
NAME: ~~The~~ Pennsylvania
LOCATION: 919 ~~North~~ Pennsylvania Street
OWNER: John R. and Ann C. Fulton
ADDRESS: 1314 East 72nd Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240

MAP NUMBER: 18

The Pennsylvania (Photo 19 of 42) is a three-story, impressive double "H" plan, red brick and grey limestone structure located on the southeast corner of Pennsylvania and Sahm Streets. The basement level half windows are visible on the north, south, and east facades. The west street entrance elevation uses a poured concrete (scored to resemble cinder block) porch platform of a later date not determined. The concrete steps and wrought iron railings are also later alterations. The entrance of this balanced three bay facade is characterized by an elliptical fan light with bead and reel moldings under a limestone basket handle arch with dropped keystone. The double glass doors are slightly recessed. The arch and keystone have "The Pennsylvania" and "919" painted in gold on them. The entrance is flanked by large double rectangular one over one windows with limestone sills. The windows of the second and third stories are grouped in pairs and are rectangular in shape with limestone sills. Wrought iron balcony grills decorate the bottoms of the second and third story windows of the north and south bays. At the third story the facade is subtly set back at the north and south edges and is emphasized by scalloped limestone impost blocks. A corbeled brick frieze with small oculus windows and a row of dentils project from the top of the facade. Terra cotta coping caps the brickwork. The Pennsylvania reflects the well proportioned, solid and straight forward functionalism of the classical revival in commercial building of the early twentieth century.

8. SIGNIFICANCE:

This "Eastern" flat type building is significant as the earliest of three apartment buildings included in this thematic group owned by the Indianapolis real estate developer George W. Brown (see 8. Significance, page 19). The Pennsylvania was constructed in 1906 by one of the city's important large contracting firms - Nuerge & Reinking (see 8. Significance, page 20). Charles Nuerge, son of a German immigrant, was named supervisor of the project. Building Permit #14073 gives the estimated value of this three-story brick flat at \$19,500. The completed building contained twelve flats with a basement apartment for the building manager.

Chronologically the Pennsylvania is important as the second apartment building in a concentration of seven buildings that were eventually constructed in a block-and-a-half area of North Pennsylvania Street. The occupants of the twelve flats were typical of those living in the fashionable Pennsylvania Street apartments. Young, aspiring professionals favored this building which was included in the elite "Apartment List" of the 1910 Blue Book.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

Quadrangle Name: Indianapolis West

Quadrangle Scale: 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

16	572330	4403410
Zone	Easting	Northing

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BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Parcel 1-01-71404. McElvain and Latham Subdivision, Forty-five Feet North Side of One Hundred Ninety-four Feet Four Inches West End Lot One, Outlot One Hundred Seventy-three. Key Code 81-010-007.