

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #: _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code: _____
Other Listings _____
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

*Resource Name or #: 621-625 First Street

P1. Other Identifier:

*P2. .Location: *a. County Solano

b. Address: 621-625 First Street

*c. City: Benicia Zip 94510

d. UTM: N/A

e. USGS Quad: Benicia T2N R3W MDM

*f. Other Locational Data (APN #): 89-115-13

***P3a. Description**

This is a two-story commercial building that was constructed in the 19th century and modified circa 1930-1940. The building is rectangular in plan. The building has a flat roof with a front parapet that has dentil trim. Upper story fenestration consists of a row of one-over-one double hung windows with wood casings and pediments. The sash of the windows is slightly recessed into the casing. Windows on the side elevation are similar. The building has been stuccoed and on the lower story the building façade, from the belt course down, has been tiled over with a black and red ceramic tile in a “moderne” mode. The 19th-century fenestration on the upper front façade has been retained. Windows on the side of the building have been replaced with multi-light metal frame fixed windows. The entry is recessed and has a transom.

***P3b. Resource Attributes:** HP6

*P4. Resources Present: Building Structure Object Site District Element of District

P5b. Description of Photo:

Front façade, view northwest

*P6. Date Constructed/Age: Circa 1880

Prehistoric Historic Both

P5. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



*P7. Owner and Address:

Pam Dixon Trust
161 East D Street
Benicia, CA 94510

*P8. Recorded by:

Carol Roland
Roland-Nawi Associates
4829 Crestwood Way
Sacramento, CA 95822

*P9. Date Recorded: 11-20-04

*P10. Type of Survey: Intensive

Reconnaissance Other

Describe Eligibility Evaluation

*P11. Report Citation: none

*Attachments: NONE Map Sheet Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record Linear Resource Record Archaeological Record District Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record Artifact Record Photograph Record Other (List):

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

*Resource Identifier: 621-625 First Street

*NRHP Status Code: 3D

B1. Historic Name: N/A

B2. Common Name:

B3. Original Use: Commercial

B4. Present Use: Commercial

***B5. Architectural Style:** Italianate Commercial / Moderne Commercial (remodel)

B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown

Date: N/A **Original Location:** same

***B8. Related Features:** none

B9a. Architect: unknown

B9b. Builder: unknown

***B10. Significance: Theme:** Benicia Downtown District **Period of Significance:** 1847-1940 **Property Type:** Single Family **Applicable Criteria:** A / C

This building was probably constructed circa 1885 as a part of a continuous row of commercial buildings and stores that spanned this entire block. According to the Sanborn 1886 map it was used as a shoe store and shoemakers salon. This is the only one of the seven original commercial row buildings that has survived. The 19th century origins of the building are clearly observable in the parapet treatment and upper story windows. The stucco and tile were added to "update" the building sometime between the 1930s and 1950s. The building retains part of its 19th century integrity of design and workmanship, setting and location. However, it has lost some of its integrity of 19th century materials. The 19th century building does not possess enough integrity to qualify for listing as a commercial building from that period. However, the tile work façade, which may well have been introduced within the period of significance, is a good example of the moderne commercial style. Additional research should be carried out to verify the date of alteration and provide other historic information related to the changes. The building, with consideration of its alterations, should contribute to the Downtown Historic District.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: N/A

B12. References: McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred Knopf (1986); Brueggemann, Robert. *Benicia Portrait of an Early California Town: An Architectural History* (San Francisco: 101 Productions (1980); Woodbridge, Sally and Cannon Design Group. *Benicia, California: Downtown Historic Conservation Plan*. City of Benicia, 1990; Sanborn Map Benicia, CA. 1886; 1986 Benicia Historic Inventory form.

