NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Haslett Warehouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Haslett Warehouse

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
680 Beach Street

CITY OR TOWN:
San Francisco

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object

OWNERSHIP
☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both

STATUS
☒ Occupied ☒ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ Yes: ☒ Restricted ☒ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
☒ Agricultural ☒ Government ☐ Park ☐ Transportation ☒ Commercial
☒ Commercial ☒ Industrial ☐ Private Residence ☐ Other (Specify)
☒ Educational ☒ Military ☐ Religious ☒
☒ Entertainment ☒ Museum ☐ Scientific

3. OWNERSHIP

OWNER'S NAME:
State of California - Department of General Services

4. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Recorder's Office

5. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Junior League of San Francisco, Inc. Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1968
☒ Federal ☐ State ☒ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
San Francisco Public Library, Special Collections Room

ENTRY NUMBER
MAR 28 1975

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DATA SHEET

PH 0088471

PUBLIC PARK REGISTRATION

See Instructions

NATIONAL REGISTER

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Fronting on three streets and the Cannery courtyard, the facades of this four-story brick structure rise to a basic uniform height but due to the slope of adjacent streets, the number of stories visible above grade varies from two to four. Along Jefferson Street and the courtyard, all four stories are exposed. Along most of the Beach Street frontage, three stories are visible along a depressed, landscaped sidewalk. At the extreme westerly end of Beach at its intersection with Hyde, only two floors rise above grade, the lower (actually third floor) housing the principal entrance to the building. Because Hyde Street has a continuous slope from Beach to Jefferson, the number of stories in this facade ranges from two to four.

Detailing of the street facades is handsomely achieved through decorative brickwork and the original rhythmic window arrangement, alterations to the latter notwithstanding. The decorative brickwork (save for window cornices), occurs only above the lowest story, consists of pilasters and cornices. On Hyde Street, the pilasters divide the facade into twelve evenly spaced bays containing two windows per floor. On Beach and Jefferson Streets, the facades are similarly arranged into five bays with three windows at each floor level. Raised brick cornices are found at the second and fourth floor levels and also at the roof line, above which a parapet rises. On the facades facing Hyde Street and the courtyard the parapet height exceeds that found on Beach and Jefferson Streets. In this additional height, interruptions or crenels appear above alternate pilasters on Hyde Street. They are also reflected in the courtyard parapet and, except for window cornices, are the only decorative brickwork embellishment on this facade.

Deep-set, the original windows are all relatively tall and narrow with those on the lowest floor having the greatest height. All are surmounted by flattened arched cornices of brick patterned in header courses into which are inset simulated keystones of bricks in soldier courses.

Recent alterations have affected the fenestration; nevertheless, the original pattern is still discernible through the cornices which remain intact. These changes have resulted most noticeably in the installation of short, wider rectangular windows on the upper floors on all facades except that facing Beach. Enlarged windows or openings topped by a flattened arched cornice also appear occasionally in the regular window pattern. These are found on either side of the main entry,
on the third floor facing the courtyard near Jefferson and on the same facade at second floor level opening onto balconies overlooking the courtyard. The latter in particular, may be original—directly below their sill level regularly spaced recesses into the brick wall are seen. These apparently at one time supported beams which may have been structural members of a loading platform no longer extant. The 1919 Sanborn map indicates that such a platform once existed in this area between the building and a spur track, both of which were removed to develop the courtyard.

Currently, the two upper floors are occupied by office uses. The lower floors are used for storage and shops by the California Department of Parks and Recreation in conjunction with the maritime exhibit on the Hyde Street Pier.

The structure is heavily stubbed with tie rod anchor plates each embellished with a five pointed star. Other decorative elements consist of black, closely space gas lights on standards in the sidewalk area of Hyde Street. Identical bracketed lanterns flank the principal entry and are found on the pilasters of the Beach Street facade they also mark the secondary entrance on Jefferson Street.
Although a 20th Century structure, the building exemplifies the
genre of warehouses which were once predominant in the northern
waterfront area of San Francisco. Because many have been
razed, this building, at this location is of utmost signifi-
cance to the Fisherman's Wharf area. Located opposite the
terminal of the Hyde Street Cable car, it establishes—or has
the capacity to do so—the character of the area for those
arriving. It calls to mind the past waterfront uses; it sets
the standard for scale and proportion in the area, and its
straightforward expression of brick as a building material is
a preview of what is to be found in the vicinity. It is a
most fitting backdrop not only for the activity of the cable
car turntable, but for the entire park. When examined in the
total context of the area, it is difficult to imagine a more
appropriate structure.

The building now known as Haslett Warehouse was built in 1907-09
as the warehouse for the Cannery. The architect was William S.
Mooser, Jr., the same architect responsible for the major
portion of the buildings in the Ghirardelli Square complex.

William S. Mooser, Jr. was one of the most prominent Bay Area
architects in the early part of the century. A native
San Franciscan and son of the local architect William Mooser,
best known for his Pioneer Mills, still an important part of
the Ghirardelli Square complex, Mooser, Jr., designed the New
Western Hotel and collaborated on the designs for the Second-
Empire styled French Hospital building of 1894. From 1900 to
1904 Mooser, Jr. served as San Francisco's first city architect.
He also headed the first Bureau of Buildings, drafting the
first building code for the city and issuing the first building
permits.
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES

DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.29

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES

DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

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LATITUDE

Degrees

Minutes

Seconds

LONGITUDE

Degrees

Minutes

Seconds

NAME AND TITLE:
Edward N. Michael, Secretary

ORGANIZATION
Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board

STREET AND NUMBER: 100 Larkin Street

CITY OR TOWN: San Francisco, California

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: FEB 13 1975

ATTEST:

FEB 13 1975

3.28.75
8. Statement of Significance (continuation Sheet 1)

This building was commissioned by the California Fruit Canner's Association at the same time as the Cannery across the courtyard. Until 1936, the peaches, asparagus, peas, cherries, tomatoes and apricots were brought to San Francisco by riverboat and ferry from the interior valleys of California and after processing on the Cannery assembly line were shuttled across the street via a short railroad line for storage here where they awaited distribution. When the company merged in 1916 with three other canners to form the California Packing Company, foods bore the Del Monte label.

By 1936 California Packing began phasing out its canning operations next door. A number of factors consorted to convince the company to move their headquarters to the East Bay. Now established across the Bay, closer to its rural labor pool and to the transportation facilities which would speed its goods to outlets in the eastern section of the country, California Packing Company converted the former Cannery to warehouse use. From 1937-1948 both the Cannery and the present Haslett Warehouse served as storage space for the company's goods.

The building was purchased in 1948 by the Haslett Warehouse Company to expand its chain of 16 warehouses. A leader in the warehouse business in San Francisco since 1878, Haslett used this "harbor warehouse" for storing public goods. Later the building was also a Bonded Warehouse, the Haslett Company taking over this business and the ensuing accounts from the near-by Seawall Warehouse (now demolished).

Over the years the warehouse has sheltered many unusual items. For 13 years, from 1930 to 1943, the numbered and disassembled pieces of an Italian monastery acquired by William Randolph Hearst, reposed within before being transferred to another waiting post behind the Japanese Tea Gardens in Golden Gate Park.

Shortly after World War II, Haslett Warehouse served as a mortuary--the bodies of deceased Chinese bound for burial in their homeland were detained at the warehouse until brokers determined that a full cargo load could depart for China. The warehouse was also used to store imported automobiles, tires and, until 1948, numerous items from China.

In 1963 the Haslett Company sold the warehouse to the State of California which intended to convert the distinguished building to a Railroad and Locomotive Museum. For various reasons the conversion was never realized and the State has more recently leased the building to private business on a temporary basis.
### NAME

**COMMON:** Haslett Warehouse  
**AND/OR HISTORIC:** Haslett Warehouse

### LOCATION

**STREET AND NUMBER:** 680 Beach Street  
**CITY OR TOWN:** San Francisco,  
**STATE:** California  
**CODE:** 06  
**COUNTY:** San Francisco  
**CODE:** 075

### PHOTO REFERENCE

**PHOTO CREDIT:** Jeremy Kotas  
**DATE OF PHOTO:** 12/30/74  
**NEGATIVE FILED AT:** San Francisco, Department of City Planning

### IDENTIFICATION

Southeast corner of building and eastern facade facing courtyard; View looking north from Beach Street

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Form No. 10-301c
UNIVERS STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM  
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)
### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

#### PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

*Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph*

| **STATE** | California |
|**COUNTY** | San Francisco |

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

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#### 1. NAME

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#### 2. LOCATION

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- **STATE:** California

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- **DATE OF PHOTO:** 12/30/74
- **NEGATIVE FILED AT:** San Francisco Department of City Planning

#### 4. IDENTIFICATION

**DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.**

Southwest corner of building, western facade facing Hyde Street, looking north from Beach Street

**PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

# 3 93
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)*

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<td>Western facade facing Hyde Street, looking south from Jefferson Street</td>
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**STATE**

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**COUNTY**

San Francisco

**ENTRY NUMBER**

Mar. 28, 1975

**DATE OF PHOTO**

12/30/74

**NEGATIVE FILED AT**

San Francisco Department of City Planning

**PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**