

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Wisconsin	
COUNTY: Milwaukee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 9 1973

1. NAME

COMMON: Mitchell Building	Congressmen to be notified: Sen. William Proxmire
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Sen. Gaylord A. Nelson
	Rep. Henry S. Reuss (5th Wis. Dist)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 207 East Michigan Street		
CITY OR TOWN: Milwaukee		
STATE: Wisconsin	CODE 55	COUNTY: Milwaukee
		CODE 079



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Charles D. Ashley (Charles Realty Company)		
STREET AND NUMBER: 611 North Broadway		
CITY OR TOWN: Milwaukee	STATE: Wisconsin	CODE: 55

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Milwaukee County Courthouse		
STREET AND NUMBER: 901 North Ninth Street		
CITY OR TOWN: Milwaukee	STATE: Wisconsin	CODE: 55

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey		
DATE OF SURVEY: 1960	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: District of Columbia	CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated on the southeast corner of East Michigan and North Water Streets in downtown Milwaukee, the Mitchell Building is a six-story rectangular edifice 120 feet wide (east-west) by 80 feet deep. The Michigan Street facade (north elevation) is composed in seven bays, the Water Street (west) elevation in five bays, both having shallow pavilions at center and corners. On both street fronts first-story walls are deep gray Minnesota granite; second through fifth floor walls are limestone, originally gray but now painted beige. A mansard roof with dormers encloses the sixth story, and a tower, having a convex mansard, rises above the central pavilion of the Michigan Street front. North and west elevations are elaborately decorated with sculptured images--winged heads, caryatids, and the like--and a profusion of architectural ornament--pilasters, colonettes, pediments, cornices, and bands of rustication. In all this--pavilioned elevations, mansard roofs, and sumptuous Renaissance-derived detail, the design reflects the influence of the Second Empire style.

Newspaper accounts of the 1870's give evidence that the first interiors were equally lavish, describing at length the marble floors and wainscot, marble, iron, and slate staircases, ash woodwork, and frescoed walls. But because of successive remodeling projects, only traces of the original interior design remain today. The basic floor plans, with principal entry on the north and offices on the various levels arranged north and south of central corridors, have survived. And so, fortunately, has the remarkable exterior, which has been changed in no important way and has been well maintained over the years.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1876-78

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mitchell Building is Milwaukee's outstanding example of the Second Empire style and a major work of the popular local architect Edward Townsend Mix (1831-1890). Important, too, is its association with Alexander Mitchell (1817-1887), the celebrated Milwaukee businessman, financier, politician, and philanthropist for whom it was erected. When his new block opened in 1878, Mitchell was president of three flourishing enterprises that had offices here (and that still figure importantly in the area's economy): the Wisconsin Marine and Fire Insurance Company Bank (predecessor of the present Marine National Exchange Bank), the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, and Northwestern National Insurance Company. Finally, the Mitchell Building is one of four impressive Victorian-era commercial blocks located on East Michigan Street between North Water Street and North Broadway, a quartet constituting the city's finest remaining group of large 19th century business buildings. All four have been recorded for the Historic American Buildings Survey, and in 1969 three of them, including the Mitchell Building, were named Milwaukee Landmarks.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic American Buildings Survey, Wisconsin Architecture, Washington, 1965, 58.
 History of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Chicago, 1881, 1071-1079.
 "The Mitchell Building," Milwaukee Sentinel, February 2, 1878, 2.
 "Mitchell's Monument," Milwaukee Sentinel, March 12, 1878, 2.
 "Mitchell's New Block," Milwaukee Sentinel, April 12, 1876, 3.
 Perrin, Richard W. E., Milwaukee Landmarks, Milwaukee, 1968, 57-58.

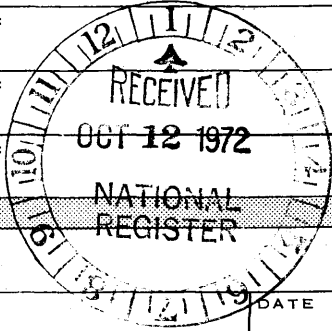
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
				N 43 02 14	W 87 54 30	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than 0.5

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mary Ellen Wietczykowski, Chairman

ORGANIZATION:
Milwaukee Landmarks Commission

DATE:
4 July 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
210 West Michigan Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Milwaukee

STATE:
Wisconsin

CODE:
55

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name James Morton Smith
 James Morton Smith

Title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Date OCT 26 1972

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

Robert H. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/3/73

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 3/22/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Wisconsin	
COUNTY	Milwaukee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		APR 3 1973

(Number all entries)

MITCHELL BUILDING

6. Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Buildings and Sites (State)

1971

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

816 State Street

Madison

Wisconsin

Code: 55

11. Donald N. Anderson, Asst. Director, Historic Sites & Markers Division

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

July 17, 1972

816 State Street

Madison

Wisconsin

Code: 55

