

The City of Seattle

## Landmarks Preservation Board

400 Yesler Building  
~~910 Xerox Building~~ Seattle, Washington 98104 • (206) 625-4501

LPB-214/78

### REPORT ON DESIGNATION

NAME OF PROPERTY: The Fremont Building (Hotel)  
3421-3429 Fremont Avenue North

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Denny & Hoyts's Addition  
Block 9, Lot D

OWNER: Larry Sloan  
743 N. 138th Street  
Seattle, Washington 98135

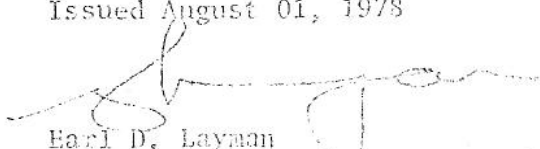
### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DESIGNATION

On July 19, 1978, the Landmarks Preservation Board conducted a Public Hearing to consider the designation of the Fremont Building as a Seattle Landmark. After receiving evidence and hearing testimony, the Board voted unanimously to approve designation of the building; the significant features to be preserved include only the curving street facade in its entirety.

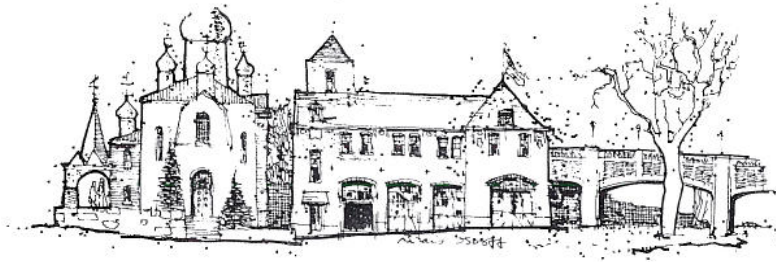
The Board found that the building merited designation in satisfaction of the following criterion of Ordinance 106348:

Section 3.01(6): Because of its prominence of spatial location, contrasts of siting, age or scale, it is an easily identifiable visual feature of its neighborhood or the city and contributes to the distinctive quality or identity of such neighborhood or the city.

Issued August 01, 1978

  
Earl D. Layman  
City Historic Preservation Officer

/hg



## City of Seattle

Department of Community Development/Office of Urban Conservation

## Landmark Nomination Form

Name Fremont Building (Hotel) Year Built\* 1906

(Common, present or historic)

- ☒ Landmark  
☐ Landmark Site  
☐ Both

Street and Number 3421-29 Fremont Avenue North

Assessor's File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Description Plat Name Denny & Hoyt's Block 39 Lot 9  
AdditionPresent Owner Roland Namtvedt Present Use Restaurant, shops,  
Upper areas unoccupiedAddress 708 North 35th Street, SeattleOriginal Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Original Use Hotel and shopsArchitect None or unknown Builder \_\_\_\_\_

## Designation Criteria:

Standards for Designation of Landmark Sites and Landmarks. (Ordinance 106348 Section 3.01). An object, site or improvement which is more than twenty-five (25)\* years old may be designated for preservation as a landmark site or landmark if it has significant character, interest or value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the city, state, or nation and if it falls into one of the following categories:

Explain and list documentation supporting each criterion checked: (use additional sheets if needed for detailed descriptions of property, historical significance, etc. as applicable.)

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- ☐ (1) It is the location of, or is associated in a significant way with, an historic event with a significant effect upon the community, city, state or nation; or
- ☐ (2) It is associated in a significant way with the life of a person important in the history of the city, state, or nation; or
- ☐ (3) It is associated in a significant way with a significant aspect of the cultural, political, or economic heritage of the community, city, state or nation; or
- ☒ (4) It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, or period, or of a method of construction; or  
 The building is of frame construction, but has a curving two-storey facade of rusticated cast stone. This material is an early example of mass-produced, fabricated building "skin" material.
- ☐ (5) It is an outstanding work of a designer or builder; or
- ☒ (6) Because of its prominence of spatial location, contrasts of siting, age, or scale, it is an easily identifiable visual feature of its neighborhood or the city and contributes to the distinctive quality or identity of such neighborhood or the city;

See next page

Photographs:

See attachment and slides

Criterion (6)

The Fremont Hotel is an important and integral element in the main and five-pointed intersection of the old Fremont District. Its curving, cast stone facade, previously noted, is complemented by similar structures on the opposite side of the intersection. The several buildings in this area, all ca. 1905 create an harmonious grouping and framing of this important urban area.

(See also HSPDA's Inventory, "Fremont, an Inventory of Buildings and Urban Design Resources).

Submitted by Earl D. Layman

Address 400 Yesler Building Phone 625-4501

Date 17 May 1978

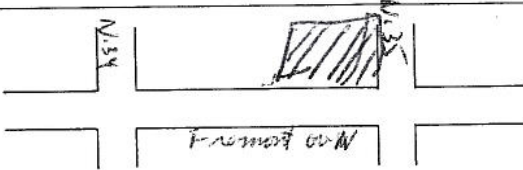
Reviewed   
Historic Preservation Officer

Date 17 May 1978



# Landmarks Preservation Board

## Seattle Historic Building Data Sheet

1. Name (common or present and/or historic) THE FIREMONT BUILDING
2. Street and Number 3421-29 Fremont Ave N. Block \_\_\_\_\_ Lot \_\_\_\_\_ Year Built \_\_\_\_\_
3. Present Owner BRANCH CORPORATION Present Use \_\_\_\_\_
4. Interim Owner(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Interim Use(s) \_\_\_\_\_
5. Original Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Original Use \_\_\_\_\_
6. Architect \_\_\_\_\_ Builder \_\_\_\_\_
7. Assessed Value: Building \_\_\_\_\_ Land \_\_\_\_\_ Assessors File No. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Classification:
- |                                    |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building  | <input type="checkbox"/> Public          | <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied                                    | Open to Public:<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Hours _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Site      | <input type="checkbox"/> Private         | <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied                                  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Structure | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work<br>in progress |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Object    |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Threatened by<br>demolition      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other     |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown                                     |  |
9. Neighborhood Information:
- A. Compatibility With Neighborhood
- Structure Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_
- Use Yes X No \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Importance to Neighborhood
- Great X \_\_\_\_\_
- Moderate \_\_\_\_\_
- Minor \_\_\_\_\_
- C. Architecturally Strong Neighborhood
- Comments
- RECEIVED**  
MAR 7 1975  
CITY OF SEATTLE  
DEPT. OF COMMUNITY DEV.
10. Special Research Sources (Be Specific, list name or item and where found)
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
11. Cross Street Reference
- 
12. Photos Attached & Photographer \_\_\_\_\_

13. Physical Description

A. Style of Architecture

B. Construction Material

Stone, Wood, steel posts

C. No. of Stories

Two plus Double Basement

D. Condition

Excellent \_\_\_\_\_

Good \_\_\_\_\_

Fair X

Poor \_\_\_\_\_

E. Exterior Desecration of  
Original Design

None or little \_\_\_\_\_

Moderate amount X

Considerable \_\_\_\_\_

F. Architectural worth at  
Example of Its Style

Exceptional \_\_\_\_\_

Excellent X

Good \_\_\_\_\_

Fair \_\_\_\_\_

Poor \_\_\_\_\_

G. Notable Features: (Be specific, i.e., detailing, craftsmanship, proportions, materials, colors, interior, etc.  
Refer to Guidelines of Landmarks Preservation Board).

14. Significance

A. Major Significance

- ☒ Historical
- ☐ Architectural
- ☐ Engineering
- ☒ Cultural
- ☐ Geographical
- ☐ Archaeological

B. Level of Significance

- ☐ National
- ☐ State
- ☒ Community

C. Statement of Significance (Be specific, history, personages, events, etc.)

The Fremont Building was built at the turn of the century at approximately 1900 A.D.

It was designed to meet the commercial and housing needs of Seattle citizens employed at a now non-existent lumbermill at the west end of Lake Union, and to assist Seattle employees of the street car line whose car barns and end of the line facilities were located in Fremont. Seattle's main gambling center was located in the Fremont Hotel where all types of gambling were permitted. However, because so many City of Seattle employees were involved in Friday night gambling after cashing their paychecks the city Fathers felt it necessary to stop Fremont's gambling some time ago. However there are still secret gambling rooms lacking any form of obvious exit or entrance indicative that not all gambling stopped when so ordered.

The Fremont Building was the center of all sorts of commercial activities including the location of a major State Bank, a medical clinic, attorney offices, a large drug store, a restaurant serving two levels, a pool hall, a recreation center and even a few manufacturing sites along the alley. A tunnel under the street connects the Fremont heating plant with other buildings in the area. Since Fremont became a city in its own right around 1875 it had its own mayor and city council up until the time it was annexed by Seattle. All of Fremont's many historical and cultural and commercial activities were centered in the Fremont Building proper which was the pride of the community.

Surveyor Signature

*William A. Brand*

Date

*May 4, 1975*

Reviewed:

Historic Preservation Officer

Date

632-5245