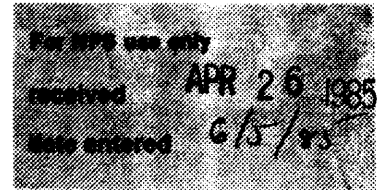


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Historic Resources of

Continuation sheet Downtown South Bend

Item number

Page 33

The Hoffman Hotel
120 W. LaSalle
141-56149-598
d. 1930

OWNER: John Hazlitt, President
Hazlitt Corporation
120 W. LaSalle
South Bend, Indiana 46601

Description:

Photo #37, 38; Building #20

The Hoffman Hotel is located on LaSalle Street west of the LaSalle Hotel. The 12-story building is constructed of red brick with limestone trim and terra-cotta mosaic tile panels. The first floor and the middle three bays of the second and third floor are faced with limestone while a limestone string course separates the third and fourth floors. Quoins of the same material are used to set off bays and windows on the second to fourth floors. Floors six through 11 are of pier and spandrel construction topped by a wide limestone band which separates the 11th and 12th floors. The cornice line above the 12th floor uses the same treatment of the limestone trim of the lower floors; however, located in the "window spaces" are multi-colored terra-cotta brick panels in geometric patterns.

Significance:

The Hoffman Hotel was designed by Willard M. Ellwood, a local architect who had worked with Frank Lloyd Wright on the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo. The Hoffman Hotel was built in 1930 at a cost of \$500,000 and was partially owned by Jacob Hoffman, manager of the LaSalle Hotel and LaSalle Annex (buildings #32 and 33). The hotel, which had 21 small apartments and 150 guest rooms, is next to the LaSalle Hotel and near the LaSalle Annex.

The three hotels are located at the intersection of LaSalle and Michigan Streets, which, according to a newspaper article of the time, was a site that was chosen by the city for future development. The fact that the Chicago, South Bend and South Shore Railroad station was located at the intersection also contributed to the area's prosperity. In addition, Mr. Hoffman felt that the site was convenient to the location of his other hotels and would fulfill the city's need for more hotel space.

Architecturally, the hotel is an excellent example of the eclecticism of the early 20th century. Although the first floor has been modernized with glass and aluminum display windows and entrance, the remainder of the exterior is unaltered.

UTM Reference: 16/562330/4614180

Acreage: Less than one acre

Legal:

Lot 12, 82'9½" East end and undivided 1/2 of 10' West side of Lot 12
Original Plat of South Bend.
Parcel #18-1008-0299