

Building at
810 Wabash
c. 1870

Owner: George Oltean
810 Wabash
Terre Haute, Indiana

Description:

Photo #10, Bldg. #152

810 Wabash Avenue is a small, two-story commercial building located at the western edge of the downtown area. A brick building with cast-iron detailing, this Italianate structure, believed to date from the 1870's, still retains a significant amount of its architectural integrity.

The ground floor of the main (south) facade features an elaborate, intact, four-bay, cast-iron storefront. Counting from the west, the first and third bays of this storefront contain entry doors, while the second and fourth contain large display windows. Pilasters separate these bays, and their capitals serve as the imposts for the rounded-arch arcade. The spandrel areas are treated to simulate rusticated stonework, and also feature incuse roundels with decorative carving.

The brick second floor area of this facade is similarly divided into four bays, each containing a double-hung, rounded-arch window with an elaborate hood mold with a pronounced keystone. The original cornice has been removed; a simple parapet wall with a clay tile cap now terminates this facade.

Significance:

810 Wabash Avenue is architecturally significant as a good intact example of small-scale commercial architecture in the Italianate style. Despite the loss of its cornice, it possesses an unusual degree of integrity on both the first and second floors. Constructed in approximately 1870, the building has housed a tavern for many years.

This building is one of the very few Italianate commercial structures in town which has not suffered a major remodeling of its original storefront. The ground floor features a four-bay arcade, constructed of cast iron treated to resemble stone. The second floor, constructed of red brick, echoes this arcade design. The unaltered condition of the ground floor storefront makes this small commercial building unique among its type in the city.

Geographical Data

Acreage: Less than one acre

UTM Reference: 16/465130/4368440

Boundary: Map #1806-22, Block #310, Parcel #007