**Form 10-300 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

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

*(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)*

### 1. NAME

**COMMON NAME:** Crocker Art Gallery

**AND/OR HISTORIC NAME:** Same

### 2. LOCATION

**STREET AND NUMBER:** 216 O Street

**CITY OR TOWN:** Sacramento

**STATE:** California

**CODE:** 06

**COUNTY:** Sacramento

**CODE:** 067

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

**CATEGORY (Check One)**
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

**OWNERSHIP**
- Public
- Private
- Both

**Public Acquisition:**
- In Process
- Being Considered

**Occupied**
- Unoccupied
- Preservation work in progress

**STATUS**
- Yes:
  - Restricted
  - Unrestricted

**ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC**
- No

**PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**
- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Educational
- Entertainment
- Government
- Industrial
- Military
- Private Residence
- Religious
- Scientific
- Transportation
- Other (Specify): Art Gallery

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

**OWNER'S NAME:** City of Sacramento

**STREET AND NUMBER:** City Hall, Ninth & Eye Streets

**CITY OR TOWN:** Sacramento

**STATE:** California

**CODE:** 06

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:** County Recorder, County Courthouse

**STREET AND NUMBER:** Ninth & H Streets

**CITY OR TOWN:** Sacramento

**STATE:** California

**CODE:** 06

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

**TITLE OF SURVEY:** National Park Service, Historic American Survey

**DATE OF SURVEY:** 1960

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:** National Park Service

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

**CITY OR TOWN:** Washington

**STATE:** D.C.

**CODE:** 11
The E.B. Crocker Art Gallery is composed of two buildings: the "annex", which was Judge Crocker's home, and the "gallery".

The home was built in 1853 by Sacramento pioneer banker B.F. Hastings, whose place of business is downtown "Old Sacramento" has already been cited as a significant national site and is recorded in the National Register. Crocker purchased the home in 1868.

The gallery, built 1871-73 in order to house 1,000 original "old masters" and 700 oil paintings which Crocker purchased in Europe in 1870, is of a style of an Italian Villa. On the main floor is a vestibule with rich woodwork, curved staircases on either side, and an elaborately tiled floor. It open through the ballroom into the library. The upper floor, planned for the exhibition of paintings, is thirty feet wide by seventy-two feet long.

Originally, the Hastings Home was designed by Seth Babson, an architect, who was an 1850 arrival in California from Maine. The original home, now sheathed in a weathered-stucco overcoating which has removed almost all of the original detail, is considered to have been quite classic in its architecture. After Judge Crocker acquired the home, it was modified rather extensively by Babson, and it reflected the increased prosperity of the E.B. Crockers.

The Art Gallery, proper, was a polite pretext for the social enthusiasm of the Crocker ladies — the main reason for the "gallery" was the magnificent ballroom and the additional entertainment facilities on the (basement) floor below. It, also, was designed by Babson; and the design work on the exterior of the gallery showed the architect's fondness for the Mannerist 16th Century Italian formal sources, designed with a dignity and assurance which had its beginnings, in Sacramento, during the 19th Century.

California State Historic Landmark No. 599
Marked by the Sacramento Historic Landmarks Commission, 1956.

The 1853 original residence is constructed substantially of brick, while the 1870's annex or gallery is of wood construction on a brick foundation.
The E.B. Crocker Art Gallery has served as a public gallery for eighty-five years, having been dedicated to the City of Sacramento by the widowed Mrs. Crocker in 1885. Based upon this date and operation, it is the oldest state or municipally owned art gallery west of the Rocky Mountains, and is considered to be the second oldest in the United States.

Edwin Bryant Crocker, born at Jamesville, New York in 1818, moved to South Bend, Indiana, where he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1842. On arriving in Sacramento in 1852, he formed the law firm of Crocker, McKune, and Robinson, and later became legal counsel to the Central Pacific, the western portion of the first transcontinental railroad. He was the brother of Charles Crocker, one of the "Big Four" (of railroad fame). During Leland Stanford's term as governor of California, E.B. Crocker was appointed to the California Supreme Court.

Following the Judge's death in 1875 (just two years following completion of the gallery structure), Mrs. Crocker donated the gallery to the City in 1885; and, about 1887, she departed for Larchmont, New York, in order to be closer to her married daughters. She died in 1901. The Hastings-Crocker house was given to the Fairhaven Home for Girls (unwed mothers); later it was vacated and vandalized. It was acquired by the City in 1911, partially with money donated by Mrs. Sloat Fassett (the former Jennie Crocker, daughter of Judge and Mrs. E.B.).

The Art Gallery, as it stands today, is one of the finest Italianate (Mannerist Italian Villa) 19th Century structures remaining in the United States.


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>38° 34' 30&quot;</td>
<td>121° 30' 30&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
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LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 2.5 acres

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE:</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY:</th>
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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Jack S. Duke, General Supervisor

ORGANIZATION:

Department of Parks & Recreation, Sacramento

DATE:

July 6, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:

717 K Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Sacramento

STATE:

California

CODE: 06

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [X] State [ ] Local [ ]

Name:

[Signature]

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: August 3, 1970

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: MAY 6 1971

ATTEST:

[Signature]

Keeper of The National Register

Date: MAR 29 1971
ASSessor's Map Bk. 6 - Pg. 18
NOTE - Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses
Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

LATITUDE: 38° 34' 30"
LONGITUDE: 121° 30' 30"

CITY OF SACRAMENTO