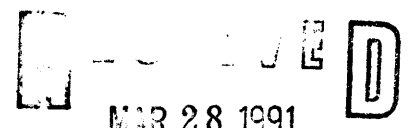


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hotel Roosevelt
other names/site number Roosevelt Hotel; Roosevelt Royale Hotel

2. Location

street & number 200 First Avenue, NE N/A not for publication
city, town Cedar Rapids N/A vicinity
state Iowa code IA county Linn code 113 zip code 52401

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
[Signature] 3/21/91
Signature of certifying official Date
State Historical Society of Iowa
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. Entered in the National Register 5/1/91
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:)
[Signature] Signature of the Keeper
Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/hotel

COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty stores

COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurants

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/hotel

COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty stores

COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant

DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals

other: Georgian Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls concrete

brick

roof asphalt

other terra cotta

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1927

Significant Dates
1927

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Beidler, Herbert Bishop, architect for
Krenn & Dato of Chicago
O.F. Paulson Construction, Builders

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS): --

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Cedar Rapids Public Library

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property less than one acre

UTM References

A

1	5
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6	1	0	3	2	0
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4	6	4	8	1	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Original Town SW 20' Lot 8 and all lots 9 & 10 of Block 16, and that part vacated streets SW & SE of and adjacent thereto as described B 1642, p. 122.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Karen L. Kummer/Architectural Historian and Dana L. Pratt/Preservation Planner
organization The URBANA Group, Inc. date October, 1990
street & number 110 S. Race St., Suite 200 telephone 217/344-7526
city or town Urbana state Illinois zip code 61801

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Linn Co., IA

Section number 7 Page 1

The 1927 Hotel Roosevelt is a twelve-story building of modified Georgian Revival style architecture in multi-colored wire-cut brick (running bond veneer) with stone and terra cotta trim. It is located at the northeast corner of First Avenue and Second Street, Northeast, a major downtown Cedar Rapids intersection. Structural and historical integrity have been preserved except for modifications to the street level facade, the interior lobby space, and banquet areas. The nomination consists of one contributing building.

The 300-room Roosevelt Hotel was constructed of reinforced concrete and steel with concrete floors. The building rests on a reinforced concrete foundation. The basement, first, and second floors occupy the full rectangular parcel measuring about 140 by 140 feet. The upper stories (3 through 12) have an L-shaped plan following the southwest and southeast to a depth of about 48 feet. Each leg of the L has a double loaded central corridor with rooms on each side. The space not occupied by the L has a flat roof above the level of the second story ceiling. To the northeast of the hotel is an adjacent nine-level, brick and concrete parking garage which has entrances to the hotel's corridors from each level. An alley runs along the hotel's northwest side. The hotel has a flat asphalt roof with a penthouse at the L-intersection which houses the heating and air conditioning system; additional modern mechanical ducts are located atop the roof.

Exterior

The twelve-story main (southeast) facade faces onto First Avenue and has seven bays on the first story and twelve bays on the upper stories. The first story storefronts are spatially intact although modern infill has replaced the original stores with their recessed entries. Brick piers divide the first story bays, with those piers on the south half retaining their original high granite bases and transoms (infilled). Located above each storefront and below a terra cotta stringcourse is a large plain rectangular terra cotta panel with flanking smaller terra cotta panels. The smaller panels consist of festoons below a center cartouche with either a "H" or a "R" embossed thereon. The north storefronts have been altered with large recessed aluminum frame windows and a modern door with transom (center and far north storefronts) and a modern multi-light window and "half-timbering" (storefront north of main entry). The south three storefronts have been infilled with "half-timbering."

The main entry is deeply recessed with two-light double doors set in a simple architrave; the surrounding area is rough stuccoed. Large elaborate terra cotta panels with urns, pedestals, fruit, and foliage line the tops and sides

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Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Linn Co., IA

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of the recess with granite baseboards below. A modern canvas canopy projects out from the main entry with the area above the entryway and below the canopy rough stuccoed in the canopy's semi-circular shape. A "ghost" of the original flat metal awning remains as do the anchor bolts.

The upper stories of the hotel are multi-colored wire-cut brick and are divided into 12 bays. Upper story windows are six-over-one double hung sash, although those on the top three floors (10 through 12) have been replaced with one-over-one double hung sash. The third through eleventh stories have header brick sills with soldier flat arches. The second and twelfth stories are embellished with terra cotta trim: spandrel panels composed of engaged balusters set on the first story stringcourse and joined by a narrow stringcourse/continuous sill. The south and east end three bays have elaborate terra cotta cartouches with center urns and "volutes" of foliage centered above the windows. The center six windows have pediments with a plain frieze and a narrow egg and dart bed molding set on brackets. Terra cotta patera flank the windows. The twelfth story has similar pedimented center windows with foliated panels set above the pediments and immediately below the building's wide cornice. The end bays' windows have flat cornices with a plain frieze; patera are set between the windows and the building's cornice. Four terra cotta urns decorate the top of the cornice with knobs (balls set on pedestals) between. A flag pole stands atop the center of the cornice and a large lighted "ROOSEVELT" sign above the roof is diagonally placed across the south corner.

The details of the main (southeast) facade are duplicated on the secondary (southwest) facade which faces Second Street. This facade, however, is comprised of two sections: a twelve story south half and a two story north half. The main entry is slightly off-center to the south and is similar in detail to the First Avenue entry. Fixed glass windows and "half-timbering" infill the two storefronts south of the entry. The north storefronts have been modernized with recessed six-light sash above brick planting beds and below a new wood cornice; the original transom area is infilled. The second story repeats the details of the main facade, although the north three windows are infilled with brick. The twelfth story has similar detailing with three flat cornice and two pedimented windows.

The northwest facade is brick with the concrete frame of piers and floors exposed, and is L-shaped above the second story. The west "L" leg has a center metal fire escape with access doors extending from the third to the ninth floor; the top three floors' fire escape has been removed and the doors infilled. The main cornice returns along this elevation and is decorated with two urns and two knobs. The northwest leg has one-over-one and three-vertical

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Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Linn Co., IA

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over three-vertical sash with header brick sills. Two large mechanical ducts extend down from the roof. The north end fire escape has been removed and the doorways infilled.

A nine-level brick and concrete parking deck is adjacent to the northeast facade; the hotel's upper three stories extend above the garage. The main facade brickwork returns for one bay with a single one-over-one window to the south. Concrete piers are exposed on the north half and a large metal enclosed stair tower is slightly off-center to the north. The main cornice continues on the narrow northeast facade of the hotel, decorated with corner urns and one knob. The adjacent parking deck is of a distinctly different style of architecture, but the concrete structure of its floor levels lines up with the corresponding floors of the hotel on the First Avenue facade, lending a slight degree of design compatibility. Completed in 1966, the parking deck replaced an earlier commercial building, therefore no major elevation changes to the hotel resulted. A modern metal and tinted glass skywalk extends from the second level of the garage, adjacent to the hotel, across First Avenue. The skywalk has no direct impact on the hotel. Visually, the skywalk indirectly affects the hotel by blocking views of the second and third levels when approaching from the east on First Avenue.

Interior

The plan of the first floor focuses on a central lobby with dining rooms to the east and west, service areas to the rear (north), and storefronts to the south. Entrances allow access to these areas from the interior lobby.

Although modifications to the interior space have occurred during redecoration schemes over the years, the spatial and functional quality is intact. The most major alteration involved replacement of the two-story central lobby space with a high ceiling on the first floor and additional banquet area on the second floor. Seven large original piers, however, still delineate the lobby space and the registration desk remains in its original location. A vault has replaced the baggage room to the west of the desk, but hotel office space remains behind and to the east of the desk.

Restaurants are located to the east and west of the lobby. Although remodeled numerous times to reflect current decorating taste, restaurants have always operated in these areas. The main kitchen is located to the rear of the lobby space and serves the two restaurants. It contains the original oven, walk-in cooler, freight elevator, and service stairs to the basement and second floor.

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Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Linn Co., IA

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Three passenger elevators remain in their original locations (southwest of the central lobby) as does the brass mail chute and collection box. A staircase leads up to the banquet area on the second floor; its original terrazzo treads and ornate metal railing are intact. The storefront shops remain, but the original seven stores have been replaced with three large retail spaces.

The second floor is the most altered public space. Four of the original sample rooms located along the south side have been replaced with one large office space and a small conference room. The remaining sample room, five salesmen's hotel rooms and the original roof terrace have been remodeled into a large L-shaped banquet area and banquet kitchen. Additional banquet space was obtained from the original ballroom with its service kitchen, three smaller banquet rooms, three offices, and the flooring over of the upper lobby area. The resulting floor area has movable partitions which can divide the large open space into eight separate areas.

Floors three through nine retain their original room arrangements, opening off a central "L" corridor. The hallways have the original doors and trim, but the ceilings have been dropped. The doors had built-in vents to assist circulation; the frame of these vents has been maintained, although solid wood now infills the vent panel. Carpeting covers the concrete floors with their low mop boards. The rooms contain no architectural detailing aside from some original tubs, stools, and terrazzo bathroom tile; most of the sinks have been replaced. A linen chute is extant on each floor as is the slop closet. Nine-light fire doors are located at the ends of the corridor and an enclosed fire-rated interior stair with metal stand-pipe and metal stair is located near the center. The upper three floors (10-12) were remodeled into eight apartments per floor in 1986. Little original integrity remains.

The Hotel Roosevelt has a full basement which currently houses a beauty salon and a closed restaurant/lounge. The lower level of the adjacent parking structure opens directly into this level and houses the hotel's indoor pool. The remaining basement space houses the original hotel service area: linen room, mechanical and maintenance area, receiving desk, bakery (with its original oven), three walk-in coolers, and dry storage pantry.

Integrity

Hotel operations continue in the Roosevelt up to the present. The hotel retains its structural and functional integrity in both its exterior facades and its interior spaces. The main facades have original terra cotta ornamentation intact. The modern storefront changes maintained the original openings, and do not seriously impact the building's overall integrity. While

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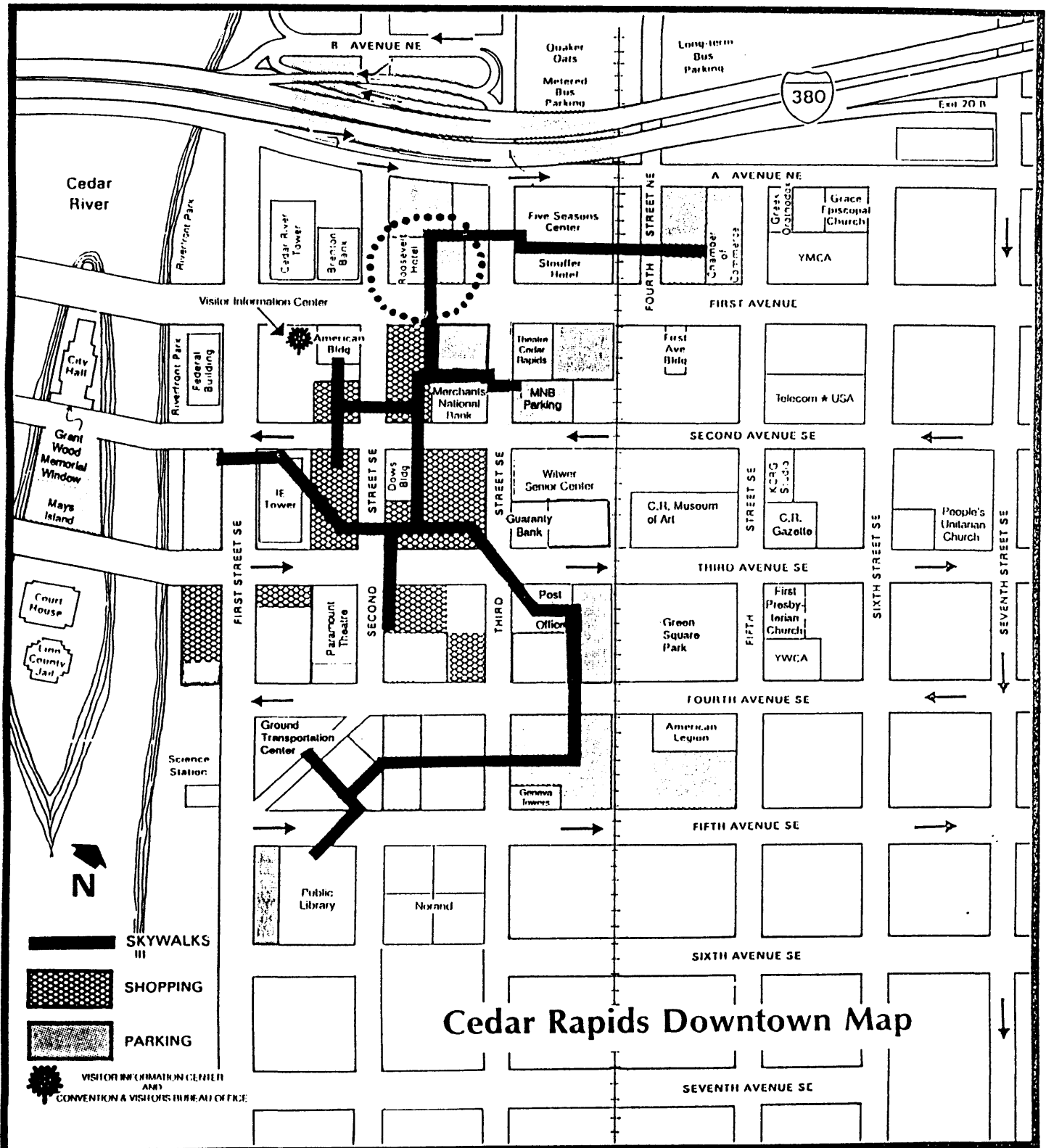
the interior has gone through a number of decoration schemes, the configuration of spaces has remained generally intact. Elements such as floor laundry chutes, mail drops, elevator doors, and the lobby/mezzanine staircase have been retained through the years.

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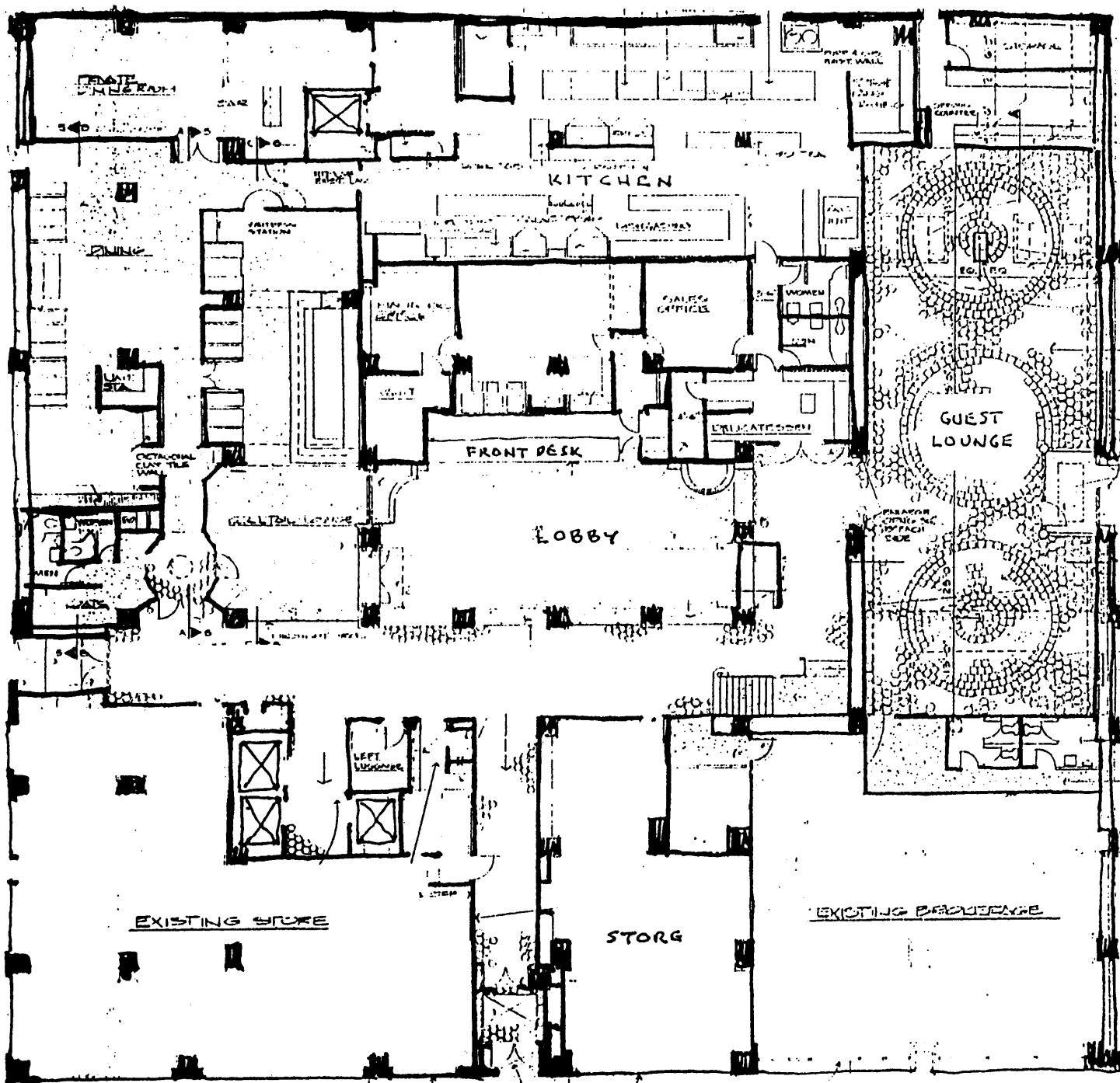


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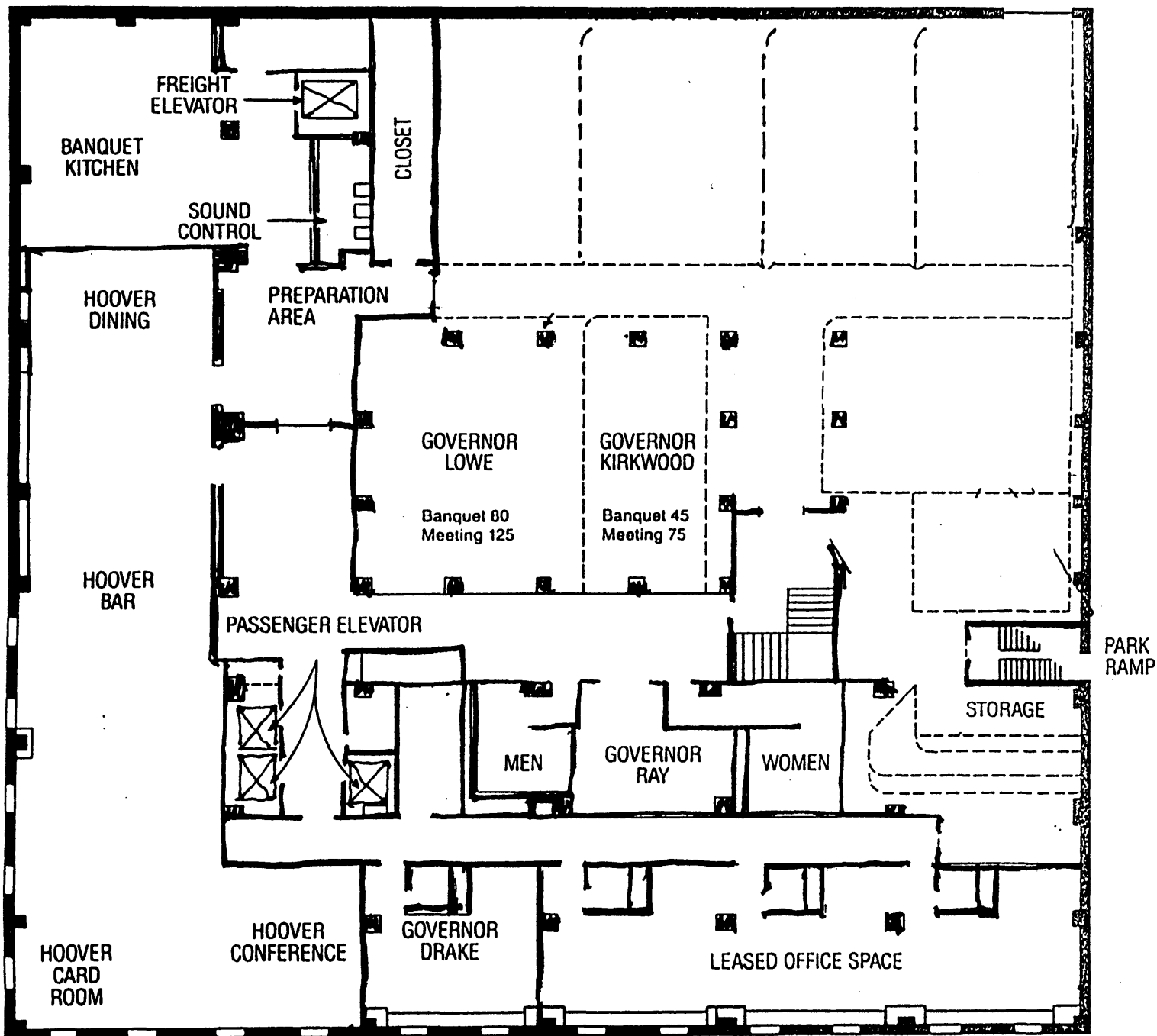
N FIRST FLOOR

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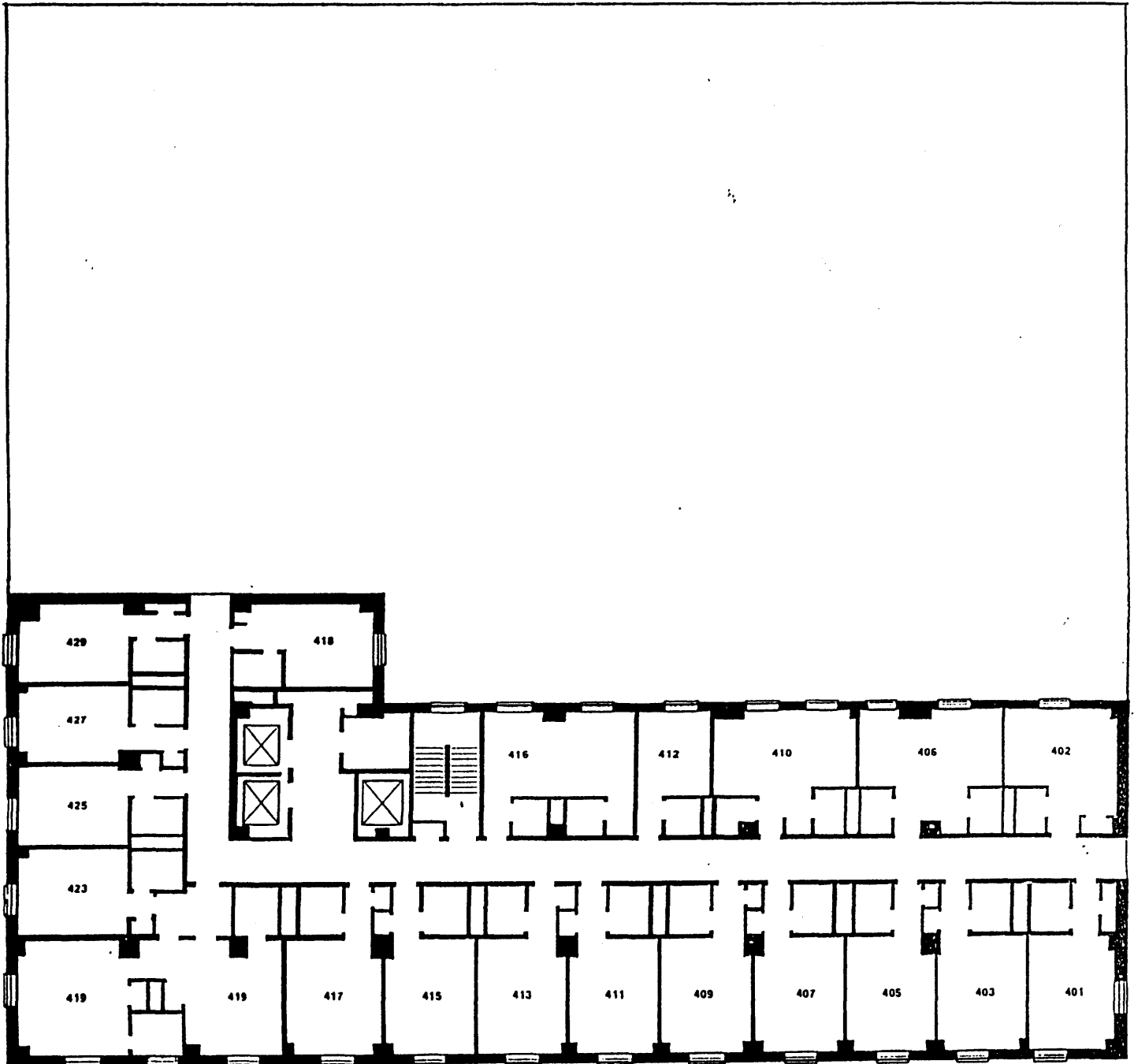
N SECOND FLOOR

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FOURTH FLOOR

Third through ninth floors are all similar
10th, 11th, 12th floors converted to suites

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Historic View from The American Architect, August 5, 1928, p. 195.



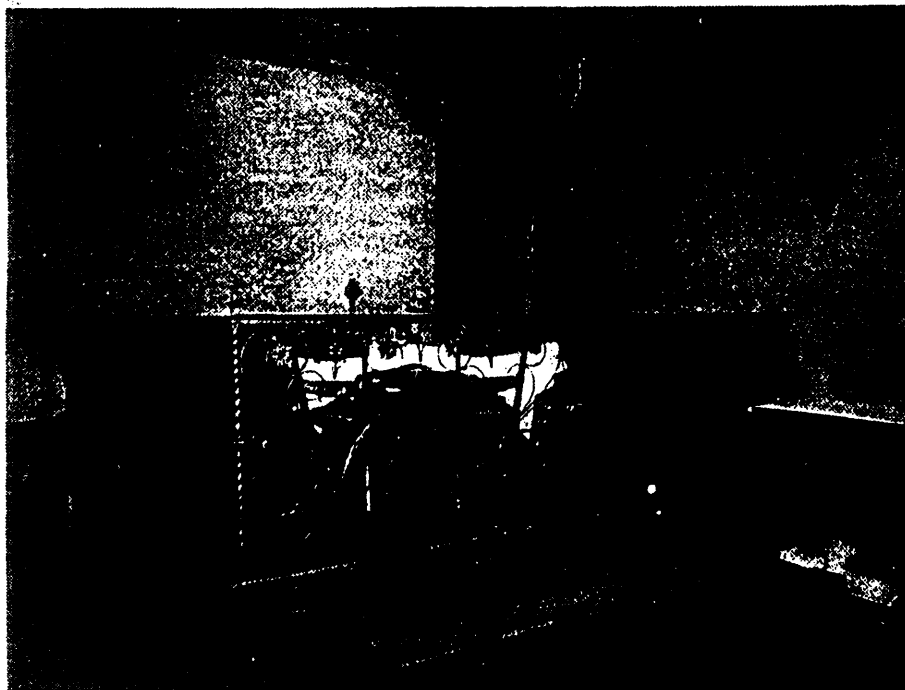
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Historic Views from The American Architect, August 5, 1928, p. 197.



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Historic Views from The American Architect, August 5, 1928, p. 198.



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Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Linn Co., IA

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The Hotel Roosevelt is an architecturally significant representative of the modern commercial hotel movement as it is evidenced in Cedar Rapids (Criterion C). It is also a good local example of Georgian Revival stylistic interpretation of the Classical Revival influence in commercial architecture of the early 20th century.

The hotel was financed by Edith McCormick Rockefeller and designed by the Krenn & Dato firm of Chicago which was responsible for a number of Midwest development projects during this era. The Roosevelt was the anchor building of the rapid development of downtown Cedar Rapids following 1910, and served as the community focal point for lodging, conventions, social, and political events.

Hotel Development

The beginning of the modern American hotel industry can be traced to the 1829 Boston hotel, the Tremont House, designed by Isaiah Rogers. Unlike earlier inns, which consisted of one or two rooms with three to ten beds and usually two guests per bed, the Tremont provided private rooms, trained hotel staff, French cuisine, bellboys, and many other "modern" amenities. The Tremont spurred a widespread development of similar hotels in American cities where, regardless of the fact demand often fell short of supply, a fine, luxurious hotel was viewed as essential to the continued growth and success of a community. This initial hotel boom reached its peak between 1830 and 1850 in the East, and later in newly developing communities as settlement spread West.¹

By the end of the nineteenth century, large city hotels had evolved into ultra-luxurious architectural derivations of the grand resort hotels and palaces of Europe. Examples of these resort hotels included the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, the Brown Palace in Denver, and the Palace in San Francisco. These hotels were characterized by their grand scale and magnificent ornamentation, including heavy gilding and lavish use of marble. In contrast, smaller communities typically had only various basic hotels, often one or two story frame buildings of a rooming-house variety usually located near the railroad station.²

In his discussion of the development of the hotel industry, Paul Lattin describes a new phase of hotel building:

At the turn of the century there were two new developments in the United States that were to influence twentieth century hotel operation. First, as the country's economy expanded, the commercial traveler became increasingly prominent in the business

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world. As this group grew in number, there developed a corresponding increasing need for suitable hotel accommodations and conveniences to serve it. Second, improvements in transportation made travel easier and less expensive. In a society seemingly ever restless and eager to be on the move, such a development immediately led to a tremendous upsurge in the number of travelers. Once the middle class of American society could afford travel expenses, it became an entirely new segment of the traveling public.³

The 1908 Statler Hotel in Buffalo, New York, set the precedent for meeting the new demands of the traveling population in the form of the modern commercial hotel. Specialized services, now standard in the industry, were first introduced in this hotel including such conveniences as private baths, full length mirrors, fire doors, circulating ice water, and free newspapers. The Statler chain of hotels dominated the hotel world until the 1930s. The demand for a modern, convenient and service-oriented hotel within the budget of the average American had been met, and was copied in a new wave of hotels built in large and small communities throughout the country.⁴

Following a decline during World War I, the construction of commercial hotels "reached an all time peak, both in numbers built and dollars expended" during the 1920s.⁵ Room occupancy jumped from 72 percent in 1919 to 86 percent in 1920, so hotel investment was very attractive. During this period the hotel, rather than government buildings or churches, became the measure by which a city judged itself and expected others to judge it. Commercial hotels were built as an expression of civic pride and to serve as the center of community activity.

In the small towns, the hotel became the embodiment of community growth--as if by some miracle the construction of a hotel would eventually lead to a thriving metropolis.⁶ Hotel investment often came from within the community, with a 75-125 room hotel the standard symbol of local pride and confidence in the future. The most common design of these hotels consisted of a magnificent lobby space, a dining room/restaurant, a bar, and commercial storefronts on the ground floor. A grand ballroom was usually located on a second floor mezzanine with guest rooms on the remainder of the upper floors.

Describing commercial hotels of this period in a pictorial history of the United States published in 1926, Ralph Gabriel states:

A hotel is much more than a place of temporary or even permanent residence. Developing along more public lines it has become almost a civic monument, a center of communal life. There great

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Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Linn Co., IA

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dinners are held, balls are given, many political organizations are housed and mass meetings called. There "society," and those who ape it, drink tea and dance. In the course of this development it has become in a very real sense a town hall, a place in which the whole people feels an instinctive if irrational ownership. It is this public character that has made necessary the great monumental lobbies, the magnificent ballrooms, the capacious restaurants.⁷

By 1930, construction of this hotel building type had come to an end. The Great Depression emptied hotel rooms and business dropped to an all time low. The over building and lack of experience among enthusiastic hotel promoters and operators of the 1920s added to the disaster so that many financial experts thought the industry would never recover. Over 85 percent of the nation's hotels suffered serious financial difficulty during this decade, with many of their properties being taken over by lending institutions.⁸

Architecture

The Roosevelt is significant as a local representative of the type of hotel constructed in small and medium size communities throughout the nation during the period between 1900 and 1930. Its layout, architectural design, and construction materials are typical of the hotels built in growing communities like Cedar Rapids. As with many other commercial hotels of the period, it was "built and equipped to fulfill modern requirements in a most modern manner" including two high-speed passenger and two service elevators and "all mechanical equipment of the very latest and highest type."⁹ These hotels were designed to offer as many services and luxuries to the guests as possible. In the case of the Roosevelt, six classes of rooms were available based on size, furnishings and bath facilities. Guests were served by a dining room, grill room and a sandwich shop. Similarly, cigar and news stands, taxi service offices and check rooms adjoined the lobby while a barber shop, shoe shine parlor, public washrooms and other facilities were available in the basement to cater to patrons' needs.

The Roosevelt is the only remaining historic hotel in Cedar Rapids. Other hotels of its character were the Hotel Montrose (1905), the Allison Hotel (1904), The Hotel Lincoln (1915), the Magnus Hotel (c. 1925) and the Grand Hotel (1879). The 300 room Hotel Montrose was the major competitor for the Roosevelt for many years and the two were viewed in Cedar Rapids as "two first-class hotels to accommodate its many national and international visitors. Both of these hotels provided the facilities where the city's

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Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Linn Co., IA

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economic growth was planned and implemented."¹⁰ The Montrose was a third class hotel by the 1960s and was demolished in 1988 to provide space for anticipated new development, which has still not occurred; the site remains vacant.

The inherent ideals of classical culture and architecture were important to Americans of the early twentieth century. In a truly American fashion, however, the rigid rules of the classic styles were modified while maintaining the overall effect of classicism. The simple modified Georgian Revival interpretation of classical motifs of the Roosevelt illustrate this tradition while using brick and terra cotta ornamentation, rather than stone masonry. Its straightforward hotel design and handsome construction materials make an important architectural statement in downtown Cedar Rapids. In addition, its imposing 12 stories mark it as one of the dominating downtown buildings. The L shape of the Roosevelt was highly regarded since it allowed for every room to be an outside room including those on the west side with a view toward the Cedar River.

The Roosevelt was the product of Krenn & Dato, a Chicago-based real estate firm which became one of the nation's largest real estate companies during the 1920s.¹¹ Herbert Bishop Beidler, supervising architect for Krenn & Dato from 1925 to 1932, was architect for the Roosevelt. The only other principal work he designed for the firm was the Sherland Building in South Bend, Indiana, which is extant, but due to many alterations is not recognizable as a historic building. The Krenn and Dato firm was established in 1922, sponsored by funds from the famous millionaire Edith Rockefeller McCormick, the youngest daughter of John D. Rockefeller. Krenn & Dato managed investments for Mrs. McCormick, including projects like the Roosevelt, and eventually handled assets of nearly \$40 million. They were responsible for developing large tracts of Chicago and other communities "stretching from Calumet in the South to Kenosha on the North and DuPage County on the West."¹² After the Stock Market Crash of 1929, however, Krenn & Dato's assets dwindled and the firm was eventually dissolved within months after Mrs. McCormick's death in 1932.

Commerce

The Roosevelt was constructed at a time of rapid growth in the City of Cedar Rapids. Between 1910 and 1920 Cedar Rapids had experienced a nearly 40 percent population increase over the previous decade. Major nationally known industries including the largest Quaker Oats mill of its kind in the United States, the T.M. Sinclair Packing Plant, Penick & Ford, manufacturers of starch products, and many other large companies were prospering during the era in which the Roosevelt was built. The city was expanding and developing new streets, parks, schools, subdivisions, utilities, and civic improvements.¹³

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Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Linn Co., IA

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In order to keep up with the demand for hotel facilities for local businesses and industries as well as to attract conventions to Cedar Rapids, local businessmen and the enterprising financiers Krenn & Dato, teamed together to construct the Roosevelt.

The hotel was largely the product of investment by Edith Rockefeller McCormick which enabled Krenn & Dato to erect the hotel in 1927. While the Chicago firm provided financing for the common stock, the owners of the property on which the hotel was built and about 100 other local citizens invested in the preferred stock. Bonds were sold to the public. The hotel project was viewed as "a monument to the foresight of leading citizens of Cedar Rapids," and was marking "one more step toward the vision of Iowa's convention center."¹⁴ The project recognized the need for up-to-date accommodations in a community which had great growth potential due to its attractive business and industrial centers. In response to this need, Krenn & Dato hired local firms including contractors, plumbers, electricians, decorators, heating companies and others to create a first-class hotel facility. Over \$800,000 was invested in the construction of the Roosevelt.

The hotel contributed to downtown commercial activity as it attracted guests from across the country as well as offering services to local citizens. The local paper acknowledged that the nine retail stores with exterior and interior window spaces and entrances generated "an increased amount of retail business in this section of the City" and "conveniently serve the hotel guests as well as the shoppers on the street."¹⁵ The barber shop, banquet hall, grill room and sandwich shop also catered to the public. Additionally, hotel guests were within easy walking distance of other downtown businesses and restaurants.

The success of the hotel was critically tied to its direct access to the major transportation networks of the community. The main advertisement for the hotel found in City Directories and the Hotel Redbooks always characterized the hotel by stating it was "located within walking distance from all railroad stations." In addition, the hotel was adjacent to Highway 30, the Lincoln Highway, which at that time was the main New York to San Francisco thoroughfare.

Throughout the years, the hotel fulfilled expectations as it quickly became the center of social activity. For decades, in addition to serving travellers and conventions as the finest hotel in the community, the Roosevelt became the gathering place for a number of fraternal groups and professional organizations. One such organization was the Pickwick Club, an exclusive club of local business and professional leaders founded in the 1930s and maintaining quarters in the basement.¹⁶ In addition, service clubs, weddings, civic and political meetings and a variety of banquets have been

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Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Linn Co., IA

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held in the building. Among the famous patrons of the hotel were Harry Truman, Herbert Hoover, Dwight Eisenhower, and celebrities including Eddie Arnold, Jimmy Dean, Art Linkletter and Phyllis Diller. The Roosevelt was also the scene of one of Cedar Rapids' most publicized murder cases, an alleged love-triangle slaying: the Rutledge-Hattman case in 1948.¹⁷

Although it has had a variety of owners in recent years and was closed briefly in the late twentieth century, the Roosevelt has maintained its role and status in the community and continues in use as a hotel operation.

Endnotes

1. Paul Lattin, Modern Hotel and Motel Management, (San Francisco: W.H. Freeman & Co., 1977), p. 7.
2. Ibid., p. 8.
3. Ibid., p. 8.
4. Ibid., 9.
5. Ibid., p. 10.
6. Daniel Boorstin, The Americans, (New York: Random House, 1965), p. 142.
7. Ralph Gabriel, The American Spirit in Architecture, (Yale University Press, 1926), p. 280.
8. Donald Lundberg, The Hotel and Restaurant Business, (Boston: Cahner Books International, Inc., 1976), p. 51.
9. "Hotel Roosevelt Completed, To Be Opened," The Cedar Rapids Sunday Gazette and Republican, August 14, 1927, p. 4.
10. "Crude, plush or mediocre, countless inns marked Cedar Rapids' growth," Cedar Rapids Gazette, December 23, 1981, p. 7A.
11. "Edwin Krenn Dies; Mass set for Today. Subdivided Suburbs in 20s Boom," Chicago Tribune, October 22, 1965.

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12. Ibid.

13. Bartholomew & Associates, City Plan and Landscape Engineers, A City Plan for Cedar Rapids, (St. Louis, 1931).

14. "Hotel Roosevelt Completed, To Be Opened," The Cedar Rapids Sunday Gazette and Republican, August 14, 1927, p. 4.

15. Ibid.

16. "Silence Haunts the Halls at Roosevelt Hotel," Cedar Rapids Gazette, February 2, 1975, p. 1A.

17. "Roosevelt Ready for Inside Look," Cedar Rapids Gazette, January 9, 1977, p. 10A.

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Koyl, George S., editor. A.I.A. Directory. New York: R.R. Bowker Co., 1955.

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National Park Service**

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The following information applies to all photographs included with this submission:

Hotel Roosevelt
200 First Avenue, NE
Cedar Rapids, Linn Co, IA
Photographer: The URBANA Group/Karen Kummer
June, 1990
Negatives: The URBANA Group, 110 S. Race St., Suite 200,
Urbana, IL 61801

Photo Views

- #1/7 - camera facing north
First Avenue and Second St., NE facades
- #2/7 - camera facing east
rear and Second St., NE facades
- #3/7 - camera facing northwest
window and terra cotta panel details
- #4/7 - camera facing north
terra cotta entrance panel detail
- #5/7 - camera facing northeast
main lobby
- #6/7 - camera facing southwest
elevator lobby
- #7/7 - camera facing east
interior staircase from lobby area to banquet spaces;
terrazzo floors.