
NAME: ~~The Rink (The Link)~~
LOCATION: 401 ~~North~~ Illinois Street
OWNER: Paul Tipps, General Partner, Savoy-Hoosier Associates
ADDRESS: 3038 North Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33306

MAP NUMBER: 11

7. DESCRIPTION:

On the northeast corner of North Illinois and West Vermont Streets is the Rink, now the Link (Photo 12 of 42), a seven story apartment building on a raised basement. Constructed of brick bearing walls, the building's two main six-bay-wide facades are faced in limestone to the third floor level, in brick (now painted terra cotta color) at its four-story midsection, and in terra cotta at the seventh story. The intersection of the facades is treated with an interesting diagonal corner chamfer cut through its seven stories. The main entrance is located at the street level. The influence of the Renaissance Revival style is most evident at this entrance in the arched doorway and its flanking arched windows and fluted Ionic pilasters, and in the blind balustrade above the finely detailed entablature entrance. Other architectural features of Renaissance inspiration include the channeled rusticated masonry of the raised basement and the banding of the seventh floor, the colossal order Ionic pilasters that rise from the third to the sixth story to accent the corner windows, and the simulated quoins of these same stories flanking the half-pilasters and the building's edges. Further enlivening the facade are four oriels with diagonally paired windows whose spandrels are of houndstooth, basketweave brickwork. These oriels occur at the third through sixth floors (two on Illinois and two on Vermont) and feature carved eagles at their bases. The building terminates in a heavy overhanging metal dentil cornice. A partial attic story was later added to the building above the cornice.

8. SIGNIFICANCE:

Valued at the time of construction at \$165,000, the Rink is significant for its architecture and commercial/real estate development. An unusual pre-World War I example of the multi-level apartment type, this seven-story building was long a fashionable downtown address.

September, 1901

The building permit for this brick and limestone flat was purchased in the name of Joseph A. Rink, a prosperous clothing retailer and long-time resident of Indianapolis. Born in Lawrenceburg in 1858, he came to the city with his family in 1874. Beginning in the retail clothing business as a stock boy, the ambitious Rink became the manager and buyer for the city's largest dry goods store before departing to establish his own business. Rink's Cloak House became the largest cloak and furrier establishment in the state gaining a national reputation. The Bee-Hive, a dry goods store, established by Rink in 1891 prospered as well. Investing his growing fortune in several downtown commercial buildings, Rink must have watched with interest the success of the Blacherne. In 1901 Rink began construction of a similar seven-story building just west of the Blacherne. Located just north of downtown and neighbor to the fashionable Blacherne, the Rink was quickly a profitable success for its owner.

The second owner of the building, Dr. Geothe Link, purchased the apartment from the

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Joseph Rink estate in 1926. A native Hoosier, Dr. Link was a graduate of the Central College for Physicians in 1902. Establishing a practice in the city, he was on the faculty of the Central College of Medicine and one of the founders of Indiana University School of Medicine. Dr. Link, changed the building name from the Rink to the Link for reasons that are obvious enough. The apartment continued to be a fashionable and convenient downtown address.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Acreage: Less than one acre

Quadrangle Name: Indianapolis West

Quadrangle Scale: 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES:

16	572000	4402680
Zone	Easting	Northing

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Parcel 10-42372. Eighty Feet South Line by Eighty-two and a half Feet Southwest Corner, Block Fifteen. Fifty Feet South Line by Eighty-two and a half Feet East of Fifty Feet South West Corner, Block Fifteen. Key Code 80-005-009.