

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0665894
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RECEIVED MAR 29 1978
DATE ENTERED OCT 19 1978
DATA SHEET

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
Stockton Savings and Loan Society Bank
AND/OR COMMON
Bank of Stockton - Downtown Office

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
301 E. Main Street
CITY, TOWN
Stockton
STATE
California
VICINITY OF
15th
COUNTY
San Joaquin
CODE
06
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
15th
CODE
077

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<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:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. Robert Eberhard, President Bank of Stockton
STREET & NUMBER
301 E. Main Street
CITY, TOWN
Stockton
STATE
California

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
San Joaquin County Assessors Office
STREET & NUMBER
Main and San Joaquin Streets
CITY, TOWN
Stockton
STATE
California 95202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Stockton Historical Landmarks
DATE
October 1977
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Community Development Department
CITY, TOWN
Stockton
STATE
California
_FEDERAL _STATE _COUNTY LOCAL

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

The Bank of Stockton is a handsome Renaissance Revival building constructed in 1907-1908. The steel-reinforced brick and terra-cotta building rises through seven full stories to the bracketed cornice line; a penthouse, which is set back from the edge of the roof, adds an eighth story. The ground floor gives the appearance of a firm base, separated from the stories above by a bracketed string course, and penetrated by large commercial windows. The corner entrance shares strong stylistic similarities with the detailing of the 16th Century Tuileries Palace in Paris, with the shafts of the flanking columns broken by horizontal boards at regular intervals. The building is a pleasant composition designed to convey with dignity the appropriate image of permanence and stability of a financial institution of the period.

All eight stories including the original penthouse are retained and the original appearance compares very favorably with the present. The only major changes, two large electric signs and the relocation of the original corner entrance to the Main Street frontage, do not compromise the exterior. A fire escape installed within the last four years has been installed on a featureless north wall that once faced another office building.

Equally significant is the preservation of many interior features especially in the bank lobby. The lobby retains a surprising degree of its original appearance including beautifully matched polished marble wainscoting and facings. Marble tellers' counters, as well as a marble and bronze patrons' counter also survive and help preserve the basic original arrangement of the lobby. Marble from the historic quarries at Columbia, Tuolumne County is given additional lustre by natural light from the original plate glass windows on the west and south frontages. The marble flooring also survives. Plaster medallions still add beauty to the ceiling and pilasters. Although the main entrance has been removed from the southwest corner of the building and the space once occupied by a revolving door and entry way is now an office area, this change was accomplished in a careful manner many years ago with no objectionable affect on appearance. Many pieces of original furniture are still in use. Other changes are apparent in the lobby and offices that have been dictated by updating of procedures and the convenience of the patrons. These include removal of the bronze grille tellers' cages and replacement of lighting fixtures. Also notable is the steam heating plant; much of the 1907 equipment is in such fine condition that it remains in use.

The elevator lobby serves four floors of offices plus the three floors occupied by the Yosemite Club, a professional and businessmen's club. There is only one major change, the installation of modern enclosed elevators replacing the open cage system originally installed.

The upper floors of offices have just been remodeled but still contain a number of their original features including many plumbing fixtures. The Yosemite Club rooms contain appointments of historical interest including a large oak bar, fireplace mantle and many pieces of dining room furniture dating back at least to 1908.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Built 1907-1908 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Myers & Ward, Architects, San Fran.
 Opened to business 12/28/08 Edward B. Brown, Architect, Stockton

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Brown: Interiors top three floors only)

There are many varied elements of local and statewide historical significance that can be applied to this building and they are best summarized as follows:

1. This combination bank, office and club building was Stockton's first skyscraper, (eight stories). The structure helped bring a 20th Century metropolitan appearance to the city.
2. The construction of foundations for this building were an engineering feat. In 1907 the Stockton Record reported that contractor A. W. Cowell commented "You can say that the foundations will be the first ones reinforced with steel ever put down in Stockton. The foundations will be of concrete with steel girders running through both ways...They will go down fifteen feet into the ground and will be very wide and massive. I believe some of them will be eight feet wide."
3. The brick and terra cotta decoration used in the construction were made at the Carnegie Brick and Pottery Plant, once a major California producer of such materials. The plant was located in Corral Hollow south west of Tracy, San Joaquin County. The company was of such importance, the site has been designated State Historical Landmark #740. The clay for the plant was a by-product of the Tesla Coal Mine, four miles farther up the canyon from Carnegie. This Stockton office building is one of the finest examples of a building constructed entirely of clay products from Carnegie.
4. The bank lobby is an exceptionally well preserved architectural specimen illustrating the lavish decoration used in the late 19th Century and the early 20th Century, not only in banking institutions but also luxury hotels and public buildings. The Tuolumne County marble is particularly notable and representative.
5. The masonry on the facade is done in an exceptionally skillful manner and is reminiscent of the type of structure that gave Stockton an early nickname of 'The Brick City'.
6. The classical design elements of the facade are very well executed, making this an excellent example of office building architecture of the period when classical style was popular.

(Continued on attached page)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Will Break Ground for a Sky-Scraper" Stockton Daily Evening Record
July 8, 1907, page 8, columns 4 & 5

"Stockton's First Sky Scraper is Occupied" Stockton Daily Evening Record
December 28, 1908

Bank Notes Vol. 1, No. 4, December 1977 (published by the Bank of Stockton) page 4-6

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .121

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,0 | 6,5,0,6,0,0 | 4,2,0,1,8,4,0

B | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | |

D | |

E | |

F | |

G | |

H | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The building is located at the Northeast corner of Main and San Joaquin Streets and occupies a lot measuring 70 x 75 feet.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Raymond W. Hillman, Regional Vice President

ORGANIZATION

Conference of California Historical Societies

DATE

January 16, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

1021 N. Argonaut Street

TELEPHONE

462-4116

CITY OR TOWN

Stockton

STATE

California 95203

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Knowlton

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 3/9/78

FDR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

William Holovich

DATE

10/19/78

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

Oct 16, 1978

William Holovich
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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7. This was the first building constructed by the Stockton Savings and Loan Society (now Bank of Stockton). This bank, established in 1867, is the second bank chartered in California and the second oldest bank in the state operating under its original charter.

8. The upper three floors were originally designed for and are still occupied by the Yosemite Club, the oldest chartered men's club in California. It dates from 1888.

9. Several elements of technology and office design were seen here for the first time in Stockton, these included a PBX, (Private Branch Exchange switchboard), the first revolving door in Stockton, private rooms for individual use of Safe Deposit box patrons, and a private waiting and rest area for lady customers.

Comparing the above to National Register Criteria, it would appear that this structure would qualify especially for its characteristics exemplifying "... a type, period or method of construction, or that represents the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values." Also this building can be "... associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history."