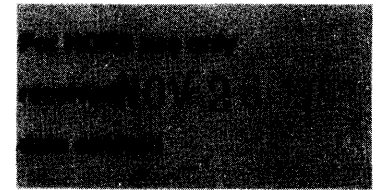


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**



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

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Hotel Lindo

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number 116 West Liberty Street N/A not for publication

city, town Covington N/A vicinity of congressional district

state Tennessee code 047 county Tipton code 167

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Elizabeth Owen Sims

street & number 56 West Broad Street

city, town Richland N/A vicinity of state Georgia 31825

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register's office of Tipton County

street & number Courthouse

city, town Covington state Tennessee 38019

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state N/A

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Hotel Lindo is located in Covington, Tennessee (pop. 6030), immediately west of the public square's northwest corner. The three-story rectangular structure, built 1901, displays both Italianate and Romanesque influences. It features two projecting corner towers, one rectangular and one circular, on the primary (south) facade. The building is the dominant element of the West Liberty Street streetscape, and extends its sphere of influence into the public square proper. Since the hotel's construction, the first floor facade has been altered; additionally, demolition has claimed the building's two distinctive tower roofs and also the stacked galleries of the south and east facades. In spite of these changes, the blend of large scale, balanced massing, and detailed brickwork (a blend unique among the commercial buildings of Covington) is executed with such clarity that the structure retains its essential architectural integrity.

Covington's public square features a centrally located brick courthouse (1889) surrounded by open space. West Liberty Street, the north boundary of the square, slopes away from the square to the west. The Hotel Lindo is situated at the head of this slope facing south, and is just outside the square proper. The structure's location and large scale serve to define the square's visual perimeter. The brick buildings to the west are of one-story flat roof construction without distinguishing features. To the east are more substantially scaled structures; the facade immediately east has been radically altered with a new brick veneer. Behind the hotel stretches a 1/4 block paved parking area. Fifty yards N.N.W. of the building stands the town water tower.

The Hotel Lindo was designed and built by R.B. Shelton, a local architect/builder/ supplier. Constructed on a stone foundation, the three-story brick bearing walls rise to support a flat roof. Roughly rectangular in plan, 60' x 98', three structural bays run north/south and seven run east/west. A round tower of Romanesque descent stands at the building's southeast corner. Located opposite this round tower on each of the south and east elevations are identical rectangular projections, creating a recess in each facade. These recesses housed the second and third floor galleries, torn down in 1940 on the east, and in 1956 on the south. Demolished in 1970 were the two roofs above the south facade; hipped above the rectangular projection, domed above the round tower. Both facades feature corbelled belt courses located at the second and third floor window sill levels. This Italianate influence divides the building into three horizontal divisions, and provides a solid base for the fenestration. A third belt course just below the continuous corbelled cornice defines a frieze. A string course runs just below the heads of the windows of each floor, acting as a stop for the corbelled hoodmolds seen throughout the two facades, except where the second and third floor galleries were located. All fenestration on the east, north and west elevations has been covered with plywood, except as noted below. The sash remains intact.

Even stripped of its roofs and galleries, the Hotel Lindo retains its essential architectural integrity through boldly asymmetrical yet balanced massing, fenestration tied together with a simple vocabulary of brick corbelling, and a strongly defined cornice capping the structure.

South Elevation: This facade has two projecting masses--rectangular at left, round at right. The sidewalk slopes away to the left, revealing basement commercial space below the rectangular projection. Located here are two two-story rectangular cast iron columns, which provide for basement and first floor fenestration. In 1956, a one-story addition was constructed in the recess between the towers. It has central aluminum entry doors flanked by display windows. At the round tower, the three floor level windows were removed and an aluminum entry with display window was added. The entire first floor facade was then stuccoed. The second and third story of the rectangular tower each contain a single set of windows paired by a common hoodmold. Each upper floor of the central recess has three windows with segmental arch. The center windows' sash replace the original doors with transoms leading

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Hotel Lindo

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to the galleries. The round tower has three evenly spaced windows on each floor overlooking the street.

East Elevation: This facade has a rectangular projection at right and the round tower at left. First floor fenestration of this facade (except the rectangular projection) has been bricked in. Each floor level of the rectangular projection contains a single set of paired windows with hoodmold. The re-entrant angle of the projection has a historic wood double door with transom and a single window at each floor above; all without hoodmolds. The doorway has a metal sill plate cast "Lindo Hotel, 1901". In the recessed central portion are four sets of paired windows for each floor. The right hand first floor set contains an original door with transom. One window at the grand staircase on each upper floor has been enlarged and a ventilating fan with exterior wooden door installed. A twelve foot section of the second floor gallery, enclosed and stuccoed, remains where the round tower meets the recessed portion. Above it is the access door to the former third floor gallery. The round tower has one window with hoodmold at each floor overlooking the courtyard. There are five star-shaped masonry ties on the elevation.

North Elevation: This facade shows no corbelled ornamentation. Two brick exterior chimneys are terminated at the roof line. A conventional aluminum double door (1956) and an original door with transom are sheltered by a wooden canopy hung from the building with metal ties. A single window displaying sash is to the right of the doors, three single windows to the left. Second and third floor windows (five each floor), while not regularly spaced, follow the same rhythm on both floors. All windows have stone lug sills. Above the canopy is a metal fire escape, with a metal ladder to the roof. At the extreme left rooftop, a seven foot high parapet wall extends some eight feet in from the corner and then drops to meet the rear roofline and gutter. There are four star-shaped masonry ties on this elevation.

West Elevation: This facade shows no corbelled ornamentation, with the exception of a thirteen foot return of the corbelled cornice which defines the rectangular tower of the south elevation. An exterior brick chimney stack rises to the height of the stepped parapet. Second and third floor windows (fourteen each floor), while not regularly spaced, followed the same rhythm on both floors. All have stone lug sills. The nine windows on the first floor do not follow the rhythm established above. There are six basement windows at ground level. Seven star-shaped masonry ties are located on this facade.

Interior: Over the years considerable deterioration has occurred inside the hotel. The first floor originally featured a lobby, sitting room in the round tower, grand staircase, coffee shop, dining room, kitchen, and barber shop. In 1956, all partitions and the grand staircase were removed. A freight elevator was also installed in the northwest corner. The second and third floors have identical floor plans consisting of fifteen rooms each. The grand staircase opens into a double loaded corridor running north/south; the rooms on the east side were equipped with a private bath. Bull's-eye molding is used throughout. All hallway doors have an operable glass transom. The effects of years of abandonment are evidence in water damaged areas and the accumulated debris of pigeon habitation.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1901 **Builder/Architect** Richard B. Shelton

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Hotel Lindo, built in 1901, is being nominated under Criteria A and C. The building is significant in the social and commercial history of Covington, Tennessee, and the architectural development of the community. Because the Hotel Lindo was Covington's only hotel from its completion until the early 1950's, it became the hub of social life in Covington. Clubs met there, it was where important visitors could be encountered by townfolk, and important events frequently had an association with the hotel. Architecturally, the Lindo has had a strong impact upon the character of Covington's public square. In 1901, the hotel's design combined Italianate and Romanesque features in a fashion unique among the other commercial buildings about the square. Today it remains a prominent local landmark.

The Hotel Lindo's construction was financed by three of the most prominent and progressive men in Covington: Green B. Gillespie, W.C. Shelton, and C.E. McFadden. Gillespie, a physician, studied in Berlin, Vienna, Edinburgh, and served as clinical assistant to Lord Joseph Lister in London. He would later gain distinction in 1936 as the oldest practicing physician in Tennessee at age 92. Shelton and McFadden were two of the wealthiest landholders in Tipton County. Their progressive livery firm of McFadden, Shelton, and McClanahan was the site of the county's first telephone installation, and registered the first sale of an automobile.

Designer and builder of the hotel was Richard B. Shelton (no relation to W.C. Shelton). The dominant figure in the Covington building trade, Shelton also owned a brickyard; many oral accounts credit him with a hand in the construction of most of the commercial buildings on the square. A great deal of similarity can be observed in the exuberantly corbelled brick facades of many of these structures, and the Lindo shares this vocabulary of masonry workmanship. However, the restraint with which it is executed suggests a growing understanding that simple ornamentation can also make a contribution to building design. Another design element which is uncommon in Covington is the bold use of several masses in the facade, a feature shared only by the courthouse. Finally, the Lindo gains prominence by virtue of its large scale. It and the courthouse are clearly the two most dominant structures in downtown Covington.

Numerous newspaper accounts give testimony to the central role of the Hotel Lindo in Covington's social life between 1901 and 1950. The Lion's Club and Red Cross met there regularly. It was the site of many banquets and farewell meals for young World War I soldiers who were tendered there. Many notable persons stayed at the hotel during the early decades of the twentieth century, including Governor Malcolm Patterson and Congressman, later Senator, Cordell Hull, as they campaigned for public office. The strength of the hotel's association within the community is evidenced today as townspeople refer to the building as "the old Lindo Hotel", though it has not served as such for thirty years.

The building today is vacant and deteriorating. Pending the outcome of feasibility studies, a group of local investors who hold an option to purchase, plan to adapt the structure for restaurant and office use, and restore the two tower roofs and galleries of the primary (south) facade.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Covington

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	2	6	0	1	2	2	3	9	3	8	6	7	8
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dan Becker

organization James Williamson/Carl Awsumb/Architects date August 30, 1982

street & number 1700 Lincoln American Tower telephone 901-526-2800

city or town Memphis, state Tennessee, 38103

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer signature Herbert L. Hayer

title Executive Director, Tennessee Historical Commission date 11/18/82

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Herbert L. Hayer Entered in the National Register date 12/27/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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McBride, Frank and Lucille, Interview by Len Holmes and Mike Acree, July 1982,

Beasley, Gaylon Neil, True Tales of Tipton, Historical Accounts of Tipton County, Tennessee; The Tipton County Historical Society, 1981.

The Covington Leader, 1898-1970.

"Old Times West Tennessee", The Covington Leader, W.A. Owen, September 27, 1923.

"Journal, Book B", R.B. Shelton, November 1900-1906.

"Journal, Book C", R.B. Shelton, December 1907-1923.

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Hotel Lindo

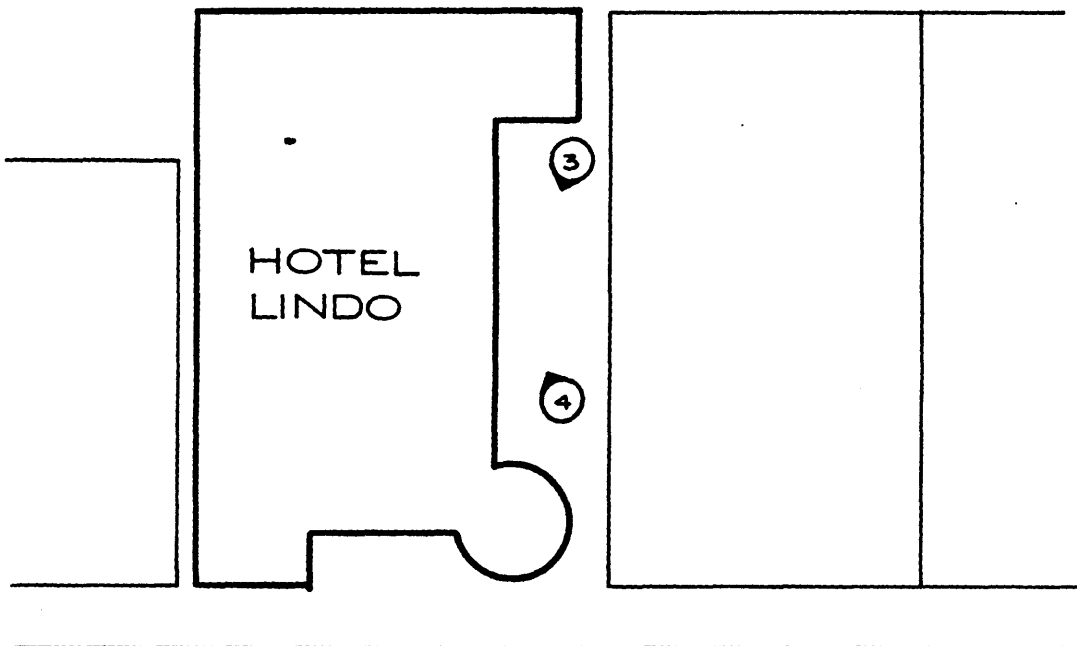
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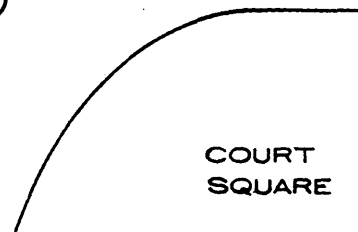
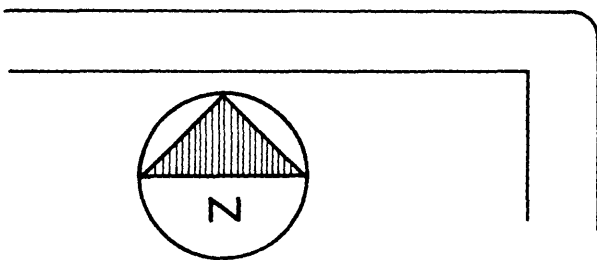
Beginning at the intersection of the west lot line of Lot #1 and the northern side or line of West Liberty Street; running thence northwardly with the west lot line 120 feet; thence eastwardly parallel with West Liberty Street 72 feet to the intersection of the east lot line of Lot #2; then southwardly 50 feet along the east lot line to the northern side or line of West Liberty Street; thence westwardly 72 feet with the northern side or line of West Liberty Street to the beginning.

Boundaries chosen to include only the land bought for the hotel's construction and which has sold with the hotel through the years.

ALLEY



WEST LIBERTY STREET



Hotel Lindo
Covington, Tipton County, Tennessee
Key to Photographs