

PRIMARY RECORD

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

*Resource Name or #: 636 First Street

P1. Other Identifier:

*P2. .Location: *a. County Solano

b. Address: 636 First Street

*c. City: Benicia Zip 94510

d. UTM: N/A

e. USGS Quad: Benicia T2N R3W MDM

*f. Other Locational Data (APN #): 89-342-01

*P3a. Description

This is a Victorian commercial building with a lower story storefront and an upper story residential/office space. The building was constructed in the 1880s and was originally a jewelry store. The building has a flat roof with an elaborate eave and cornice treatment. The eave overhang is supported on brackets and the wide cornice is punctuated with applied woodwork in a square motif. A canted bay is located on the second story front façade and is a prominent feature of the building. It is centered between pilasters which demarcate the main store building from the second story entrance. The pilasters exhibit elaborate bracketing and crowns. The second story projects slightly beyond the lower story façade and is supported on brackets. The storefront is typical of its building type and period with a central recessed entrance flanked by canted store windows. The door is glazed with a transom. A second entry is located to the south of the store front. It is recessed with a replacement door and original transom and provides access to the second story. The building is clad with stucco.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP6

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

P5b. Description of Photo:

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



Front façade, view east

*P6. Date Constructed/Age: Circa 1880

Prehistoric Historic Both

*P7. Owner and Address:

One Hart Benicia

Box 966

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: 636 First Street

*NRHP Status Code: 3D

B1. Historic Name: N/A

B2. Common Name:

B3. Original Use: Commercial storefront

B4. Present Use: Commercial

***B5. Architectural Style:** Vernacular

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: Commercial **Applicable Criteria:** A / C

This building appears on the 1886 Sanborn map as a jewelry store. The building retains its character and clearly conveys its period of construction. However, its integrity of materials has been compromised by the addition of stucco cladding and the replacement of the original storefront glazing and the second story entry door. Despite these changes the building still has a strong historic presence and some excellent detailing, especially on the second story façade. The building contributes to the Downtown Historic District and should continue to do so.

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.

