

State of California • The Resources Agency
 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PRIMARY RECORD

Primary #
 HRI #
 Trinomial
NRHP Status Code

Other Listings
 Review Code
 Date

Reviewer

Page 1 of 11 *Resource Name or #: (Assigned by recorder) Press Building

P1. Other Identifier: Stanford University Building Number 02-630

*P2. Location: **Not for Publication** **Unrestricted**

*a. County Santa Clara and (P2c, P2e, and P2b or P2d. Attach a Location Map as necessary.)

*b. USGS 7.5' Quad Palo Alto Date _____ T _____; R _____; _____ of _____ of Sec _____; _____ B.M.

c. Address 521 Lomita Mall City Stanford Zip 94305

d. UTM: (Give more than one for large and/or linear resources) Zone 10, 573225 mE/ 4142450 mN

e. Other Locational Data: (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate)

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)

The Stanford Press Building is located on the Stanford University campus. The building is a vernacular plant structure displaying simplified forms of exterior styling borrowed from nearby campus buildings. The building was completed in 1917 to house the printing and business operations of the Press. The façade faces west and the building is rectangular in plan. Although the height of the entire building is the same, the west half of the building is two-stories and the east half is one-story tall with a mezzanine. The foundation is concrete and the exterior walls are clad with stucco. All elevations are symmetrical; the façade and east elevation have three vertical divisions, while the other two elevations have twelve divisions. There are regularly spaced engaged piers dividing these bays. The building is sheltered by a moderately pitched, hipped roof clad with Spanish clay tiles.

(See continuation sheet 4-6)

*P3b. Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP9 Public Utility Building, HP45 Unreinforced Masonry Building

*P4. Resources Present: Building Structure Object Site District Element of District Other (Isolates, etc.)

P5b. Description of Photo: (view, date, accession #) 1- North, and East façades, 2005

P5a. Photograph or Drawing (Photograph required for buildings, structures, and objects.)



P6. Date Constructed/Age and Source: Historic Prehistoric
 1917

*P7. Owner and Address:
Board of Trustees, c/o UA/
Planning, 655 Serra Street,
Stanford, CA

*P8. Recorded by: (Name, affiliation, and address)
Laura Jones, Ruth Todd,
Elena Angoloti
UA/Planning Office
655 Serra Street, Stanford CA
Galvin & Associates (P3a Description)
3819 Via La Selva, Palos Verdes
Estates CA 90274

*P9. Date Recorded:
1/13/2006

*P10. Survey Type: (Describe)
Intensive

*P11. Report Citation: (Cite survey report and other sources, or enter "none.")

*Attachments: NONE Location Map Continuation Sheet Building, Structure, and Object Record Archaeological Record
 District Record Linear Feature Record Milling Station Record Rock Art Record Artifact Record Photograph Record
 Other (List):

BUILDING, STRUCTURE, AND OBJECT RECORD

Page 2 of 11 *Resource Name or # (Assigned by recorder) Press building

B1. Historic Name: University Press

B2. Common Name: Press Building

B3. Original Use: University Press (1917-1930), Press manufacturing and editorial departments (1930-1957), Bindery, mailing service and press warehouse (1957-1976), News and Publications (1976-xxxx)

B4. Present Use: Currently vacant

*B5. Architectural Style: Vernacular Spanish Revival

*B6. Construction History: (Construction date, alterations, and date of alterations)

The Press building was built in 1917. The architect and builder are unknown.

(See continuation sheet, page 7-8)

*B7. Moved? No Yes Unknown Date: _____ Original Location: _____

*B8. Related Features:

B9a. Architect: unknown b. Builder: unknown

*B10. Significance: Theme The Publishing Industry Area United States

Period of Significance 1917-1965 Property Type Plant Building Applicable Criteria none

(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, and geographic scope. Also address integrity.)

The development and evolution of the American publishing industry is closely tied to developments in printing technology beginning in the late 19th century, and to the rise of mass public education, creating a market of readers. Universities play an important role by educating writers, editors, publishers and readers and by supporting the publication of scholarly books (which would not be economical for commercial publishers). While university presses have been operating in Europe for centuries, they first appear in the U.S. in the 1870s (Muto 1993). Many of Stanford's peer institutions – the University of California, Cornell, University of Chicago, Columbia – founded presses in the 1890s, largely to disseminate the research of their faculties. The founders of Stanford shared this goal.

When David Starr Jordan accepted the presidency of the new university he had four propositions that would like Stanford to agree on. The fourth reads in full: "That provision be made for the publication of the results of any important research on the part of professors or advanced students. Such papers may be issued from time to time as 'Memoirs of the Leland Stanford Junior University'".

(See continuation sheet, page 9-10)

B11. Additional Resource Attributes: (List attributes and codes) HP8 Industrial Building

*B12. References:

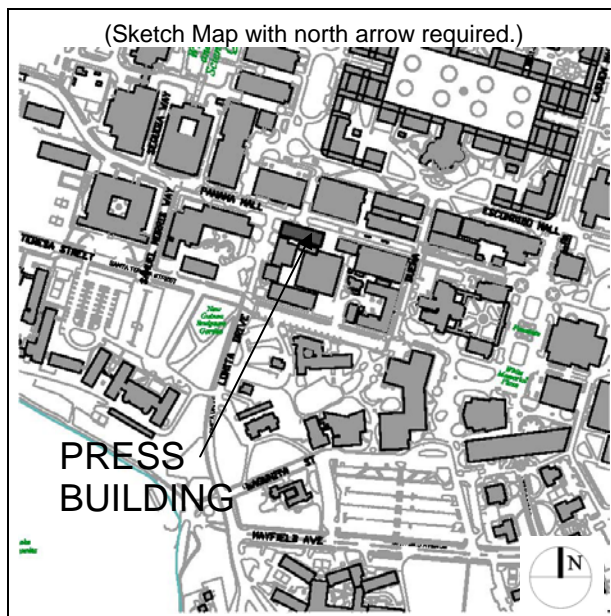
Stanford University, Maps and Records Department
Stanford University Special Collections Department, coll # sc 754 box 1
Stanford University Historic Values Index Information Brief (9-15-86)
50 years on the Quad, James, Norris Edward p. 125-134)
Sandstone and Tile, Spring 1992 p. 1-6

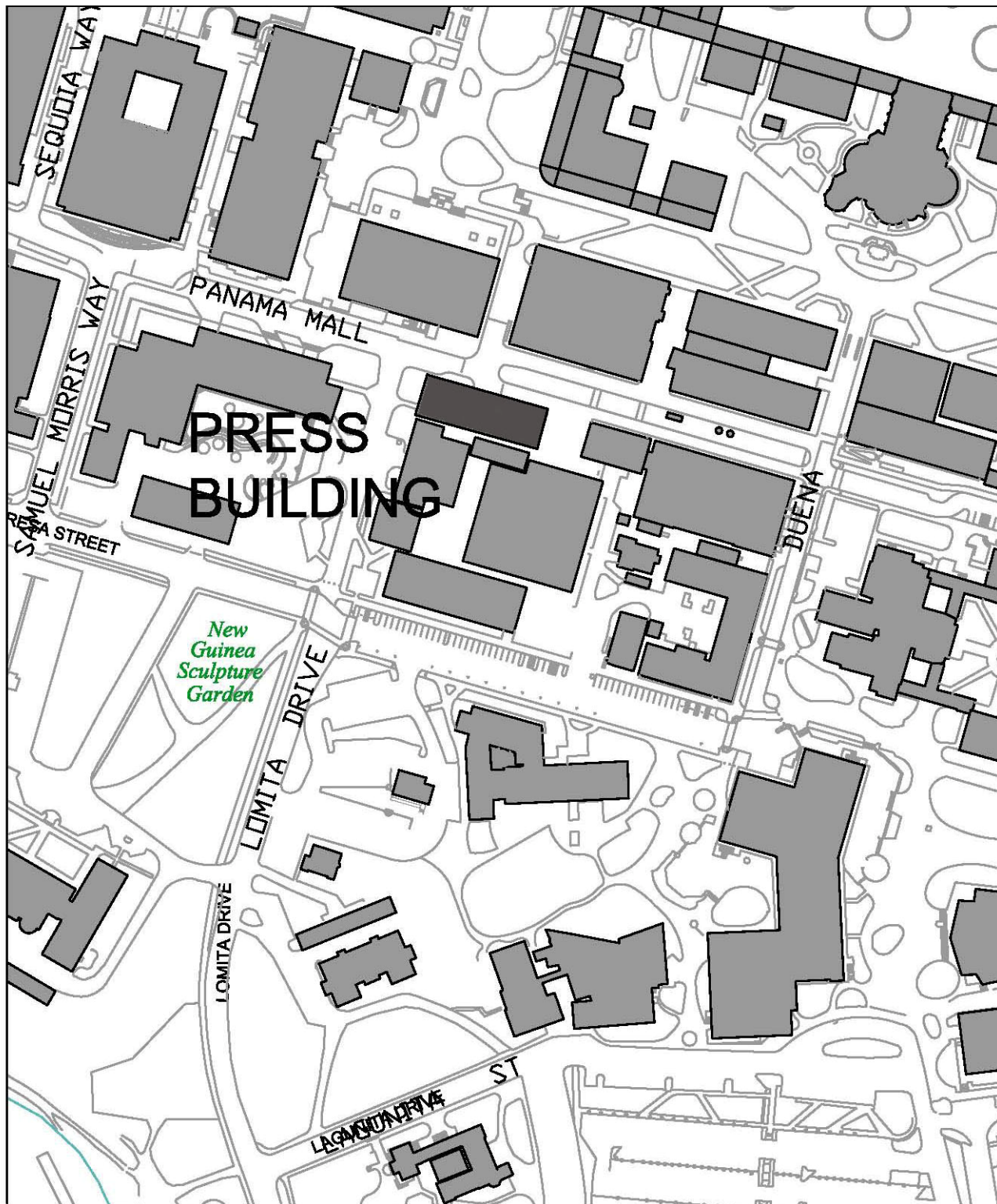
Remarks:

*B14. Evaluator Laura Jones

*Date of Evaluation: 08/10/2006

(This space reserved for official comments.)





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 Continuation Update

P3a. Description Continued:



The altered west facing façade consists of two picture windows that flank centered double doors. Each window has a fixed wood sash with a single light. This primary entrance has double doors that are wood and glass; adjacent to the doors is one wood sash side light with a metal mail slot. This entrance is sheltered by a wood and steel beam arcade constructed in 1965 that connected the building to the adjacent Storke Students Publication Services building. The arcade has skylights just above the primary entrance.

2- West Façade, 2005

The windows at the first and second floor levels at the east elevation are in sets of six within each of the three bays. This consists of two rows of three windows per bay. The south bay of this elevation, however, has what appear to be original wood paneled double doors at the first floor level. There is no shelter associated with this entrance.



3- East Façade, 2005



The windows at the north elevation are in sets of four within each of the twelve bays, with two rows of two windows each. Those at the six east bays of this elevation are original and the pairs of each row are placed closer together. Those at the six west bays are set further apart and are the result of a 1930 remodel of the interior which created an additional floor. There are no doors at this elevation.

4- North Façade, 2005

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Continuation Update

P3a. Description Continued (2):

The windows of the six west bays of the south (rear) elevation are a mirror image to those at the west section of the north elevation. These too were the result of the 1930 remodel. Like those at the east and north elevations, these windows are double hung sash with four panes per sash; the upper sash within each window at each elevation has lambs tongues. The six east bays of this rear elevation each have a single window with four steel panes at the second floor level; the two bottom sashes are fixed and the top two appear to be either the pivot or awning type. The first floor windows below have been enclosed with concrete blocks. There are also scars on the walls between the first and second floors, all likely as the result of the removal of flat roof 1920s additions in circa 1929. There are three entrances at this elevation. The easternmost bay has a set of solid metal double doors. The third bay from the east has a single solid metal door. The third entry at this elevation is located within the second bay from the west; it has an old screen door with what may be an original wood door. There are no shelters associated with these entrances.



5- South Façade (eastern side), 2005



6- South Façade (western side), 2005



Landscaping elements include some bushes and vegetation planted directly adjacent to building. There is also a new landscaped and red concrete block paved area located adjacent to the east elevation. There are young trees and vegetation, light posts as well as wood benches in this area. This paving continues along half of the south elevation. The other half of this elevation has square concrete block paving, which extends to the west facing façade. This concrete paving is likely part of the 1965 remodel. Facing the north elevation is a concrete curb and an asphalt paved area.

7- North Façade (western side), 2005

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 Continuation Update

P3a. Description Continued (3):

The original 1917 construction consisted in a rectangular-shaped four-bay building. The western bay had two levels while the east one had a small mezzanine on its southern side. The two central bays were large open spaces.

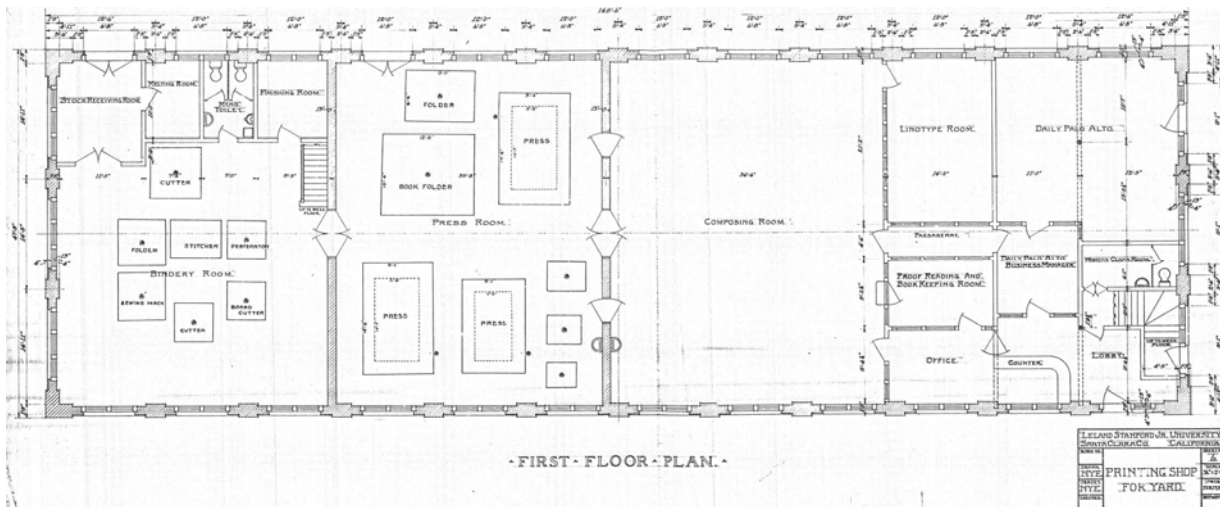
In 1924 and 1927 two small additions were erected on the back of the building (south façade). They had flat roofs and were probably demolished in 1929 when a major renovation was made to the building. This work repartitioned the two western bays and added a second floor to the eastern of those. The façades were also altered as the windows were changed. Where there was one window a column of two smaller ones were constructed. As a result the building appearance has two distinct halves being the eastern the original one.

The building has been altered at different times. The first modifications occurred in 1924 and 1927 when two small additions were made to the south (rear) elevation of the building. These were likely demolished in 1929 when the Press Printing Shop was constructed to the south. There are scars as well as blocked in windows at this elevation that maybe the result after removing these additions. The following year, the interior of the west half of the building was modified. This included the addition of a second floor. This altered the window configuration at this half of the building. In 1938, mezzanine levels were constructed within the eastern half of the building. In 1965, an arcade and its associated concrete block paving were constructed in front of the façade. The arcade connected the Stanford Press Building to what was then the newly constructed Storke Students Publication Services building. The windows and doors at this ground floor elevation were also replaced at this time. The original drawings show two single doors located within the two outer bays, with windows within each of the three bays of the façade. Today, there is one single door in the center, flanked by a picture window on either side. Some interior repartitions and renovations occurred three years later in 1968. The condition of the building is good to excellent.

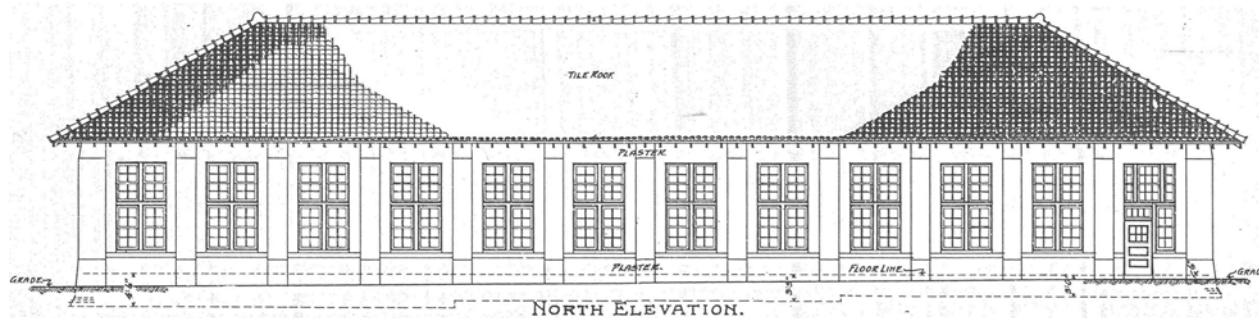
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 *Recorded by: _____ *Date _____
 Continuation Update

P3a. Construction History Continued:

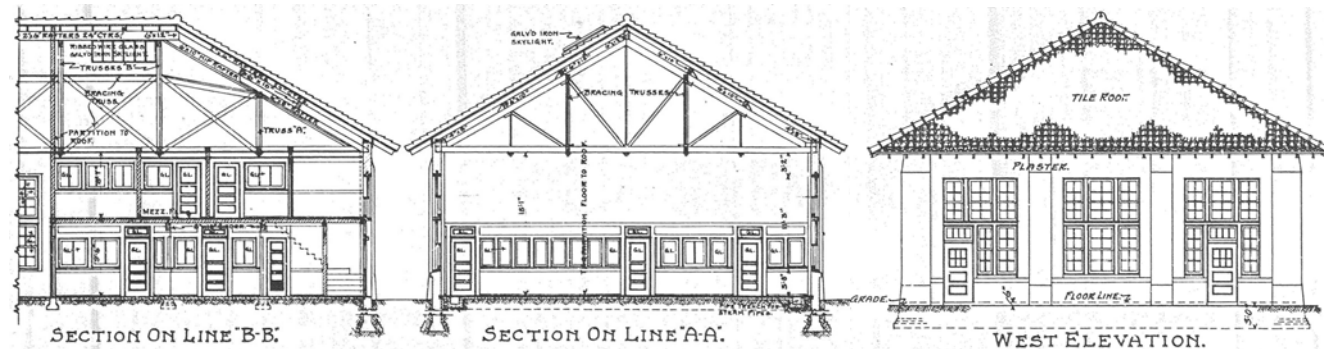
The original construction consisted in a rectangular-shaped four-bay building. The western bay had two levels while the east one had a small mezzanine on its southern side. The two central bays were large open spaces.



First Floor Press Building, 1917



North Elevation Press Building, 1917
 Note: Six window bays and door replaced in 1930 (west end).



Sections, West Elevation Press Building, 1917
 Note: Windows and entrances of west façade modified in 1965

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P3a. Construction History Continued (2):

In 1924 and 1927 two small additions were erected on the back of the building (south façade). They had flat roofs and were probably demolished in 1929 when a major renovation was made to the building. This work repartitioned the two western bays and added a second floor to the eastern of those. The façades were also altered as the windows were changed. Where there was one window a column of two smaller ones were constructed. As a result the building appearance has two distinct halves being the eastern the original one. Also in 1929, Bakewell and Brown designed the Press Printing Shop south to the Press building (which was demolished circa 2002).

Interior plan changes continued in 1938 when two small remodels were made adding mezzanine levels in two different areas of the eastern bays and in 1957 with a new second floor on the eastern half of the structure and repartitioning of the first floor.

In 1965 the construction of Storke Students Publication Services (02-650) by *Hervey Parke Clark* affected the Press Building's exterior appearance as an arcade was erected in the west façade connecting both buildings. The western half of the second floor was repartitioned in 1968 by the Stanford Physical Department. A small area of the first floor was also renovated. In 2003 the building was upgraded with smoke detectors.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>Architect</u>
1917	Construction (north wing) (Two floors on 1 st bay)	Unknown
1924	Addition	Unknown
1927	Second Addition	Unknown
1930	Alterations (Extension of second floor on 2 nd bay, alteration of façades)	
1938	Alterations (New mezzanines)	Clark and Beuttler
1957	Interior Remodel (Extension of second floor to 3 rd and 4 th bay)	Spencer and Ambrose
1965	Construction 02-650 (Arcades in west elevation)	<i>Hervey Parke Clark</i>
1968	Interior Alterations	Physical Plant Department

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B10. Significance:

Criterion 1/A: (Association with Events)

The Stanford University Press (established in 1916) is one of dozens of university publishing operations established in the early twentieth century to support the scholarly activities of university faculty and students.¹ The bulk of its production was printing for University departments, student groups, and the alumni association with approximately 20% of its business dedicated to academic publishing. The Press closed its printing shops in 1976 when its printing machinery became technologically obsolete. While the Press produced a number of important publications, the authors of those works did not create them in the Press Building. No notable advances in the art or technology of printing were made at the facility. The former editor-in-chief, Norris Pope, remarked "Despite the many extraordinary moments and distinguished achievements of Stanford University Press, the overall institutional pattern of its history is common to the great bulk of North American university presses."² The Press Building is not associated with an event or pattern of events that appears significant in local, state or national history and thus does not meet the criterion.

Criterion 2/B: (Association with Persons)

A series of master printers (John Bordsmann, Will Friend) managed the operations of the press and its editors (William Hawley Davis, Donald Bean, Jess Bell) were distinguished men of letters. Their careers are not widely known and thus however respectable they cannot be considered to meet the test of significance under the criterion. An employee of the Press, David Lamson (sales manager), enjoyed an unfortunate notoriety when accused of the murder of his wife in 1933. His prosecution was the subject of great public interest (he was convicted, appealed and in a second trial the jury deadlocked, the third attempt ended in a mistrial). This unfortunate series of events took place elsewhere (the Lamson's home, San Quentin Prison and the courtrooms in which he was prosecuted) and his association with the Press was not a major factor in the trials.³ The Press Building is not associated with significant historical persons.

Criterion 3/C: (Architectural Quality)

The Press Building is an industrial vernacular building by an unknown architect and builder. It displays some features of the surrounding Stanford campus buildings: a hipped red tile roof, "sandstone" colored stucco and tall windows. It lacks the stone veneer, arched openings, clerestory windows and ornamental features that characterize many Stanford campus buildings of this period. University press buildings at peer institutions, and private press buildings generally, have a grander public face than this simple plant building.⁴ The Press Building is not a fine example of a type, period, method or style of construction; it is not the work of a master nor does it display high artistic merit. The Press Building does not appear to be eligible under this criterion.

¹ Muto, Albert. *The University of California Press: The Early Years, 1893-1953*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993.
Givler, Peter. *University Press Publishing in the United States*. In *Scholarly Publishing: Books, Journals, Publishers and Libraries in the Twentieth Century*, edited by Richard E. Abel and Lyman W. Newman. Wiley, 2002.

² Pope, Norris. *A Brief History of the Stanford University Press*. Sandstone and Tile, Spring 1992. Mr. Pope does not provide additional information regarding the "extraordinary moments" he mentions and none were identified in the course of our research.

³ Butcher, Bernard. *Was it Murder?* *Stanford Magazine*, January/February 2000.

⁴ For example, the Princeton University Press building was designed by Beaux Arts architect Ernest Flagg, designer of the Sears Tower in New York and the Chapel of the US Naval Academy; Johns Hopkins University Press is housed in an impressive Georgian Revival structure completed in 1897; The University of Chicago Press has a 1891 Gothic Revival building. Private presses in California often displayed higher artistic values: for example the National Register listed Pacific Press in Oakland and the Grabhorn Press building in San Francisco.

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Continuation Update

B10. Significance (2):

Criterion 3/D: (Potential to Yield Significant Scientific Information)

The Press Building has no potential to yield scientific information and does not meet this criterion.

INTEGRITY:

Location, Setting, Feeling, Sense of Association: The Press Building remains in the same location. The setting along Panama Mall (north) has changed as the roadway was changed into a pedestrian mall and utility corridor: gradually being filled with landscaping and utility installations on the median. The buildings to the north and east are of similar period and style to the Press Building (which is the least decorative and most altered in this area). The building to the south has been replaced twice (1930, 2002). To the east (between the Press building and building #02-560) there was a small structure that housed the Stanford Daily quarters (Student Publication Offices) for many years and a service yard. The building was demolished and currently there is a landscaped courtyard on the site. To the west of the structure the setting has substantially changed. That area remained almost undeveloped until the creation of a Science and Engineering Quad (started in 1949). The area is now dominated by large modern science and engineering buildings. The feeling and association of the building with the publishing and printing operations of the press has been lost: the display windows, once filled with new releases, have been empty for nearly a decade and the function and equipment associated with the print shop function have been gone for more than 30 years.

Design, Materials, Workmanship:

The original 1917 design has been substantially changed on all four elevations. In 1965, an arcade was constructed in front of the main entry, concealing the primary facade. The arcade connected the Stanford Press Building to what was then the newly constructed Storke Students Publication Services building. The ground floor windows and doors at this elevation were also replaced at this time. While some historic fabric remains in the unaltered window bays, the roof, and the stucco surface the building has not retained integrity in its appearance.

**State of California • The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PHOTOGRAPH RECORD**

Primary#
HRI#
Trinomial

Page 11 of 11 **Project Name:** Press Building **Year** _____
Camera Format: _____ Lens Size: _____
Film Type and Speed: _____ **Negatives Kept at:** _____

Mo.	Day	Time	Exp./Frame	Subject/Description	View Toward	Accession #
		2005		1 – North and East Façades	South	
		2005		2, 11 - West Façade	East	
		2005		3 – East Façade	West	
		2005		4 – North Façade	South	
		2005		5 – South Façade (eastern side)		
		2005		6 – South Façade (western side)		
		2005		7 – North Façade (western side)		