State of California -- The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Ser. No: 0009-5667-2

HABS: HAER: NR: 4 SHL: Loc: 0002
UTM: A: B:
C: D:

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common Name: City Hall
2. Historic Name: Emigrant Jane Building, later known as Rolleri Building
3. Street: 489 Main Street
   City: Placerville, California Zip: 95667 County: El Dorado
4. Parcel Number: 01-221-16
5. Present Owner: City of Placerville Address: 487 Main Street
   City: Placerville, California Zip: 95667 Ownership is: Public
6. Present use: City Offices Original Use: Hotel

DESCRIPTION

7a. Architectural Style:
7b. Briefly describe the present physical description of te site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

This building shares a common wall with the building on the left, and is rectangular in shape with a square-shaped addition on the rear. It is a two-story building with a full basement under the original part of the building. It is difficult to tell what type of material was used in the construction of the original building; however, it appears to be constructed of natural slate, and later plastered over. The roof is a low gable with a decorative parapet front, and with a composition shingle roof with a narrow horizontal moulding trim. The second floor windows consist of two tall, narrow, double hung doors with a semi-circular transom. The ground floor consists of one semi-eliptical window and one door, both unremarked in their trim. One narrow horizontal moulded band is at the top of the second floor. The rear addition is covered with tin siding, and has plain unremarked windows. A wide, but simple moulding seperates the floors with a large wood moulding at the top. The front door is off set to the right and void of detail, and has a semi-circular top. A porch extends from the second floor in front, the entire length of the building, and a smaller porch is located on the rear of the building. The top front parapet has an eagle with wings spred, and the letters "J. S. 1861".

8. Construction date: Estimated 1861
9. Architect: Unknown
10. Builder: Unknown
11. Approximate property size (in feet), Frontage: 21.4' Depth: 91.74'
12. Dates of enclosed photographs: 1931, 1983

13. Condition. Good
14. Alterations: 30x33 square foot addition in rear
15. Surroundings: Commercial
16. Threats to site: None known
17. Is the structure: on its original site? Yes
18. Related features:

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

On August 4, 1859, Moses Miller placed a Mechanics Lien against Jane Johnson in the amount of $221.89 for labor and materials used in the construcion of a building situated near Stony Point, on the north side of Main Street. The building measured 19'10", and ran back 60'. Apparently the building was finally finished in 1861, according to the date plate at the top of the building. According to local legend, the property was first purchased by Mary Jane Shoyers, often referred to as "Emigrant Jane" who reportedly crossed the plains with a band of horses she sold in "Hangtown". The money obtained from the sale of the horses was used to purchase this property. Emigrant Jane appears to have also been known as Mary Jane Johnson; prior to 1874, she married W. D. Allison, and was living with her husband in Santa Cruz County when she sold the porperty to Joseph Rolleri, Febuary 9, 1876. On July 14, 1913, Placerville was once again visited by fire, leaving some of its beautiful buildings gutted by the flames. The Rolleri building, as it was known at the time, was gutted by the flames, with only the walls of the beautiful building remaining. The building, as it is seen today, was finished during the latter part of 1913.

20. Main theme of this historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance).
    1. Economic/Industrial 2. Exploration and Settlement
21. Source: (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).
    1. El Dorado County Recorder's Office, Official Records, Mechanics Liens.
    2. Mountain Democrat (Newspaper), Placerville, California
    3. SCHLAPPI/FERGUSON, Jane Schlappi, Marilyn Ferguson. A Walking Tour of Historic Placerville. Heritage Association, Placrville, California, 1973.
22. Date form prepared: 30 May 1984
    By (name): Conrad Montgomery, Betty C. Laarveld
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