

PH0066354

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Colorado	
COUNTY: Denver	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.4.05. 0012 0007	DATE 4/28/70

1. NAME

COMMON:
Brown Palace Hotel

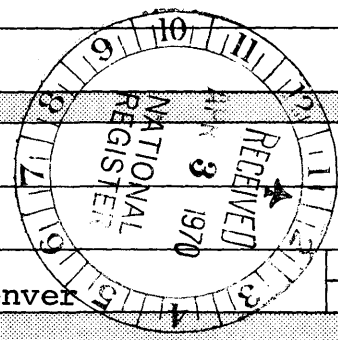
AND/OR HISTORIC:
H. C. Brown Palace

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
17th and Tremont Place

CITY OR TOWN:
Denver

STATE: Colorado CODE: 05 COUNTY: Denver CODE: 031



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Boettcher Foundation

STREET AND NUMBER:
American National Bank Building 17th and Stout Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE: 05

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Tax Assessor's Office

STREET AND NUMBER:
City and County Building

CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE: 05

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Junior League Survey of Historic Denver Structures

DATE OF SURVEY: 1966-67
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of State Historical Society of Colorado, State Museum

STREET AND NUMBER:
200 14th Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE: 05

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Colorado
COUNTY: Denver
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Except for the numerous changes of the interior decor, the Brown Palace appears much as it did in the late nineteenth century. Construction on America's second fireproof building began in earnest in 1889 after British financial support failed. The structural frame was steel and iron, clad in terra cotta and supported upon a foundation of granite. The exterior facing was red granite and Arizona sandstone. The design of the building was triangular in plan; in order to utilize fully the triangular block bordered by Tremont Place, 17th Street and Broadway.

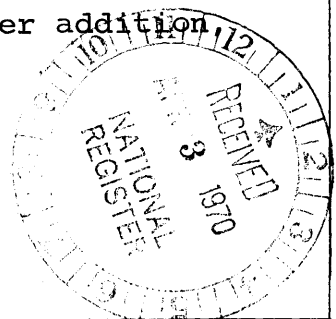
The Brown Palace was one of Denver's earliest skyscrapers, rising 10 stories from the street. It boasted 400 rooms and a lobby which rose to a height of eight floors. The walls of the public rooms were faced with onyx from Coahuila, Mexico. The overall architectural motif is that of the Italian Renaissance. The hotel also maintained a reading library for its guests; an idea novel to that time. Water for hotel use came from wells drilled to a depth of 700'. These wells are still in use, although the hotel is also linked to the city water supply.

The architect for the project was Frank E. Edbrooke of Chicago; the contractors were Giddes and Seerie. The sculptor of the twenty-six animal medallions which encircle the building was James Whitehouse of Denver. The total cost, at the hotel's completion in 1892, came to \$2,000,000. Of this amount, Henry C. Brown, half owner of the hotel, put up approximately \$1,600,000 for construction. The difference came from the co-owners, W. H. Bush and N. M. Tabor and was used to furnish the interior.

After changing hands a number of times, the hotel is now in the ownership of the Boettcher Foundation of Denver.

NOTE: Only the original, triangular structure is nominated for listing on the Register. The newer addition across the street, is not nominated.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

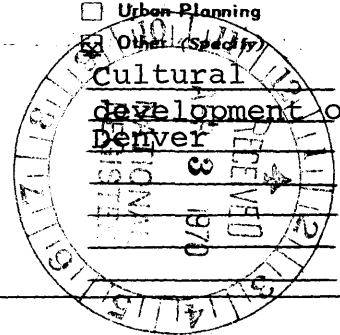
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <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) 1889-92

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Cultural</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>development of</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | <u>Denver</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | <u>3</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <u>1870</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Begun in 1889 and completed in 1892, the Brown Palace was America's second fireproof building. It stood as an early Denver skyscraper and cost its promoters \$2,000,000. At the time, the Brown Palace was considered to be the finest of its kind between Chicago and the Pacific Coast.

Aside from its architecture and engineering achievements with stone and steel, the Palace's chief significance lies in its role as the social and cultural landmark of Denver. The success of the silver strikes in the nearby Rockies drew European and eastern financial interests to the Denver vicinity. These interests demanded more amenities than the usual found in western towns. Thus the occurrence of the opera houses, theatres, and grand hotels of the area.

The Palace has seen such notables as President "Teddy" Roosevelt, President and Mrs. Woodrow Wilson and Queen Marie of Romania. Dwight D. Eisenhower made the Brown Palace his campaign headquarters in 1952. After his presidential victory, the hotel became known as "Ike's summer White House."

Acts of great generosity and great tragedy have taken place within the Palace. A Thanksgiving dinner for 1500 needy children was hosted by Simon Guggenheim in 1901. Two men were shot to death when they chanced to meet in the downstairs bar and quarreled over a third man's wife.

Today, the Brown Palace still functions as Denver's leading hotel and social center. An author once wrote, "The story of Greece is in its temples; that of America is in its hotels." The growth of Denver and Colorado is reflected in the Brown Palace in much the same manner.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Brown Palace in Denver, By Caroline Bancroft, 1955, Golden Press, Denver
The Brown Palace Hotel, booklet by Brown Palace Staff, 1967
The Colorado Magazine, Vol. XX, p. 67, March, 1943

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	°	'	"	°	'	"	39°	44'	39"	104°	59'	14"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: LESS THAN TEN

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

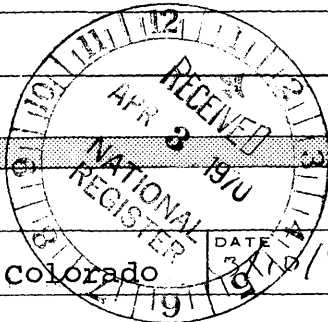
11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Robert Fink

ORGANIZATION: State Historical Society of Colorado

STREET AND NUMBER: 200 Fourteenth Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Denver STATE: Colorado CODE: 05



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: Stephen H. Hart
 Title: State Liaison Officer of Colorado
 Date: _____

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

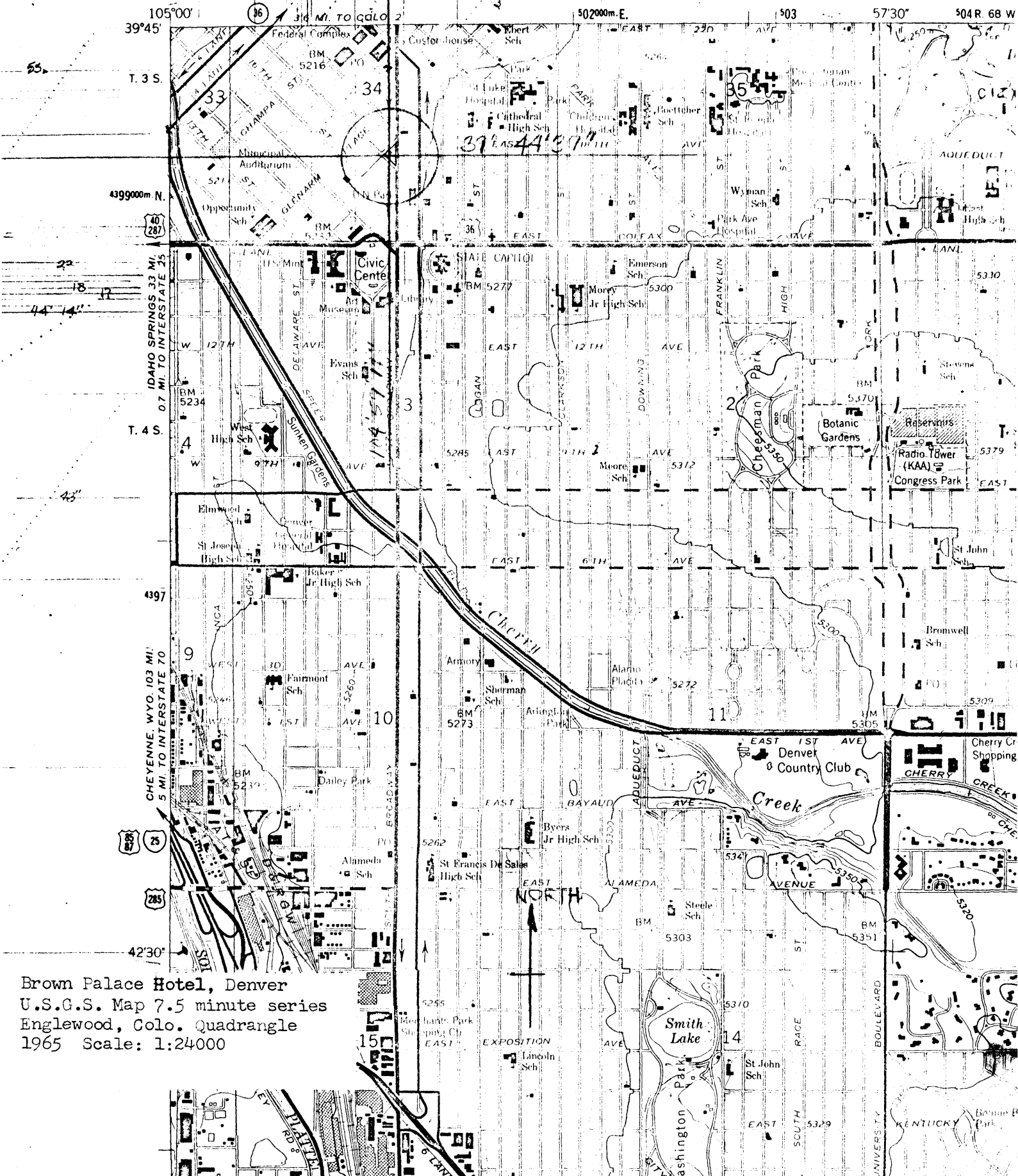
Ernest Allen Cornsby
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: APR 28 1970

ATTEST:
William J. Hunt
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: APR 13 1970

12/501100/4399150 SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Brown Palace Hotel, Denver
U.S.G.S. Map 7.5 minute series
Englewood, Colo. Quadrangle
1965 Scale: 1:24000