



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No. 717

HEARING DATE: OCTOBER 16, 2013

Date: October 8, 2013
Case No.: **2013.1426U**
Project Address: **1 Kearny Street (Mutual Savings Bank Building)**
Zoning: C-3-0 (Downtown-Office) and C-3-R (Downtown-Retail)
150-X and 80-130-F Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 0312/031
Project Sponsor: Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D., State Historic Preservation Officer
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ADOPTING FINDINGS RECOMMENDING TO THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER THAT 1 KEARNY STREET (MUTUAL SAVINGS BANK BUILDING), LOT 031 IN ASSESSOR'S BLOCK 0312, BE NOMINATED TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES AND THAT, SUBJECT TO MINOR REVISIONS, THE OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROCESS THE NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, On October 7, 2013, Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D., State Historic Preservation Officer, forwarded a request to the San Francisco Planning Department (hereinafter "Department") for review and comment on the nomination of 1 Kearny Street, also known as the Mutual Savings Bank Building, on Lot 031 in Assessor's Block 0312, to the National Register of Historic Places (hereinafter "National Register").

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the Certified Local Government Agreement between the Office of Historic Preservation (hereinafter "OHP") and the City and County of San Francisco, the Historic Preservation Commission (hereinafter "Commission") is provided with a forty-five (45) day review and comment period to provide written comments to the OHP before the State Historical Resources Commission takes action on the above-stated National Register nomination.

WHEREAS, The National Register is the official list of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation. The National Register's criteria for evaluating the significance of properties were

designed to recognize the accomplishments of all peoples who have made a contribution to the Nation's heritage in the areas of Events, Persons, Design/Construction, and Information Potential. The four National Register criteria are designed to guide state and local governments, federal agencies and others in evaluating potential entries into the National Register.

WHEREAS, At its hearing on October 16, 2013, the Commission, acting in its capacity as San Francisco's Certified Local Government Commission, reviewed the nomination of 1 Kearny Street, the Mutual Savings Bank Building, to the National Register.

WHEREAS, In reviewing the nomination, the Commission has had available for its review and consideration reports, photographs, and other materials pertaining to the nomination contained in the Department's case file, and has reviewed and heard testimony and received materials from interested parties during the public hearing on the Project.

WHEREAS, According to the nomination's summary, 1 Kearny Street, the Mutual Savings Bank Building, is locally significant under National Register Criterion C (Design/Construction) for being a rare example of a turn-of-the-century multi-story banking tower; for being one of the finest expressions of the French Renaissance Revival style in downtown San Francisco; for being the earliest example of a Postmodern contextual addition to a historic building in downtown San Francisco; and for representing the work of two masters: William Curlett and Charles Moore.

WHEREAS, The Commission recognizes that the Mutual Savings Bank is already locally designated per Article 11 of the Planning Code as a Category I (Significant) building, and agrees that the property is locally significant under National Register Criteria C (Design/Construction), the nomination should nevertheless include a discussion of the building's historic integrity, particularly as it relates the 2013 addition designed by Charles F. Bloszies.

WHEREAS, The Commission recognizes that the Mutual Savings Bank is an extremely rare survivor of the 1906 Earthquake and Fire, and that the building's steel frame was a crucial aspect of its ability to remain standing, the nomination should therefore include a brief discussion of the Mutual Savings Bank's structural system, including a notation that the building's floor slabs, ceilings and columns incorporated systems and materials designed by the Roebling Construction Company.

WHEREAS, The Commission relies on National Register nominations as vital documentation and evidence for the significance of historic resources in San Francisco, the nomination would benefit from additional minor revisions and clarifications as outlined in the Planning Department's National Register Nomination Case Report.

WHEREAS, Properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places are automatically included in the California Register of Historical Resources and afforded consideration in accordance with state and local environmental review procedures.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby supports the nomination of 1 Kearny Street, the Mutual Savings Bank Building, but **recommends** that it be revised with information regarding the building's steel frame construction, as well as a discussion of its historic integrity. The Commission **further recommends** that the nomination include minor revisions and clarifications as outlined in the Planning Department's National Register Nomination Case Report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, subject to these revisions, the Historic Preservation Commission hereby **recommends** that the property located at 1 Kearny Street, the Mutual Savings Bank Building, located on Lot 031 in Assessor's Block 0312, be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places, and that the Office of Historic Preservation process the National Register nomination.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby directs its Recording Secretary to transmit this Motion, and other pertinent materials in the case file 2013.1426U to the State Historic Preservation Officer.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Motion was **Adopted** by the Historic Preservation Commission on October 16, 2013.

Jonas P. Ionin
Acting Commission Secretary

AYES: A. Hyland, E. Johnck, D. Matsuda, J. Pearlman, A. Wolfram

NAYS:

ABSENT: R. Johns

RECUSED: K. Hasz

ADOPTED: October 16, 2013