

PH 0660876

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JAN 24 1978  
DATE ENTERED AUG 3 1978

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 HOTEL LA ROSE

RECEIVED  
NOV 22 1977  
OH

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 318 WILSON STREET / 100 FIFTH STREET  
5th & WILSON ✓

CITY, TOWN

SANTA ROSA

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

\_\_\_NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

001

STATE

CALIFORNIA

CODE

06

COUNTY SONOMA

CODE

097 ✓

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- \_\_\_DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- \_\_\_STRUCTURE
- \_\_\_SITE
- \_\_\_OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- \_\_\_PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- \_\_\_BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- \_\_\_IN PROCESS
- \_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- \_\_\_UNOCCUPIED
- \_\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- \_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED
- \_\_\_NO

PRESENT USE

- \_\_\_AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- \_\_\_EDUCATIONAL
- \_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT
- \_\_\_GOVERNMENT
- \_\_\_INDUSTRIAL
- \_\_\_MILITARY
- \_\_\_MUSEUM
- \_\_\_PARK
- \_\_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- \_\_\_RELIGIOUS
- \_\_\_SCIENTIFIC
- \_\_\_TRANSPORTATION
- \_\_\_OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME PAUL & LINDA HOGAN

STREET & NUMBER

~~318~~ SONOMA AVENUE

CITY, TOWN

SANTA ROSA

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

CALIFORNIA 95405

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

SONOMA COUNTY - COUNTY RECORDER

STREET & NUMBER

2555 MENDOCINO AVENUE

CITY, TOWN

SANTA ROSA

STATE

CALIFORNIA

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

DATE

MAY 1977

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CITY, TOWN

CITY OF SANTA ROSA

STATE

CALIFORNIA

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hotel La Rose, built in 1907, is a large three storey stone building showing influence of the Georgian Revival Architectural Style. It is situated on the Southwest corner of Wilson and Fifth Streets in Santa Rosa. It was built at the cost of \$35,000.00. The ground floor is 62' x 80' with the upper two floors forming a "U" shape around a light well. The light well also provided light to the ground by means of skylights. The rooms (20 each floor) are on either side of a central corridor. Each floor has central toilet, bath & shower rooms which was common for local hotels of the early 1900's. The ground floor had 2 family-style dining rooms with a good sized bar. During the first three decades of the twentieth century, when it was at the height of its use, the hotel catered to railroad workers and passengers, as well as serving as a boarding place for many of Santa Rosa's working class.

The building is constructed of stone with wood framed floors, walls, and interior partitions. The interior finishes are generally of plaster over wood lath. The interior doors are redwood 5 panel stile and rail with transoms above. The corridors all have redwood wainscoting on the walls, and the stairs have open balustrades with square newel posts and turned baluster members. The exterior windows of the upper floors are double hung wood with one over one lights. The ground floor windows are fixed with small leaded lights in the upper portions.

The stone walls are 20"-24" thick and laid up in a coursed range Ashlar - 4 units - using beaded mortar joints. The upper windows have flat arched lintels, while the lintels of the lower floor windows are an integral part of a horizontal string course. There are two string courses of stone that are different than the remaining stone and the name of the building "Hotel La Rose" is engraved in the upper string course. The walls which face the adjoining properties are constructed of uncoursed rubble (same quarry as the cut stone) and in some cases the rubble has been plastered over.

The Stone Masons, Maroni, Farni, Galeazzi and Sodini, who built the hotel, were from Northern Italy and had acquired their skill of cutting hard stone in the Italian Marble Quarries.

The roof of the building is of metal over wood sheathing with gablet ends (each end of "U" plan) and dormer windows which provide attic ventilation. The eaves on the street facades are boxed cornices in the modillioned design.

Though today the building is in a run down condition, it still has retained its original integrity with no major alterations and still has the 40 rooms on 2 floors, central bath facilities, kitchen & dining areas, and the bar.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hotel La Rose is a predominant part of the plaza-like environment of Railroad Square in Santa Rosa, and is a significant representative of the adaptation of indigenous stone for use in commercial buildings in Santa Rosa. It is one of four stone buildings surrounding a central park that all relate to one another both physically and historically. The La Rose Hotel is important as the largest of the four and one that has continued its original use with little physical alterations. Historically, the La Rose Hotel has a threefold significance. It stands as one of the major accomplishments of the Italian stonemasons of Sonoma County working around the turn of the 20th century as well as being an exponent of the historically important stone industry in the county, that before its decline after 1913, was the major contributor of paving stones for San Francisco streets. The La Rosa Hotel is also a representative of the Hotel Era which in Santa Rosa began with the coming of the railroad in 1870 and declined after 1936 when all passenger traffic was terminated and automobile took precedence.

By the late 19th century, the Northwestern Pacific Railroad began at the Tiburon Peninsula in San Pablo Bay passing through the towns of San Rafael, Petaluma and Santa Rosa and traversing the entire length of the Russian River Valley. The North Pacific Coast Railroad, from Duncan Mills on the Russian River continued south along the coast to Sausalito in Marin County thus completing a triangular route. This triangular route, passing through Santa Rosa, brought hordes of passengers from San Francisco on excursions to the Russian River resorts. The railroad also picked up a lucrative freight business from existing and rapidly developing local industries. During the railroad era, from 1870-1936, Santa Rosa became the service center for the county. Businesses, and factories employing numerous workers surrounded the Railroad Square area in convenient proximity to rail transport and accommodating hotels.

The La Rose Hotel was economically tied to the railroad and related industry and was built to serve as a boarding hotel for many of Santa Rosa's workers, as well as to accommodate the numerous passengers requiring short term lodging.

The original owner of the La Rosa Hotel was Bautista Bettini. After the 1906 earthquake destroyed the wooden St. Rose Hotel around the corner on Fourth Street in Santa Rosa, Bettini commissioned Peter Maroni who with

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1. The Santa Rosa Republican; The Sonoma County Development Edition Supplement, February 22, 1911
2. California Division of Mines; Mines & Mineral Resources of Sonoma County, 1913
3. Press Democrat; 10/2/60, 1/29/28, 2/5/28, 3/17/68
4. City Directories; 1905, 1908
5. Oral Histories (sons of the stone masons)

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY --- .15 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,0	52,414,300 <sup>480</sup>	4,215,422,0 <sup>240</sup>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property is a city lot (AP #010-074-05), approximately 80' x 80'

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

DAN PETERSON A.I.A., ARCHITECT / CONNIE BRAITO, RESEARCHER

ORGANIZATION

DAN PETERSON A.I.A., ARCHITECT

DATE

NOVEMBER 21, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

1049 FOURTH STREET

TELEPHONE

(707) 545-0895

CITY OR TOWN

SANTA ROSA

STATE

CALIFORNIA

**12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL X

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

*Kroy M. Ellen*

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 1/17/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST: *Charles H. ...*  
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 8.3.78  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
 DATE 8.1.78

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

Natale Forni, Massimo Galeazzi and Angelo Sodini constructed the three storey stone hotel building on the corner of Wilson and Fifth Streets. The stone was obtained from the Maroni Quarry in east Santa Rosa, dropped from bunkers into waiting horse driven wagons and transported to the site at Railroad Square. At the job site, the stonemasons finished cutting and fitting the stone and then with wooden wenches, geared down so that two men could handle them, lifted the stone upwards as needed.

Maroni, Forni, Galeazzi and Sodini collaborated on other stone buildings in Santa Rosa and the county; mainly wineries, churches, libraries, and railroad buildings. Harold Kirker in his book entitled California's Architectural Frontier, states that Italian stone workers such as those in Sonoma County, "immigrated from Northern Italy bringing with them implements of their trade; hammers, chisels and picks."

The La Rose Hotel was built with "andesite, an indigenous rock of the volcanic group, which is difficult to work and used on buildings of monumental character, slabs for floors, wall lining and paving." (History of Building Materials, Norman Davey, 1961) In 1907, the La Rose Hotel was conceived as a massive stone building of a substantial nature in contrast to the more vulnerable pre-earthquake construction. The only remaining hotel building after the 1906 disaster in Santa Rosa was the stone Western Hotel in Railroad Square adjacent to the La Rose Hotel and also built by Peter Maroni and Angelo Sodini.

In the mid-1870's, cobblestone quarries began to appear in Sonoma County largely due to the demand for paving stones in San Francisco. Railroads provided vital transportation for the local stone industry. Cobblestones were in great demand both locally and regionally from the 1870's - 1910's. After the earthquake, "the demand for stone was great up until 1912 when the Block Makers Union demanded raises in contract price which together with more cars and the need for smoother pavements caused a slump in the business." (California Division of Mines & Geology - Mines & Mineral Resources of Sonoma County, 1913). The La Rose Hotel was constructed of stone as a result of the development of this important industry.