

PRIMARY RECORD

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

*Resource Name or #: "New" Masonic Lodge

- P1. Other Identifier:**
***P2. .Location: *a. County** Solano
b. Address: 935 First Street
***c. City:** Benicia **Zip** 94510
d. UTM: N/A
e. USGS Quad: Benicia T2N R3W MDM
***f. Other Locational Data (APN #):** 89-043-09

***P3a. Description**

The Masonic Lodge is a two-story rectangular plan building of imposing proportions. Like many fraternal buildings of this period it was occupied on the lower story by retail spaces with the fraternal organizations offices and ceremonial spaces reserved to the second floor. The building has a flat roof. It is visually divided into three bays by vertical trim details. This emphasizes the buildings organization into three shop spaces at the first floor leveled and three symmetrically arranged banks of long arched windows above. The elongated front upper story windows have six lights and are emphasized by applied terra cotta arches which have been covered on the front by stucco. The north façade of the building repeats the tripartite window arrangement on the second story with small terra cotta trimmed window openings on the first floor. The lower shops each have a recessed entry and canted display windows. A vertically emphasized clerestory above the shop windows has been partially covered. The building is of brick masonry construction, but has been partially stuccoed. The blank brick south elevation indicates that at the time of its design and construction it abutted directly against another building.

h*P3b. Resource Attributes: HP13

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

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



P5b. Description of Photo:

Front façade, view north west

***P6. Date Constructed/Age:** 1900

Prehistoric Historic Both

***P7. Owner and Address:**

Benicia Masonic Association
PO Box 611
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: New Masonic Lodge

*NRHP Status Code: 3D

B1. Historic Name: N/A

B2. Common Name:

B3. Original Use: Fraternal organization

B4. Present Use: Commercial

***B5. Architectural Style:** Eclectic

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: Associational/Commercial

Applicable Criteria: A / C

This building replaced the 1850 Masonic Hall. Much larger in size, it indicates the continued importance of fraternal organizations in small communities throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries. Unfortunately the building has been substantially altered by stuccoing of the front and north facades. Other changes include the removal or covering of part of the storefront clerestory and the replacement or veneering of the lower shop walls with used brick. The building has lost a great deal of its integrity as a result of these changes. Despite these changes, it continues to represent an important aspect of the community's history. No further changes should be allowed to the building that do not rehabilitate it to a more accurate historic appearance.

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.

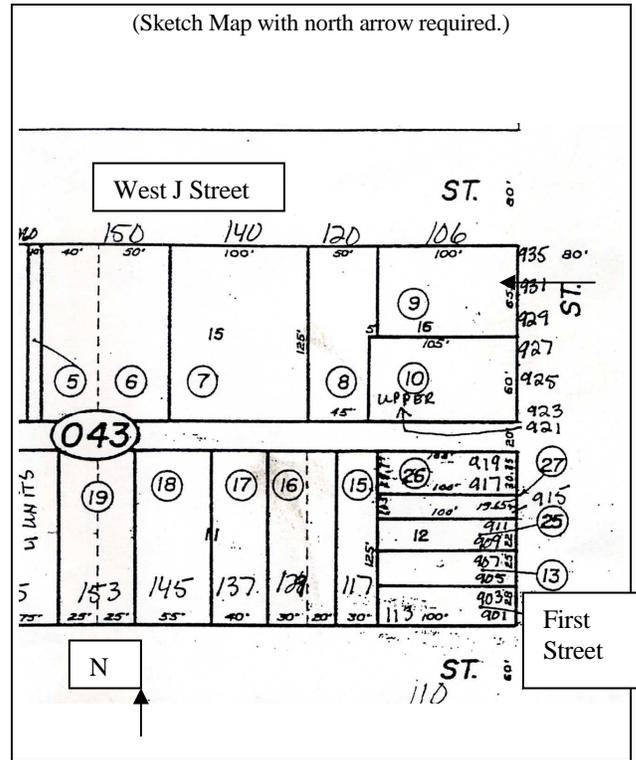
BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

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.)