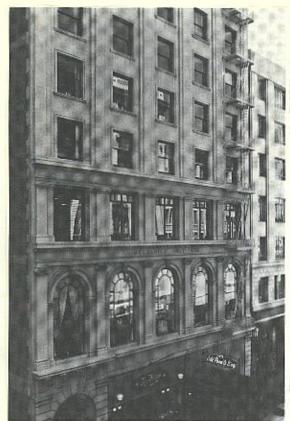
STRUCTURES OF MERIT

BLOCK 311 LOT 13	
ADDRESS 57 POST	
NAME MECHANICS INST.	
HERITAGE SURVEY RATING A	
1976 INVENTORY DAMING 3/3	



R147 MAP II 57-65 Post Street Mechanic's Institute Albert Pissis 1909

One of the state's earliest educational institutions, located at this site since 1866, and an excellent example of a mixed use building whose internal functions are clearly expressed in the external design. The ground floor with its commercial space and monumental entranceway is surmounted by two floors of well-lit library floors, with offices above that. The composition is a three part vertical block. Ornamentation is Renaissance/Baroque. The marble elevator lobby is decorated with an Arthur Mathew's mural and is the endpoint of a very beautiful circular iron and marble stairway. The Mechanic's Institute itself occupies three floors, two of them housing the merged Mechanic's Institute and Mercantile libraries, and the third including one of the oldest chess clubs in America. The rest of the building is occupied by offices. It is a steel frame structure with brick curtain walls. The building is a major San Francisco cultural landmark.

street address

landmark number

ilding type/use/number of floors

ATIONSHIP WITH SURROUNDING BUILDINGS Relationship of setting to building

-2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5

Importance as contribution -2 -1 0 1 2 3(4)5 to a cluster/streetscape

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN VALUATION -2 -1 0 1(2)3 4 5 Facade proportions

Richness/Excellence -2 -1 0 1 2 3(4)5 of detailing/decoration

Unique visual 0 1 2 3 4 5 feature of interest

Example of a rare or unusual style or design

0(1)2345

Overall architectural quality

-2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5

PROPOSED FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION

CORNICE, PARAPET, APPENDAGE Importance of cornice -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5 to building design

Cornice contribution -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5 to streetscape

FACADE CONDITION Physical condition -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5

Paint/Material -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5 color

REMODELING Appropriateness -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5 of improvements

KOMS

date

Field Notes

WESTERN CARLOADING

Review Notes

Junior League Listing text index file Northern California Guide Other Listing

