

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

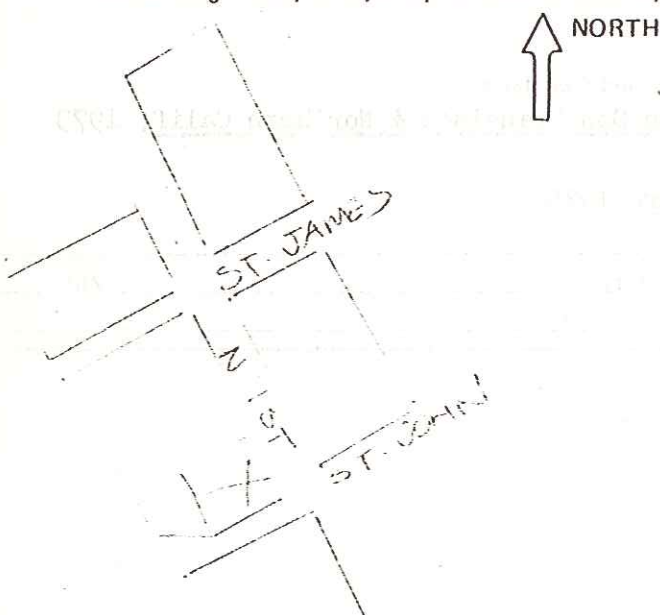
1. Common name: Main Post Office (Old)
2. Historic name, if known: Main Post Office
3. Street or rural address North First St. 105 N. First Street
City: San Jose ZIP: 95112 County: Santa Clara
4. Present owner, if known: U.S. Postal Service Address: 105 North First
City: San Jose ZIP: 95112 Ownership is: Public ☒ Private ☐
5. Present Use: Post Office Original Use: same
Other past uses: none

DESCRIPTION

6. Briefly describe the present physical appearance of the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This building was constructed in 1933 on the site of the old St. James Hotel by Ralph Wyckoff. The Spanish Colonial Revival style is a prime example of the high quality of federal building construction in past decades. The building is noted for the ornate Chingurresque ornament surrounding its twin entrances and the high decorative interior lobby with marble floors, brass lighting fixtures, and wood ceilings. Recently the city has moved the Main Post Office out of the central business district and this building currently serves as the downtown branch, also holding assorted federal offices and courts. The building is rectangular in plan with twin projecting towers at both north and south ends. The red tile roof is low hipped and detailing is provided through the use of stringcourses, modillions and bead and reel under the eaves; and highly ornate window surrounds.

7. Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):



8. Approximate property size:
Lot size (in feet) Frontage 125
Depth 150
or approx. acreage 1.51
9. Condition: (check one)
a. Excellent ☒ b. Good ☐ c. Fair ☐
d. Deteriorated ☐ e. No longer in existence ☐
10. Is the feature a. Altered? ☐ b. Unaltered? ☒
11. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary)
a. Open land ☒ b. Scattered buildings ☐
c. Densely built-up ☐ d. Residential ☐
e. Commercial ☒ f. Industrial ☐
g. Other ☐
12. Threats to site:
a. None known ☒ b. Private development ☐
c. Zoning ☐ d. Public Works project ☐
e. Vandalism ☐ f. Other ☐
13. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s): 11/77

105 N. First

NOTE: The following (Items 14-19) are for structures only.

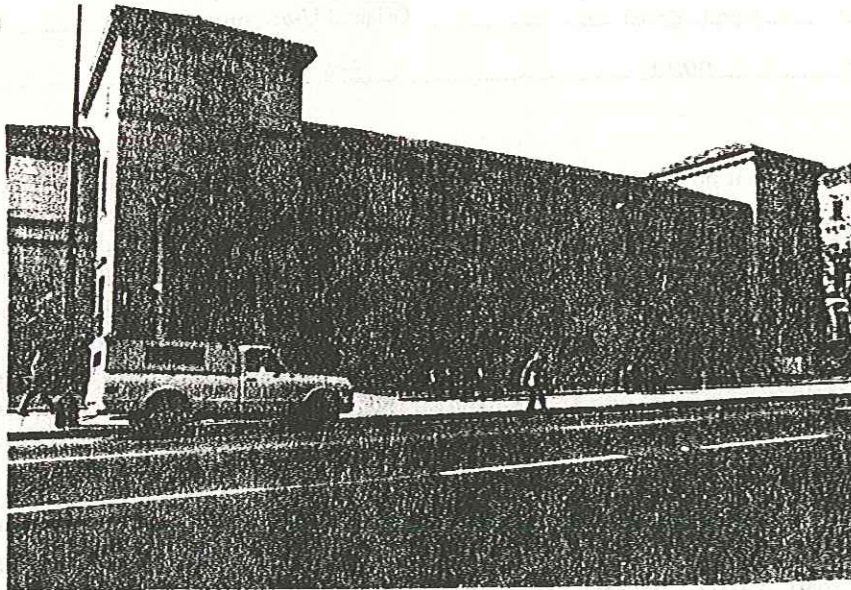
14. Primary exterior building material: a. Stone ☒ b. Brick ☐ c. Stucco ☐ d. Adobe ☐ e. Wood ☐
f. Other ☒ terra cotta covering
15. Is the structure: a. On its original site? ☒ b. Moved? ☐ c. Unknown? ☐
16. Year of initial construction 1933 This date is: a. Factual ☒ b. Estimated ☐
17. Architect (if known): Ralph Wyckoff
18. Builder (if known): unknown
19. Related features: a. Barn ☐ b. Carriage house ☐ c. Outhouse ☐ d. Shed(s) ☐ e. Formal garden(s) ☐
f. Windmill ☐ g. Watertower/tankhouse ☐ h. Other ☐ i. None ☒

SIGNIFICANCE

20. Briefly state history

ed with the site when known):

See item #6.



21. Main theme of the historic resource: (Check only one): a. Architecture ☒ b. Arts & Leisure ☐
c. Economic/Industrial ☐ d. Exploration/Settlement ☐ e. Government ☐ f. Military ☐
g. Religion ☐ h. Social/Education ☐
22. Sources: List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews, and their dates:
Gebhard, David A Guide to Architecture in San Francisco & Northern Calif. 1973
Historical Survey of San Jose 1973
Butler, Phyllis, The Valley of Santa Clara 1975

23. Date form prepared: _____ By (name): _____
Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ Organization: _____

(State Use Only)