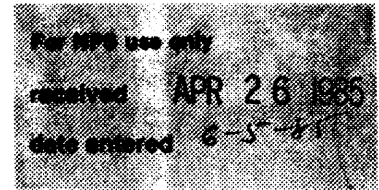


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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



Continuation sheet Historic Resources of
Downtown South Bend

Item number

Page 18

The Summers/Longley Residence (Building
312-314 W. Colfax
141-56046-598
d-1910

OWNER: Robert Wujcik, Mgr.
Credit Bureau of South Bend
312 West Colfax Avenue
South Bend, Indiana 46601

Description:

Photo #15, 16; Building #8

The Summers residence, a two-story, double house of red brick with limestone trim, is located just west of the southeast corner of Colfax and St. James Court.

The Classical Revival structure has a recessed central entrance slightly raised from the street. Limestone pilasters and entablature surround the opening on the symmetrical front or north facade. Horizontality is emphasized by limestone string courses which separate each floor and a projecting cornice with modillions and triglyphs. The limestone cornice continues around the building; however, brick corbeling replaces the modillions and triglyphs.

Placed over each first floor window are console bracket keystones embossed with the letter S. Windows in the east and west facade have limestone voussoirs. Window sash have been replaced.

Significance:

The Summers Residence is a unique style of residential construction in the Multiple Resource Area. One of only six residential structures in the Central Business District, it is the only residential building of an urban nature (i.e., flat roof, close to the street, no yard, etc.) and one of only a few double houses of that time period in South Bend.

The house was built in 1910 for Gabriel Rush Summers, owner of The South Bend News Times and formerly a state senator and partner of the Vanderhoof Remedy Company. Mr. Summers and his family resided at 314 W. Colfax while his brother-in-law, William Howard Longley and family, resided at 312 W. Colfax. Built primarily as a winter residence, the house remained in the family until the early 1940's when it was sold and eventually became offices. At that time the interior appointments, which included a Tiffany chandelier, hardwood paneling and floors, and elaborate fireplaces, were stripped. The exterior, on the other hand, retains all of its original features except a wrought iron canopy over the front entrance and window sash. The keystones over the two front windows with their sinuous embossing and decoration are the only examples of exterior Art Nouveau motifs in the M.R.A.

UTM Reference: 16/562100/4614030

Acreage: Less than one acre

Legal:

65 feet west end of Lot 385 and west 65 feet of north 44 feet of Lot 386, Original Plat of South Bend

Parcel #18-1012-0450