Downtown Apartment Flats Thematic Resources Indianapolis, Indiana CONTINUATION SHEET

MAP NUMBER: 37

NAME: The Wyndham LOCATION: 1040 North Delaware Street OWNER: Frank Snyder ADDRESS: 1040 North Delaware Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

## 7. DESCRIPTION:

,2.2

The seven-story high, four-bay wide Wyndham (Photo 42 of 42) makes use of limestone ornament of the Tudor Gothic Revival style to enrich its symmetrical facade of multicolor brick. At ground level a wide, pointed limestone arch leads into the recessed, vaulted entry with two doors of the same form. The focus of the building is the intricately detailed stone-faced oriel at the central two bays of the second and third floor. The rhythm created by the six narrow windows is accentuated by the supporting corbels, the trefoil moldings of the spandrel, and the shields of the oriel's parapet. The two central bays of the fourth through seventh floors are recessed. Its windows are the only ones of the facade without stone casings and side quoins. The top floor is set off by a wide stone belt course and features the same triple arched windows in an unusual motif of stepped voussoirs also seen on the second floor. The parapet's four blind trefoil arches are united by stepped coping. The Wyndham's facade has not undergone any alteration since the time of its construction (Photo 41 of 42).

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE:

The Wyndham is the largest and last of four apartment buildings that Foster Engineering (see 8. Significance, page 21) constructed in the 1920's for F. Rolland Buck (see 8. Significance, page 21). Of outstanding Tudor Gothic Revival design, this multi-story, "high rise" apartment building is significant in the areas of architecture, engineering, construction, and commercial/real estate development.

After the Shelton (Photo 36 of 42) was completed in 1925, the Fosters built the Rotherwood (1927) and the Marleigh (1928) for Buck. With the construction of the Marleigh, Foster Engineering confirmed their reputation for efficiency and accuracy. The use of a patented "unit slab construction" process allowed for unusual speed in the construction of a building. At the March 1 contract signing Mr. Buck, seeking to capitalize on this speed, offered one half of the August rent he collected if the Fosters could have the building ready for August occupancy. Foster Engineering ordered the building's stone trim, finish hardware and door frames the same day. The union laborers were also impressed with the efficiency of the engineering firm and workers involved in the concrete pouring asked that a sign be posted as each floor was poured. Other unions, not wishing to be outdone, asked for similar signs advertising the speed of their work until the rapid pace of the construction became the talk of the city and traffic was stopped every evening to read what had been accomplished during the day.

The Bass Photo (Photo 41 of 42) of August 1, 1929 shows the completed Wyndham ready for occupancy. With eight apartments on each floor, the forty-eight units were evenly divided between efficiencies and one bedroom apartments making the fashionable residence extremely popular with single tenants and widows.

Page 88

Downtown Apartment Flats Thematic Resources Indianapolis, Indiana CONTINUATION SHEET

Photo 89

MAP NUMBER: 37

NAME: The Wyndham LOCATION: 1040 North Delaware Street OWNER: Frank Snyder ADDRESS: 1040 North Delaware Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre Quadrangle Name: Indianapolis West

Quadrangle Scale: 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES:

<u>ب</u>ر ...

**16 572450 4403710** 

Zone Easting Northing

## **BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:**

Parcel 1-01-83602. Hanson's Subdivision, Bruce Baker Addition, Lot Twenty, Block Eight. Key Code 76-005-027.