

State of California — The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary # _____

HRI # _____

Trinomial _____

NRHP Status Code _____

Other _____

Listings _____

Review Code _____ Reviewer _____ Date _____

Page 1 of 2 *Resource name(s) or number (assigned by recorder) 666 Folsom Street

P1. Other Identifier: A. T. & T. Headquarters

*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 Location: ☐ Not for Publication ☒ Unrestricted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: San Francisco North Date: 1994

*c. Address: 666 FOLSOM ST City: San Francisco Zip: 94105

d. UTM: Zone: 10 mE/ mN (G.P.S.)

e. Other Locational Data: Assessor's Parcel Number (Map, Block, Lot): Parcel #: 3735013

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

666 Folsom Street occupies a rectangular 37,195 s.f. lot on the northwest corner of Folsom and Hawthorne streets, with additional frontage on Clementina Street and Kaplan Lane to the north. Built 1962-64, the thirteen-story, reinforced-concrete frame commercial building is designed in the Brutalist style. The rectangular-plan building, clad in pre-cast concrete panels, is capped by a flat roof studded with communications equipment. The primary facade, which faces Folsom Street to the south, is divided into ten bays by thick concrete fins. The facade facing Clementina Street and Kaplan Lane is identical in appearance to the primary facade. Both facades have open arcades strongly fortified behind later steel fencing and concertina wire. The upper floors are articulated by a grid of window openings containing fixed single-pane aluminum windows with smoked glass. Each window is surrounded by a cast concrete bezel molding and surmounted by a recessed spandrel panel. The facade terminates with a simple concrete soffit molding. The building was built at the same time as its neighbor to the north at 40 Hawthorne Street. The building appears to be in good condition.

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (list attributes and codes) HP7. 3+ Story Commercial Building

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



P5b. Photo: (view and date)

View toward north, 9.27.07,
100_4679.JPG

*P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:

☒ Historic ☐ Prehistoric ☐ Both
1962-64: San Francisco Chronicle
(09.13.1962)

*P7. Owner and Address:

Hawthorne Folsom Place LLC
Property Tax - Dept 207
P O Box 4900
Scottsdale, AZ 85261

*P8. Recorded by

Christopher VerPlanck
Kelley & VerPlanck
2912 Diamond Street #330
San Francisco, CA 94131

*P9. Date Recorded:

10.26.07

*P10. Survey Type:

Intensive: Transit Center District EIR

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

*Attachments: ☐ None ☐ Location Map ☐ Sketch Map ☐ Continuation Sheet ☒ Building, Structure, and Object Record

☐ Archaeological Record ☐ District Record ☐ Linear Feature Record ☐ Milling Station Record ☐ Rock Art Record

☐ Artifact Record ☐ Photograph Record ☐ Other (list)

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

*NRHP Status Code: 3CS

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*Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) 666 Folsom Street

B1. Historic Name:	Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Headquarters		
B2. Common Name:	A T & T Building, 666 Folsom		
B3. Original Use:	Office Building	B4. Present Use:	Office Building
*B5. Architectural Style:	Brutalist		

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)
666 Folsom Street was constructed in 1961 by Pacific Telephone & Telegraph according to the designs of architect John Carl Warnecke.

*B7. Moved? ☒ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown Date: Original Location:

*B8. Related Features: 40 Hawthorne Street

B9a. Architect: John Carl Warnecke b. Builder: Unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme: Commercial/Industrial Development Area: South of Market: Transit Center District

Period of Significance:	1961	Property Type:	Office Building	Applicable Criteria	1 & 3
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(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

666 Folsom, and its neighbor at 40 Hawthorne Street, were constructed in 1961 as the new headquarters of Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co. Since the 1920s, PT & T had been headquartered in the Art Deco skyscraper at 140 New Montgomery Street (also within the survey area). The new \$15 million headquarters, designed by well-known California modernist architect John Carl Warnecke, was built to consolidate the company's operations—then spread out among thirteen different facilities, in one central location. The building was constructed with its own fall-out shelter and was applauded as the first major redevelopment project in the South of Market since the Depression. John Carl Warnecke was born in 1919 in Oakland, California. He received his BA from Stanford University, and entered Harvard University's architectural school in 1941, receiving his Bachelor of Architecture in 1942. Warnecke worked as a draftsman for his father's architecture firm until 1947, when he opened his own office in San Francisco, becoming one of the most successful contemporary architects, and gaining national and international acclaim for his designs of numerous prestigious structures, such as the pedestrian mall in front of the White House. A close friend and confidante of Jacqueline Kennedy, Warnecke was chosen to design the memorial of John F. Kennedy at Arlington Cemetery in 1963. Warnecke's other architectural accomplishments include the Hawaiian State Capitol building in Honolulu, the American embassy in Thailand, and libraries for the U.S. Naval Academy, Stanford University, and the University of California at Berkeley and Santa Cruz. Warnecke is still active today.

666 Folsom appears eligible for listing in the California Register under Criterion 1 (Events) for its prominent and precedent-setting role in the post-war-era redevelopment of the South of Market and for its association with the locally significant Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co. It also appears eligible under Criterion 3 (Design/Construction) as the work of a master and as an excellent and early example of the Brutalist style in San Francisco.

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP6. 1-3 story commercial building

*B12. References:

San Francisco City Directories
San Francisco Architectural Heritage, Building files
Sanborn Maps: 1899, 1913, 1950
"12-Story HQ for Bay Area." *San Francisco Chronicle* (December 20, 1961).
"Phone Launches a Building." *San Francisco Chronicle* (September 13, 1962).

B13. Remarks:

Transit Center District EIR

*B14. Evaluator: Christopher VerPlanck

*Date of Evaluation: 04.03.08

(This space reserved for official comments.)

(Sketch Map with north arrow required.)

