

Woelffel Cannery
10120 Imperial Avenue
Monta Vista Vicinity
Santa Clara County
California

HABS No. CA-2099

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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Architectural and Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

WOELFFEL CANNERY

HABS No. CA-2099

Location: 10120 Imperial Avenue
Cupertino (Monta Vista Vicinity) Santa Clara, California

USGS Cupertino Quadrangle, Universal Transverse
Mercator Coordinates: 10.58400.4130790

Present Owner: Measure Corporation, One Results Way
Cupertino, CA 95014

Present Occupant: Vacant

Present Use: None

Significance: This structure believed to have been built in the early 1920s, was purchased by Richard Woelffel in 1927. The only cannery in the western side of the county, its roofline was subsequently changed to its present configuration to facilitate lighting and ventilation. The old boiler is still intact on the interior.

PART I. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This wooden structure is an example of an early cannery and is faced with possible demolition in the near future to make way for industrial expansion.
2. Condition of Fabric: Poor.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: This one story, rectangular structure contains some 25400 square feet of floor space.
2. Foundation: Concrete, with wooden piers on concrete foundation in the center.
3. Walls: Wooden siding, painted white.
4. Structural system, framing: Wood frame construction, with Howe saw-tooth trusses supported by large wooden columns in the center bays.
5. Porches, stoops, balconies, bulkheads, etc: There is a small wooden stoop with wooden steps on the west facade. The open riser, open-string steps have a simple wooden handrail that extends up and continues around the stoop.

There is a large concrete dock on the north and east sides. A ramp leads from the east face of the building down to grade. There is a large wooden receiving dock along the south side of the building, with several large service doors. A small concrete ramp on the west facade has a wooden railing and leads into the cannery.

6. Chimneys: There are several large metal fluss projecting through the roof. The large metal stack from the boiler is through the roof near the left rear side.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Large service door around the building are wooden with wooden surrounds. The sliding doors have metal tracks. Entrance doors are two panel wooden, wooden surrounds and sills.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Wooden windows have six-over-six double-hung sashes, wooden surrounds and sills. Wooden windows in the saw-tooth have four-light awning sashes, wooden surrounds and sills. Along the south face of the building above the door head and at the eaves, there is a screen opening extending the length of the building, used in ventilation in conjunction with the awning windows in the sawtooth.
8. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: The gable roofs and the, saw-tooth roofs are covered with asphalt roofing.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Open eaves, with wooden gutters and metal downspouts.
 - c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: There is a small square, wooden tower near the center of the building. It has a hip roof with asphalt covering.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The entrance on the west facade leads into a large open room. There is a doorway on the east wall leading into the boiler room. There are several windows along the west wall. The boiler room has windows along the north wall and a door to the exterior on the east. There is a concrete firewall along the south side. The door from the entrance room on the south wall leads into the large cannery. There are service doors on the west and south walls. Across the east wall, leading down a ramp is another large room, opening into the cannery. To the right on the east are a small office and toilets.
2. Stairways: There is a short flight of closed-string wooden steps leading from the cannery into a lower cannery room. There is a simple wooden handrail.

3. Wall and ceiling finish: Exposed wooden structure walls and ceilings. Wooden walls in the office and toilet are painted.
4. Flooring: Concrete floor poured over wood framing.
5. Doorways and doors: Wooden doorways have wooden panel doors.
6. Mechanical:
 - a. Plumbing: Modern plumbing fixtures
 - b. Heating: No heating system
 - c. Electrical: All lighting fixtures have been removed
 - d. Boiler: The large metal boilers are encased in brick.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The cannery sits on the east side of the street, facing west. There are railroad tracks along the east side, with a siding. Small residential structures are across the street on the west. Industrial and commercial structures are on the other sides. There is a chain-link fence around the property. On the north side is a large redwood tank, badly deteriorating, set up on concrete piers. There are several concrete foundations where buildings have been. Two corrugated metal warehouses with shed roofs are immediately behind the cannery.
2. Outbuildings: To the north of the cannery are a small wooden frame office and garage. Both have narrow board wooden siding, gable roof covered with asphalt shingles and concrete foundation. Wooden windows in the office have one-over-one double-hung sashes. The garage doors are wooden and have a six-light fixed glass panel along the top. There is a small concrete porch on the west side of the office, with a simple wooden rail extending around it. The entrance door is wooden with three panels below a glass panel. Both are in fair condition.

Prepared by: John P. White
Project Supervisor
August 1980

PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION:

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service's National Architectural and Engineering Record in cooperation with the County of Santa Clara, California. Under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS and Kenneth L. Anderson, Jr., Principal Architect, the project was completed during the summer of 1980 at the HABS Field Office, Santa Clara, California by John P. White, Project Supervisor (Associate Professor of Architecture Texas Tech. University); David T. Marsh, Jr., Project Foreman (Howard University); Jeffery Flemming, Project Historian (University of Chicago); Jane Lidz, Architect/Photographer; and student Architects Kimberley E. Harden (Auburn University); Melody S. Linger (University of Florida); and Mathew Poe (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University).