

3633

C. NUMBER 82-196-0219

B. COUNTY Vanderburgh

A. NAME COURT BUILDING

D. ADDRESS 123-125 N. W. Fourth Street

E. TOWN/CITY Evansville

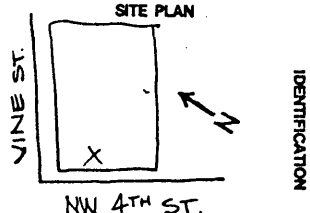
F. QUAD SHEET Evansville South

G. SITE X STRUCTURE

H. NHL NR HABS HAER I. UTM Reference CENSUS TRACT # 16 449740 4202810

STATE OF INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES INDIANA HISTORIC SITES AND STRUCTURES INVENTORY

1. HISTORIC NAME FURNITURE BLDG.
2. OWNERSHIP: PUBLIC X PRIVATE
NAME Hulman + Co.
ADDRESS
3. LOCATION NOTES Donation Enlg. Lot 200 (20-26-7)
4. VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY: X YES NO



5. USE PRESENT PAST
Residential (sing.)
Residential (mult.)
Commerce X
Industrial
Agriculture
Transportation
Organization
Military
Political
Unknown
Vacant
Other OFFICES X
6. CATEGORY
DISTRICT
X BUILDING(S)
STRUCTURE
SITE
OBJECT
7. ACCESSIBLE
X YES/RESTRICTED
YES/UNRESTRICTED
NO

8. ENDANGERED
X NO
YES/BY WHAT
9. DATE 1908
10. ARCHITECT/BUILDER
CLIFFORD SHORBELL

11. PERIODS: PREHISTORIC 17TH/18TH CEN. 1800-1880 1861-1899 X 1900-PRESENT

12. AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE
Archeology-Prehistoric Conservation Law Sculpture
Archeology-Historic Economics Literature Social/Humanitarian
Agriculture Education Military Theater
X Architecture Engineering Music Transportation
Art Exploration/Settlement Philosophy Other (Specify)
X Commerce Industry Politics/Government
Communications Invention Religion
Community Planning Landscape Architecture Science

13. STYLE
Federal
Greek Revival
Gothic Revival
Italianate
Second Empire
Stick Style/Eastlake
Queen Anne
Romanesque Revival
Colonial Revival
Neo-Classical
Bungalow
Vernacular
X Other (Specify) BEAUX ARTS
14. CONDITION
EXCELLENT
X GOOD
FAIR
DETERIORATED
RUINS
UNEXPOSED
15. ALTERATIONS
UNALTERED
MINOR
MAJOR

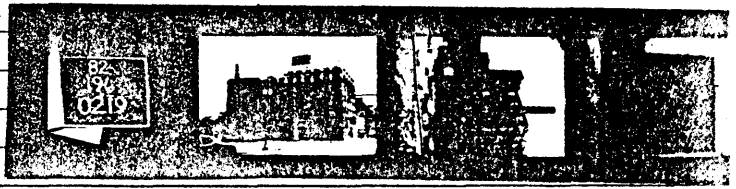
16. SITE INTEGRITY
X ORIGINAL SITE
MOVED DATE
17. OUTBUILDINGS/SECONDARY STRUCTURES
X NO
YES
18. IN ESTABLISHED HISTORIC DISTRICT
X NO
YES/NAME

19. DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENT (NATURAL AND MAN-MADE) COMMERCIAL-DOWNTOWN
ACROSS FROM OLD COUNTY COURTHOUSE. OLD STREETLIGHTS
STILL EXIST ALONG THIS BLOCK (BUT NOT CONTEMPORARY WITH
BUILDING) REMODELED 1940.

20. INFORMATION SOURCES TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR; JACK WESLEY TYPED INDEX

21. PREPARED BY NANCY J. LONG 22. DATE 9/25/77

- 1. C RECTANGULAR PLAN
2. F 6 STORIES, 7 ON FRONT SECTION
3. E 5 BAYS
4. E 1ST FLOOR STONE (MAIN SECTION) OTHERWISE STRETCHER BOND YELLOW BRICK
5. B-3 STRING COURSE (STONE); B-5 STONE PLINTH
6. A-1 RECESSED PANELS; A-3 ENGAGED PIERS; B-2 STONE ENTABLATURE
7. F NO PORCH. STAIRWAY DOWN IN SIDEWALK, W/ FENCE.
8. A UNKNOWN ROOFING
9. J PROBABLY FLAT SERVICE STRUCTURES ON TOP.
10. A INTERIOR CHIMNEYS
11. B BRICK
12. J NO DORMERS
13. L PARAPET
14. B STONE
15. R NONE
16. I NONE
17. C-1 NONE
18. A FLAT WINDOWS
19. F-1 ENTABLATURE
20. A PLAIN SIDES
21. B STONE
22. A STONE SILL
23. A FIXED SASH DISPLAY-TYPE WINDOWS W/ FIXED TRANSOM MODERN
24. A-1 WOOD SASHES
25. B UPPER FLOORS DOBBLEHUNG. THIRD FLOOR + ABOVE HAVE BRICK SURROUNDS
26. B-1 CENTRAL ENTRANCE
27. A FLAT OPENING
28. F-2 BRACKETED PEDIMENT
29. A PLAIN SIDES
30. B STONE
31. A-2 PLAIN W/ DEEP REVEAL
32. ALTERED
33.
34.
35. C. INTERIOR UNKNOWN



Architectural Information

DESCRIPTION

CLASSIFICATION/DATE

IDENTIFICATION

SIGNIFICANCE

100

**STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
INDIANA HISTORIC SITES AND STRUCTURES INVENTORY**

Additional Architectural Information

A. NAME Court Building C. NUMBER 82-196-0219

B. ADDRESS 123-25 NW Fourth Street

D. UTM References 16 449740 4202810

E. This office skyscraper was conceived as an "exchange building" for the city's furniture manufacturers and dealers. Evansville was nearing the peak of its hardwood industry when the Furniture Building (later renamed the Court Building, probably in reference to the nearby Courthouse) was completed in 1909. Its designer, Harris & Shopbell, selected a yellow buff brick which was considerably cheaper than using strictly limestone on the exterior. Shopbell & Company (the successor to Harris & Shopbell after Harris' death in 1910) occupied the top floor as its studio. The trade association responsible for pushing through the construction project included Benjamin Bosse in its leadership. Bosse was a prominent furniture manufacturer who would ascend to the mayor's office in 1913, serving until his untimely death during his third term in 1922. Shopbell & Company came to be Bosse's favorite architectural firm, performing a good deal of public work during the Bosse administration and designing the mayor's own Prairie School bungalow on SE First Street in 1916.

F. INFORMATION SOURCES City Directories. Architectural Renderings, Jack Wesley. Evansville Courier, 28 April 1908.

G. PREPARED BY Douglas L. Stern H. DATE 22 December 1981
