

PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____
HRI # _____
Trinomial _____
NRHP Status Code 3S
Other Listings LOCAL: Category II in Article 11
Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 4 *Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) 3701059

P1. Other Identifier Hotel Whitcomb/ Ramada Hotel San Francisco

*P2. Location: Not for Publication Unrestricted

*a. County: San Francisco

and P2b and P2c or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad:

Date:

*c. Address: 1215-1231 Market Street

City: San Francisco

Zip: 94103

d. UTM: (Give more than one ofr large and/or linear resources) Zone _____; _____mE/ _____mN

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number: 3701059

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

The historic Temporary City Hall is an eight-story, steel frame and reinforced concrete hotel building on the southeast, or south, side of Market Street southwest of Eighth Street. The facade composition is a three-part vertical block, which pilasters divide into three sections. Windows are double-hung, widely spaced, and arched in the top story. The cornice is prominent, with moldings and modillions. Cladding is painted exterior plaster. The top story/frieze and the base pilasters are decorated with Renaissance-style bas reliefs. Apart from storefront and signage changes, the building appears to retain integrity as to location, design, materials, workmanship, and association.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP5. Hotel/Motel; HP14. Government Building

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

P5a. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects

*P5b. Photo (view, date, accession #

Market Street elevation, looking south

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources

Historic Prehistoric Both

1911

per "Splendid Survivors," 223

*P7. Owner and Address:

Eastopen Inc.
1231 Market Street
San Francisco, Ca 94103
P--private

*P8. Recorded by

Anne Bloomfield
2229 Webster Street
San Francisco, CA 94115

*P9. Date Recorded:

08/11/1997

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none")

*Attachments

BSOR

Photograph Record

Sketch Map

Archaeological Record

NONE

Location Map

Continuation Sheet Other...

Artifact Record

District Record

Linear Feature Record

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

*NRHP Status Code 3S

Page 1 of 4 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 3701059

B1. Historic Name Temporary City Hall, Later Hotel Whitcomb

B2. Common Name Ramada Hotel San Francisco

B3. Original Use City Hall B4. Present Use: C-Commercial

*B5. Architectural Style Chicago style with Renaissance/Baroque ornament

***B6. Construction History**

Built 1911. Converted to hotel use, shortly after 1915. Multiple storefront changes, dates unknown, now a consistent storefront system.

*B7. Moved? No Yes Date? _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features none

B9a. Architect Wright, Rushforth & Cahill unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme Development of Mid-Market area Area: San Francisco

Period of Significance 1870-1947 Property Type Large Commercial Bldgs Applicable Criteria A

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity)

The Temporary City Hall Building appears eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A, patterns of events, because it represents the lengthy decision-making that finally arrived at the city's Beaux Arts Civic Center. After the 1906 earthquake and fire had destroyed the previous City Hall, there was much debate over whether to implement Daniel Burnham's Plan, where to place the new City Hall, how much space to give it, what other government uses or buildings should surround it, etc. A trio of stellar local architects, John Galen Howard, Frederick H. Meyer, and John Reid Jr., were commissioned to make a recommendation. The present scheme, which they recommended, was officially adopted in 1912. Meanwhile, by about 1910, it was obvious that the permanent City Hall was some years away, and that the very temporary accommodations at the southeast corner of McAllister and Hyde were unsatisfactory. (continued)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP5. Hotel/Motel; HP14. Government Building

*B12. References: Corbett, SPLENDID SURVIVORS, San Francisco, California Living Books, 1979.
ARCHITECT & ENGINEER, 23/3 (Jan. 1911), 93.
S.F. MUNICIPAL REPORTS, 1911-12, 66, 1077,

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

B13. Remarks

*B14. Evaluator Anne Bloomfield

*Date of Evaluation 08/11/1997

(This space reserved for official comments)

CONTINUATION SHEET

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*Recorded by: Anne Bloomfield

Date 08/11/1997

Continuation Update

. Temporary City Hall Whitcomb Hotel Ramada Hotel San Francisco

Photo right:

Detail: capital of pilaster

(typical) at base of building

9/14/1997 (ABCM330/18)

Photo below:

Detail: cornice/frieze

9/14/1997 (ABCM330/19)

B10: Significance (continued)

Hence private parties had Wright Rushforth & Cahill design this monumental but Temporary City Hall building across Market Street. Disposition of the various city departments was explained in "Architect & Engineer" in January 11. The building was intended for conversion later to a first-class hotel (named The Whitcomb for the landowner) after the permanent City Hall was built. Thus the building's period of significance is 1911-1915, for the years when it was used as City Hall. The significant date is 1911, for its construction. The area of significance is politics/government. The building is designated the next-to-highest category of the Downtown Plan (Article 11 of the S.F. Planning Code).

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*Recorded by: Anne Bloomfield

Date 08/11/1997

Continuation Update

Note: 1997 Photos no longer available, all photos by Tim Kelley Consulting



Market and southwest facades. 3/7/2011.
103_3966.JPG



Market Street facade. 3/7/2011. 103_3963.
JPG



Detail of upper primary facade. 3/7/2011.
103_3964.JPG



Detail of first story storefronts.
3/7/2011. 103_3965.JPG



Northeast facade from 8th Street. 3/7/2011.
103_3960.JPG

CONTINUATION SHEET

Primary #
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Trinomial

Page 1 of 1 Resource Name or # (Assigned by Recorder) 3701059

*Recorded by: Tim Kelley Consulting, LLC Date 3/7/2011

Continuation Update

1215-1231 Market Street does not appear to have been altered since the time of previous survey and documentation, which noted storefront and signage alterations. It therefore retains integrity.

The building was previously evaluated on a DPR 523: Building, Structure, Object Record and was determined eligible for the National Register based on its association with important events. This determination of "individually eligible for the National Register" appears to still be accurate.



View of northwest facade. 103_3963.JPG 3/7/2011



View of northeast facade. 103_3960.JPG
3/7/2011



Detail of storefronts. 103_3965.JPG
3/7/2011