Downtown Apartment Flats Thematic Resources Indianapolis, Indiana

CONTINUATION SHEET

MAP NUMBER: 25

Page 68

NAME: The Mayleeno LOCATION: 416-418 E<del>ast</del> Vermont St<del>reet</del> OWNER: Jeff L. and Jan Hair ADDRESS: 4302 East New York Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46201

## 7. DESCRIPTION:

The Mayleeno (Photo 28 of 42) lacks the high style design and detailing of other apartment flats in this group. More twentieth century functional, but reminiscent of the Craftsman Arts and Crafts movement, this three-story, U-shaped brick and limestone structure faces south on East Vermont Street. The visible street elevation is actually a second facade projecting four feet from the fenestration wall to create screened balcony porches in front of each apartment unit. The large vertical openings are filled with wood frames. The brick used on the south elevation is a dark purple cinder type. The other facades are common bond red brick. The first story has an irregular limestone stringcourse eight feet above ground level. The two entrance doors and shingle canopy roofs are recent alterations. The wall plane above the entrances is recessed six inches. Four part casement windows are used to light the stairways. Limestone is used to accent the keystones and corner blocks. The coping is also limestone. There are two small, rectangular vent windows with clathri lattice muntins. The fenestration wall projects up behind the porch elevation to form an attic with limestone coping. Seven raised pieces of stone form block-like plinths with limestone drops. The patterned brickwork here using rowlock and soldier courses identifies the style of the Mayleeno more closely with the Craftsman Arts and Crafts style.

#### 8. SIGNIFICANCE:

Located in a quiet block of East Vermont Street and immediately behind Das Deutsche Haus which is now the Athenaeum (National Register), this "Eastern" flat type apartment's significance lies in commerce/real estate as well as architecture. The Mayleeno's twelve original occupants were either successful professionals or wellto-do retirees and widows. An accountant, dentist, and insurance broker were a few of the occupations listed in the 1914 <u>City Directory</u>. The close proximity of the prestigious Deutsche Haus was certainly an attractive feature of the new building for all of the original occupants as well as the builders/owners were members of the club.

The builders and owners of the Mayleeno were Elijah R., Charles E. and Wilfred A. Osbon. Elijah and his sons comprised Osbon & Sons, builders. The building permit purchased by them in February of 1913 gave an estimated value of \$35,000 for the proposed brick flat. The family must have worked quickly for the building was almost completely filled by the publication of the <u>City Directory</u> of 1914. The Osbon home and business was located at 4808 North Washington Boulevard, a newly developing residential neighborhood which soon became a very fashionable and fast growing part of the city. The Osbon's were ideally situated to participate in the area's rapid residential growth over the following ten years.

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Page 69

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### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre Quadrangle Name: Indianapolis West

Quadrangle Scale: 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES:

16 572830 4402660

Zone Easting Northing

## BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Parcel 1-01-36314. J. D. Thorpe Subdivision Extending Ninety-eight Feet West End and Extending Forty-two Feet East End Lot Seven, Square Twenty. Key Code 81-043-005.