
NAME: ~~The~~ Burton
LOCATION: 821-823 ~~North~~ Pennsylvania Street
OWNER: Richard R. Hamilton
ADDRESS: 500 North Dearborn Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46201

MAP NUMBER: 27

7. DESCRIPTION:

The Burton (Photo 30 of 42) is a two-story flats structure whose main facade faces North Pennsylvania Street. This west facade of yellow stucco has a central single door entrance covered by a semicircular metal hood arch supported by console brackets. Above the entrance, in the center of the facade, is a large two part window containing a double multi-light transom. The first floor windows are divided into three parts and are topped by large, segmental flat panels. The second story windows are also divided into three parts. The flanking windows contain multi-light transoms. The central windows have multi-light upper sash. A red tile roof projects out over the west facade. The north and south facades project above the roof forming stepped gables. The building is basically rectangular in shape and has thirteen windows along the north and south facades. The style is reminiscent of Spanish Colonial Revival.

8. SIGNIFICANCE:

The Burton is significant for its architectural type and for its role in real estate development. By May of 1919 when the Burton Realty Company applied for a building permit, the 800 and 900 blocks of North Pennsylvania Street were dotted with apartments of varying size and description. The first entry for the Burton Flats, a modified "Eastern" flat, in the Polk City Directory is 1920 and listed only three vacancies. It is obvious that the area had become a desirable place to live. The twenty-one residents were for the most part single workers with a few widows. There were many single women who listed their occupations as teacher, stenographer, or bookkeeper. This type of small manageable apartment was the perfect home for this fast-growing segment of the American work force.

Because the Index to the 1919 Fee Books is all that remains of that year's records it is impossible to ascertain the contractor for the Burton or the cost of the structure. The 1919 City Directory of Indianapolis lists only one Burton in the real estate business and there is no listing for a Burton Realty Company. Edward H. Burton, real estate, resided at 17 South Addison Street. First appearing in the City Directory in 1910, Burton's occupation was cited as "shoes" and in 1912 as "dry goods," both possibly failing retail ventures. In 1913 he was listed for the first time in the real estate business and continued to be in every succeeding year to 1941.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

Quadrangle Name: Indianapolis West

Quadrangle Scale: 1:24,000

Downtown Apartment Flats Thematic Resources
Indianapolis, Indiana

CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 73

NAME: The Burton
LOCATION: 821-823 North Pennsylvania Street
OWNER: Richard R. Hamilton
ADDRESS: 500 North Dearborn Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46201

MAP NUMBER: 27

UTM REFERENCES:

16	572320	4403290
Zone	Easting	Northing

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Parcel 1-01-26656. Danforth and Knox Subdivision, Lot Nineteen, Outlot One Hundred Seventy-three. Key Code 81-010-015.