

# PRIMARY RECORD

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

\*Resource Name or #: Southern Pacific Passenger Depot

- P1. Other Identifier: none  
\*P2. .Location: \*a. County Solano  
b. Address: 90 First Street  
\*c. City: Benicia Zip 94510  
d. UTM: N/A  
e. USGS Quad: Benicia T2N R3W MDM  
\*f. Other Locational Data (APN #): 80-200-07

**\*P3a. Description**

This is a Southern Pacific Railroad Depot built according to the company's Standard Plan # 18. The building is wood frame with a multiple gable roof. The western end of the depot building is two-story and originally contained the agent's office and waiting area. The second story was occupied by the residence of the station agent. The eastern portion of the building is the baggage area and has a loading dock on the southern elevation. The two-story portion of the building has a gable roof with wide overhangs supported on knee brace brackets. The gable end is trimmed with a plain fascia. The roof ridge on this part of the building and on the one-story baggage wing has a decorative rail. Wide hipped overhangs cover the lower story of the building. Supported on brackets, these overhangs were for the purpose of sheltering passengers on the exterior. Fenestration consists of multi-light two-over two and two-over four double hung windows. On the upper story the windows are horizontally emphasized and are arranged in a ribbon along the front façade. This ribbon of windows is covered by a shed roof overhang supported on corner brackets. On the lower story the windows are vertically emphasized and occur singly. A square ticket booth is located on the east side of the main entry door and is extensively glazed with a central dispensing window. There is no fenestration in the baggage wing which has double hung sliding industrial doors. The building is clad with clapboard on the lower story and with patterned shingles on the upper. The upper story is faux timbered in a geometric motif.

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



- \*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP17  
\*P4. Resources Present:  Building  Structure  Object  Site  District  
 Element of District  
\*P5b. Description of Photo:  
Front façade, view northeast  
\*P6. Date Constructed/Age: 1902  
 Prehistoric  Historic  Both  
\*P7. Owner and Address:  
City of Benicia  
250 East L 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: Southern Pacific Passenger Depot

\*NRHP Status Code: 3D

**B1. Historic Name:** N/A

**B2. Common Name:** same

**B3. Original Use:** RR Depot

**B4. Present Use:** commercial

\***B5. Architectural Style:** Standard Plan Rail Road Depot

**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

The depot building is significant in the transportation, commercial and economic history of Benicia. It is of particular interest since at Benicia the train was ferried across the Carquinez Straits before resuming a rail journey into Oakland. The building was constructed from a standard Southern Pacific plan. Numerous depots were built using the same design. An exact duplicate of the station stands in nearby Danville. This particular standard plan shows the strong influence of the Craftsman style which was popular from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century through the 1920s. According to the 1986 historical survey, the Benicia Station was originally constructed in Banta, California in 1897 and then dismantled and reconstructed in Benicia in 1902. The railroad abandoned the building in the 1950s. The building is eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources and the National Register of Historic Places. It contributes to the Downtown Benicia 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); Bruegmann, 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.

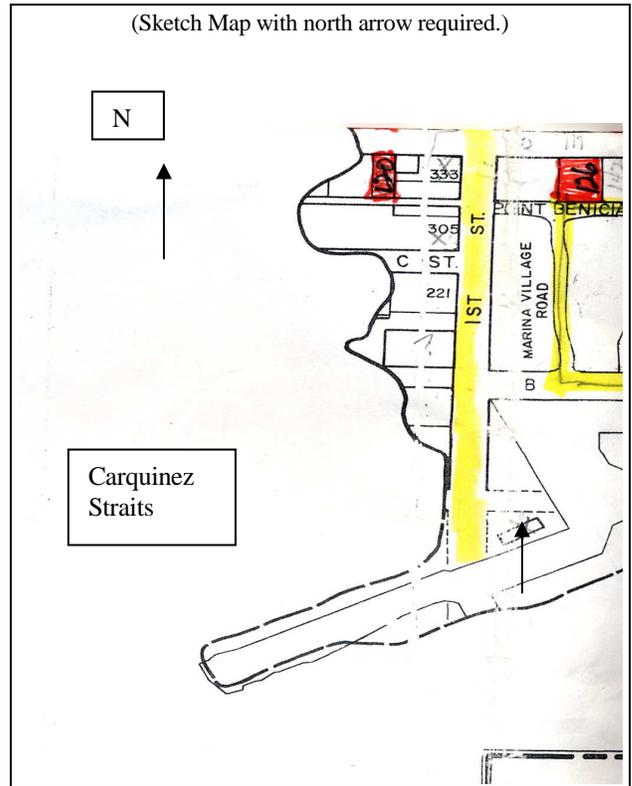
**BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD**

Remarks: N/A

**B14. Evaluator:** Carol Roland, Ph.D.

Roland-Nawi Associates: Preservation Consultants  
4829 Crestwood Way  
Sacramento, CA 95822

**B 15. Date of Evaluation:** 11-22-04



(This space reserved for official comments.)