings, 1890-1905", Prepared for the City of Everett Dept. of Community Development (1974), pgs. 7, 10. 18.

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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
	Archaeology and Historics and Recreation Co		vation DATE August 1975 TELEPHONE (206) 753-4116 STATE Washington
12 STATE HISTORI	C PRESERVATION	OFFICER	
THE EV	'ALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF	THIS PROPERTY	WITHIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL	. STAT	E	LOCAL X
_	for inclusion in the National R h by the National Park Service.		reservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), by that it has been evaluated according to the
	oric Preservation Off	icer	DATE December 19, 197
FOR NPS USE ONLY	HIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED		
Verso	I Varies		DATE 5/17/96
ATTEST: Chhulu	afferings	ESERVATION	DATE 8:13-76
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL	. REGISTER	_	

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supplied by the Bast Brickworks, and the cast stone, or "greystone" was manufactured by the Chemical Sand Brick Company. Structural iron, on the other hand, was shipped from San Francisco.

The Swalwell Block was planned as the headquarters of the First National Bank, which W. G. Swalwell headed for several years. The bank occupied the westerly portion of the ground story. The Swalwell Land, Loan and Trust Company occupied offices at the rear of the bank, and had its own entrance from Pine Street. William G. Swalwell was associated in business with his younger brother, W. A. Swalwell. Initially, Swalwell and Swalwell's stationery and book store occupied the easterly ground floor space. The second story was divided into rentable office space, and the third story was promptly engaged by the Masonic Order for lodge rooms. of the new building's immediate neighbors were one and two-story frame buildings oriented longitudinally on narrow lots. Gable roofs were disguised by false fronts imitating Italianate facades. Business blocks of the scale and permanence of Swalwell's building were generally admired. William Swalwell himself was admired for his "remarkable business tact." It was he who, shortly after arriving from Tacoma with his parents and younger members of his family, platted the first two subdivisions of Everett in 1892 and 1893. Indeed, as two of his major building projects were nearing completion on the East Side in the fall of 1892, it was remarked that Swalwell had made himself so popular that "all classes" rejoiced in his prosperity. The local press concluded that he had "done his full share in making the Everett proposition a grand success." Allowing for an appropriate measure of boosterism, such appreciative remarks appear to be consistent with what is known of Swalwell's later actions. In 1901 he was a member of the Library Board of Trustees which sought to provide the city its first properly designed public library, and he later participated in a public-spirited transaction which made a site available for construction. In 1900, acting somewhat in the manner of Andrew Carnegie, he had offered the city an 80-acre parcel as a gift if the city would agree to improve it for public park purposes at a level of \$500 a year for a period of five years. (The city eventually purchased from Swalwell the land which became the nucleus of Forest Park.) Swalwell also served as a city councilman, and he continued his real estate operations in Everett until 1921.

August F. Heide (1862-ca. 1943) was born in Alton, Illinois, the third of seven children of Henry and Hermina Heide, natives of Germany. He was educated in Alton public schools until, at the age of seventeen, he began the study of architecture as an apprentice. Afterwards, in Chicago, he is said to have taken instruction in architecture from "private teachers" for four or five years. Heide left for Los Angeles, California in 1886 and spent three years with an architectural firm there, filling positions of foreman in the detail department and superintendent of construction. In 1889 he departed California for Tacoma, Washington, where he spent the next three years in independent practice. During

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this time he worked on the Tacoma Theatre. In 1892 Heide was attracted by the building boom in Everett, and he and Charles Hove (1852-1915) became the Everett Land Company's select architects for major commissions. Regrettably, little is known about the professional background of Charles Hove. Heide was chosen to prepare plans for the Washington State Building erected at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis in Portland in 1905. Between 1901 and 1906 he joined in partnership with Seattle architect Emil deNeuf. Surviving examples of the firm's work in Everett, in addition to the Diefenbacher Building, are the Mitchell Hotel (Cascadia Apartments) and the Carnegie-financed Old Public Library. During the time that Heide and deNeuf collaborated they maintained professional listings in Everett and Seattle directories simultaneously. Heide worked in association with Seattle architect Carl Siebrand in 1910-1911, and it was during that time that plans were produced for Everett's Mission Style Snohomish County Courthouse.

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Whitfield, William, ed. <u>History of Snohomish County, Washington</u> (Chicago-Seattle: Pioneer Historical Publishing Company, 1926). Vol. 1, p. 430, regarding Forest Park. Vol. 2, pgs. 82, 21 and 32, biog. notes on Swalwell, Glassberg, and Weber.