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United States Department of the interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in <u>Guidelines for Completing</u> 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 "hot 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. Use letter quality printer in 12 pitch, using an 85 space line and a 10 space left margin. Use only archival paper (20 pound, acid free paper with a 2% alkaline reserve).

1. Name of Property			
nistoric name	Exton Apartment	s Building	
other names/site number	1260 Apartments		
2. Location			
street & number 1260	North Prospect Avenue	N/A	not for publication
<u>city, town Miiwa</u>	auxee	<u>N/A</u>	vicinity
<u>state Wisconsin</u> code	e Wl county Milwau	kee Code 079	Z1D COGE 53202
3. Classification			
Ownership of Property	Category of Propert	y No. of Resou	irces witnin Property
<u>X</u> private	<u>X</u> buitaing(s)	contributing	g noncontributing
public-local	district	<u> </u>	buildings
public-State	site		sites
public-Federal	structure		structures
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Name of related multiple	e property listing:		louting resources
N/A		National Keg	lister <u>N/A</u>

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DOMESTIC/multiple_dwelling	DOMESTIC/multiple_dwelling	
(enter categories from instructions)	(enter categories from instruction	15)
6. Functions or Use Historic Functions	Current Functions	
. 6		
other, (expiain:)	Signature or the Keeper	Date
		- <u></u>
removed from the National Register.		
determined not eligible for the National Register.		
determined eligible for the National RegisterSee continuation sheet		
5. National Park Service Certification 1, hereby, certify that this property is entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet		1.9.97
State or rederal agency and Dureau		-
Signature of commenting of other officia	uate	
in my opinion, the propertymeets criteriaSee continuation sneet.	does not meet the National Register	
State of Federal agency and pureau	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Signartie of certifying official Stare Historic Preservation Unficer-Wi	Date	
And the.	11/22/36	,
requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 does not meet the National Register c	· · · · · ·	
National Register of Historic Places and	i meets the procedural and profession	nai
as amended, i nereby certify that this _ of eligibility meets the documentation s		
As the designated authority under the Na		•
4. State/Federal Agency Certification		

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/. Description		
Architectural Classification	materiais	
(enter categories from instructions)	(enter categories from instructions)	
	roundation	Concrete
moderne	Walls	LIMESTONE
	roor	Synthetics
	ocner	Steel

vescribe present and historic physical appearance.

The outstanding Art Moderne style apartment house located at 1260 N. Prospect Avenue in the city of Milwaukee, is a free-standing hine-story thirty-four unit building that is positioned in the center of a large, beautifully landscaped, gently sloping rectangular lot that extends east from Prospect Avenue to the edge of a steep pluff that overlooks Juneau Park and Lake Michigan. The building has a rectilinear plan and it measures 62.5-reet-wide x 100-reet-deep. The main racade races northwest onto N. Prospect Avenue, the rear elevation faces southeast towards Lake Michigan, and the two longer side elevations face southwest towards the adjacent white Manor and Lakeshore Apartment buildings and northeast toward an empty adjacent lot. A rull basement story underlies the building and the slope of the site fully reveals the southeast elevation or this story and portions of the northeast and southwest elevations. The building has a reinforced concrete frame supported by a steel subtrame, reinforced concrete floors, and exterior wall surfaces that are clad in panels of Bedford limestone laid over backup tile. All windows are steel sash units and the root is flat and is crowned by an elevator penthouse. Construction on the building (which was originally known as the Exton Apartments) began in the spring of 1938 and was completed in 1939. The owner was Harry J. Grant, then the chairman of the board and publisher of the Milwaukee Journal newspaper, and the designer was prominent Milwaukee architect Herbert W. Tuilgren.

Tuligren's design for this building is arguably the finest example of Art Moderne design in Wisconsin. The modernity of the building's design is underscored by the fact that its exterior is totally defined by the massing of its principal elements, by its surface area, and by its window openings; there are no other design features of significance. The overall design utilizes simple volumetric snapes and it is notable for its complete absence of historical allusions and for its minimal ornamentation. Each of the building's elevations is symmetrical in design and each elevation is also essentially identical to the elevation that lies parallel to it, the only exceptions being the first story of the main facade, where the centered principal entrance to the building is located, and the partially exposed portions of the basement story. Each of the four elevations utilize the same design elements, the most important being a pair of symmetrically placed seven-story-tall polygonal window bays. These tive-sided bays, each story of which reatures a five-unit steel sash window, are the building's most distinctive features and their impact is further extended by the use of adjacent corner window units. The overall result is a building whose substantial mass is relieved by the placement and scale of its window units, which are the building's dominant design features. The building's architectural significance is also greatly enhanced by its high degree of integrity.

The Exton Apartments is located just to the north of the central business district or Milwaukee, Wisconsin's largest city, and across from a three-way intersection where the northeast-southwest running N. Prospect Avenue meets with the east-west running B. Knapp Street and the north-south running N. Franklin Place. North Prospect Avenue is a principal thoroughtare that begins at the east end of Wisconsin

<u>x</u> See continuation sheet

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Avenue, historically the downtown's principal east-west thoroughtare. It then runs northeast for some distance along the top of the bluff that overlooks Lake Michigan, which defines the city of Milwaukee's eastern boundary.

The Exton Apartments races onto Burns Triangle, a small landscaped open space roughly triangular in snape that was formed by the intersection of the three roads mentioned above. To the southwest of the bullding (along Prospect Avenue) are located the two older apartment houses mentioned earlier and to the west across Prospect Avenue is a small collection of superb nineteenth century mansions that comprise the First Ward Triangle Historic District (NRHP 3-19-87). The Exton Apartments dominates the less tail bulldings in its immediate vicinity, which is part of an area that is still one of Milwaukee's most desirable heighborhoods.

A service drive runs along the northeast edge of the building's lot and it leads to a service entrance that is located in the pasement story of the pullding's northeastfacing side elevation. Vehicular traffic associated with the building's tenants arrives at the main entrance of the building via a semi-circular asphalt drive whose ends both exit onto N. Prospect Ave. This entrance is flanked by two small areas that are attractively landscaped with ground cover and with trimmed decorative shrubs and small trees. The landscaped area to the right of the entrance also extends around the west corner of the building as well and it is continued along much of the length of the building's southwest-facing side elevation. Somewhat larger areas of lawn border these smaller, more intensively landscaped areas, including two strips of lawn that run along both sides of a straight flagstone walkway that runs parallel to the entire length of the southwest elevation. This walkway is also bordered by a tall hedge that shields it from a large blacktopped parking lot next door that services the adjacent apartment buildings and it terminates at a flight of stone steps that leads down to a large, sunken, circular area of lawn that is located at the rear of the building. This lawn is rimmed with a low flagstone wall and trees and other plantings placed in the corners of the lot rianking it frame a magnificent view looking out over Lake Michigan.

A concrete path leads from the front drive to the main entrance and this path is sheltered by a large rist metal entrance canopy that was added to the building in the early 1960s, this being the only alteration to the exterior of the building. This canopy is supported by eight thin steel posts and its plan when seen from above is keynole-shaped. Downlights are inserted into the ceiling of the canopy and a large circular opening in the canopy roof is placed directly above a circular stone fountain and planter that divides the path leading to the entrance.

## Exterior

The principal design elements governing the exterior appearance of the Exton Apartments are all visible on its main facade, and these elements are repeated with minor variations on each of the building's other three elevations. The organization

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or the main racade (and thus the other elevations) can be better understood when one understands the basic organizing principal that governs the arrangement of the apartments inside. Stories 1 - 8 consist entirely of two-story rive-room duplex apartment units, and there are eight units for every two stories, for a total of 32. The building's ninth story consists of two one-story six-room penthouse apartment units.

#### Northwest-facing Principal Facade

The towering 62.5-reet-wide nine-story-tall northwest-facing principal facade of the Exton Apartments is symmetrical in design and consists of a flat wall surface that would be completely rectangular in shape were it not for the fact that the upper corners have been cut away to accommodate two small terraces that serve the frontfacing ninth story penthouse. This wall surface is clad in limestone panels and it is six-bays-wide.

The dominant reatures of the racade are two projecting identical seven-story-tail five-sided bays that occupy the second and fifth bays. Filling the space between the two bays on the first story is a projecting fiat-rooted rectilinear plan onestory entrance vestibule. The outer corners of this vestibule are rounded and its centrally placed entrance door is fianked by rounded stone jambs as well, jambs that are decorated with deep vertical reeding. The entrance door is reached by ascending three curved limestone steps that are now flanked by wrought iron balustrades having polished brass handralis.<sup>4</sup> These steps lead up to a small curvilinear stone terrace that spans the width of the vestibule. One then enters the vestibule through the main entrance door, which consists of a large plate glass single light door that is bound in brass, as are the two one-light full-height sidelights that flank it.<sup>4</sup>

The inner naives of the first stories of the two seven-story bays are covered by the entrance vestibule. The remaining outer halves are clad in limestone and are curved. Three small stepped rectilinear-snaped window openings are set into each of them, and each opening contains a small two-over-two light double hung steel sash. A wide norizontal limestone band is placed above each set of windows at a level that is equal with the height or the entrance canopy and these bands are each decorated with three raised stone circles, one circle being placed above each of the windows. The curved surfaces or the two bays continue upward until they meet the sill levels of the second story window groups. These windows light the solarium located in the second story of the duplex unit inside and they consist of five flat window units placed in a continuous band that follows the curve of the bay, giving the bay a faceted appearance that is continued upward for the remaining height of the bay.

- These balusters are later additions. Originally there were none.

Originally, the entrance door was sheltered by a flat, shallow, curved concrete entrance hood that spanned the width of the vestibule just above the door. This nood was later replaced with the larger entrance canopy described previously.

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These five equal-sized steel sash rectifinear Window units (whose brand name was Fenestra) each have five norizontally divided lights, two or which are of the awning type and open outward to admit air; integral window screens are attached to the insides of each window unit. The window groups in the stories above repeat this pattern, those of the third, firth, and seventh stories lighting the dining area of each duplex, and those of the fourth and six stories lighting the solariums. In addition, the spandrels between each group of windows above the second story level consist of five equal-sized flat limestone panels that also follow the curve of the bay, thus contributing to the overall faceted appearance of the bays. Each bay finally terminates at the eighth story, where the solarium, instead of being enclosed by windows, consists of an open semi-circular terrace (the flat foor of the bay). These terraces have solid balustrades that are formed by the limestone spandrel panels and these are topped by a metal handrall. Two doors (one from each bedroom) open out onto these terraces and shelter for them is provided by two flat cantilevered semi-circular concrete canoples.

The two end bays (bays 1 & 6) of this facade are each eight-stories-tail, are identical to each other, and consist of triple window groups that wrap around the corners of the facade. On the odd numbered stories these windows help light each duplex's living room while on the even numbered stories they light one of the bedrooms. Each unit in these groups consists of a rectilinear shape four-light steel sash, and only one of the units in each group faces to the front. These window groups (and all the rest of the building's windows as well) are of completely modern design in that their openings are simply punched through the wall surface; they have neither visible sills, jamps, or lintels.

The main facade's two middle bays ((bays 3 & 4) are each seven-stories-tall and are identical to each other. These bays begin at the second story level just above the entrance vestibule and they continue upward from there to the eighth story level. Each story or these two bays contains a single rectilinear window opening per story and the window units that fill them are four-light steel sash and are smaller than the units in the corner groups described above. On the odd numbered stories these windows light the duplex's kitchen while on the even numbered stories they light one of the bedrooms.

The ninth story of the main facade is the penthouse story and it is symmetrical in design, six-pays-wide, and is both an extension of and a variation on the rest of the facade. The actual ends of this story are not visible from below because the two identical terraces that occupy the opposite ends of this story hide them from view.<sup>3</sup> These end walls each have a single rectilinear window opening placed in them that opens onto one of the two corner terraces and these windows light the front-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Flat cantilevered concrete canoples shelter both of these terraces and each terrace is rimmed by a solid limestone balustrade that is surmounted by a metal handrail.

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racing penthouse's Kitchen (left) and a dressing room for the master bedroom (right). The six visible bays are placed on a wall surface that is a vertical extension of the main wall surface below. The ends of this wall surface both curve 90° inward and the two end bays (bays 1 & 6) consist of curved one-light plate glass corner windows that are set into the curves of these corners. The rour remaining bays (bays 2 - 5) are placed in between these two windows and they are identical to each other and each contain a single rectlinear window opening that is positioned directly above a window or door opening located in the eighth story below. Each of these single window openings is similar to the window openings in the two middle bays below, but they are slightly larger and contain a one-over-one-light double nung steel sash.

# Southwest-facing Side Elevation

The 100-foot-wide nine-story-tail soutnwest-facing side elevation is very similar to the main facade but its greater length resulted in some differences in its overall design. The elevation is dominated by a centered nine-story-tall 62.5-root-wide projecting section that is nearly identical to the main facade. The first eight stories or this section are also six-bays-wide and the dominant features are also two projecting seven-story-tail five-sided bays that occupy the second and firth bays. Since there is no entrance on this elevation, nowever, both of these bays have been continued down to the ground level and the faceted treatment that began at these bay's second story level on the main facade is here maintained from the top of each day down to the pottom. Similarly, the lack of an entrance meant that the two middle bays (bays 3 & 4) could be continued down to the first story level as Weil, so this elevation has window openings in its first story too. Still another variation can be seen in the two end bays. These bays (bays 1 & b) are both ninestories-tall (this section has no ninth-story cutouts for terraces) and they too consist of triple window groups that wrap around the corners of the section. Here, though, two of the units in each group face to the front, not one, while the other unit is located on the side wall of the projecting section. The final difference is in the penthouse story. Because there are no terraces, this story is the same width as the stories below and it is thus eight-bays-wide, not six. The corners are not rounded either. instead, the two end bays of this story have corner windows that consist of the same three-unit groups as the ones below them and they also have two rour-light steel sash units facing to the front. The six bays in between them, meanwhile, each contain a single rectilinear window opening (they are positioned directly above openings in the stories below) and these too contain four-light steel sasn units.

The remainder of the elevation consists of two twenty-feet-wide eight-story-tall wall surfaces that are placed on either side of the projecting center section just described. These surfaces lie in the same plane with each other and the ninth story of each consists of one of the two small terraces that serve the ninth-story penthouses. Each of these surfaces is just one-bay-wide and these bays are eight-

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stories-tail and each story contains a triple Window group that wraps around the corner of the elevation. Each unit in these groups consists of a rectlinear shape four-light steel sash and only two of the units in each group race the front (ie. southwest). The other unit faces either towards the northwest, where it is visible on the main facade, or towards the southeast, where it is visible on the rear elevation.

The elevation is surmounted by a limestone-clad one-story elevator penthouse, but this penthouse is almost invisible from the ground.

## Southeast-facing kear Elevation

The 62.5-root-wide rear elevation of the Exton Apartments has almost exactly the same design as the building's main facade. This elevation too is nine-stories-tail and six-bays-wide and its upper corners are also cut away for twin terraces that serve the rear-facing ninth story penthouse. The principal difference between the two elevations occurs below the second story level and is due to the lack of an entrance vestibule on the rear of the building, which faces out towards Lake Michigan, and to the fact that the slope of the site made it possible to fully reveal the pasement story. As a result, the two five-sided pays that dominate this elevation have been continued down to ground level like the bays on the southwestfacing side elevation just described. Consequently, the first stories of the two rear-racing days, which both serve duplex units within, have five-unit window groups like the stories above them. Since there is no apartment in the pasement story, however, the basement story of each bay, although maintaining the faceted five-sided appearance of the rest of the bay, is treated differently. The five sides (or facets) of both bays are clad in limestone like the rest of the elevation, but a single rectilinear window opening containing a three-light steel sash window unit is centered on each side. In addition, the basement stories of bays 3 and 4, (the bays in Detween the two five-sided bays) also each contain a single rectilinear window opening containing a three-light steel sash window unit.

#### Nortneast-facing Side Elevation

The northeast-facing side elevation of the building is an almost exact mirror image of the southwest-facing side elevation described earlier. The only difference between the two is due to the fact that the slope of the site (and some excavation work) revealed that rear third portion of the basement story of this elevation. This was done to permit a service entrance door to be located in the basement story between the two five-sided bays in the projecting center section of the elevation. In addition, a three-fight side exit door was placed in an opening located in the pasement story just below the center section's left-hand corner bay in order to give tenants a means of reaching the landscaped yard at the rear of the building.

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The exterior of the building is in almost totally original condition and has received extremely good maintenance over the years. The only changes that have occurred to it since the building was constructed have been the infetting of small window-size air-conditioner units into the walls of each unit (one per unit) on the main and rear elevations, and the replacement of the small original entrance canopy with the one that is now in place. Frontcally, the standard of maintenance has been so high that the serious deterioration that now affects the original steel window units throughout the building is not apparent from the outside of the building. It is only from the inside that the scope of this now major problem can be seen.

#### Interior

The interior of the Exton Apartments is notable for its restrained, elegant Art Moderne style design, for its very nigh level of integrity, and because its organizing principles were pioneered by the architect of the building, Herbert Tuligren. Tuligren was nationally known in the 1930s for his patented apartment house design in which all the apartments consisted of two-story duplexes. By arranging the apartments in this manner Tuligren was able to create an elevator system that needed to serve only alternate stories (1-3-5-7-9 in this instance), thereby eliminating the necessity for service corridors on the other stories with a corresponding increase in rentable space. The Exton Apartments building is organized so that there are 32 rive-room two-story duplexes (eight units for every two floors) and 2 six-room single story penthouses. A reature article on the Exton Apartments in <u>Architectural Record Magazine</u> commented on this pian as follows:

Use or the duplex as a basic unit frees Mr. Tuilgren's plan of the long public corridors, private halls, and passageways common to most apartment nouses made up or large units grouped around a single bank of elevators. It also provides a more compact and efficient unit plan, giving all rooms direct access to one central stair hall. This also permits grouping baths and kitchens so that four main service stacks serve all 34 apartments.

The two elevator towers at the center are flanked by fire towers and backed by furnace and incinerator flues (access to the latter is 15 not from the main corridors but from a small room off of it). The elevators themselves are Haughton automatic. All public corridors are carpeted and indirectly lighted with fluorescent tubes.\*

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Duplex Units Increase Rentable Area in Milwaukee Apartment." <u>Architectural</u> <u>Record Magazine</u>, New York: F. W. Dodge Corp., Vol. 86, Number 5, November, 1939, p. 31. Both or these elevator cabs originally had walls clad with the same birch veneer as the lobby, but these have now been replaced with high quality modern plastic imitations.

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The principal entrance to the building is positioned in the center of the main racade. One first enters into a small oval-snaped entrance royer whose walls are lined with rull-height panels of gray Tennessee marble that give the foyer a faceted appearance. The floor of the foyer consists of a grey terrazzo ground upon which has been centered a subpurst pattern whose alternating terrazzo rays are colored black and a light red. Inset into the southwest end wall of the loyer are two oblong hiches, each of which contain a brushed metal panel that is divided into a grid created by maliboxes belonging to the building's tenants.

One passes from the royer into a carpeted rectangular lobby through a single-light metal-framed inner door that is flanked by single-light sidelights. The lobby area still has its original birch veneer-covered walls, simple gray Tennessee marble baseboards, and its plaster celling and contiguous plaster fascia, which acts as a simple drown molding. At the far end of the lobby twin corridors divide to the left and right around the end of the service core, which is located at the center of this story and which is rectangular in shape on every story but this one.<sup>24</sup> On this story alone, nowever, the northwest-facing end wall of this core is curved and faces towards the lobby and towards the front doors. A tail high lit by recessed lighting is inset into this curved wall surface and in it is placed a full-height decorative stamped metal screen that is original to the building and that depicts four geese fising in filght. The walls of the two curved branches of the corridor that flank this curved end wall are also covered in birch veneer and their cellings are deeply recessed, the edges of the recess portion being fibbed in a manner that is trequently seen in Art Moderne interiors.

The corridors then continue along the straignt sides and around the straight rear end of the service core. The walls of the service corridors and their ceilings are painted plaster and the only decorative touch is an exaggerated, continuous, halfround molding that is placed at chair rail height. This molding is continued around the length of the corridors. Otherwise, the rectangular door openings that are inset into the walls of the corridors have no decorative trim.

The service corridors on alternating stories encircle the elevator/service core of the building and the entrances to the apartment units open onto these corridors. "Sound insulation is provided for by double (tile) walls between all units and between each unit and all public spaces. In addition, the location or baths and stair halls isolates main living areas of each apartment from public corridors and elevators."<sup>5</sup> Each unit has a first story that consists of an entrance toyer/stair hall (off of which is a small lavatory), a living room, a circular dining room, (which occupies the five-sided bay), and a kitchen. A curved stair leads up to the second story, which contains a bathroom and two bedrooms, and the five-sided bay on

See thoor plans (Attachment A).

SATCHITECTURAL RECORD MAGAZINE, NOVEMBER, 1939, Op. Cit., p. 31.

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this story is occupied by a semi-circular solarium that can be accessed from either bedroom./

Every unit has oak parquet ribors, which were originally carpeted, and plaster walls and cellings. Urnamentation is minimal (wood moiding, for instance, consists entirely of simple baseboards, there are no door or window trim sets) all windows nave gray Tennessee marble slils and there are a number of fine Art Moderne Style touches as well. These include: curved walls in the entrance ioyer/stair hall; first story lavatory doors that have polygonal heads and that are decorated with three raised octagonal panels; a solid half-height divider between the entrance royer and the living room that has a rounded end into which a storage space is inserted that was meant to hold a card table; kitchen doors opening into the dining room that are decorated with three circular panels, the lower two or which are solid and raised and the upper one of which is clear glass; and a built-in dining room sideboard that has shelves above, enclosed cabinet space below, and a flattened alamond-shaped (rhombus) plan. Other original features include tiled bathrooms with built-in wooden cabinet units and bathtubs. In addition, most of the apartments still retain their original door hardware and many retain some or all of their original lighting fixtures.

The interior of the building is also remarkable for its superbly maintained state and for its high degree of integrity. In general the only systematic changes that have occurred have been the gradual replacement of the original kitchen appliances with more modern units and the replacement of some of the original kitchen cupboard doors (but not the cupboard units themselves) with newer ones. Otherwise, the work that has been done has consisted largely of the periodic renewal of the interior surfaces and necessary maintenance.

 $^{7}$  See the isometric rendering of a typical unit (Attachment B).

8. Statement of Significance		
Certifying official has considered the	significance of this property	ty in relation to
other properties:nationally	<u> </u>	iocaily
Applicable National Register Criteria	<u> </u>	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	ABCD	ئىكك
Areas of Significance		
(enter categories from instructions)	Perioù or Significance	Significant Dates
Arcnitecture	TA28-TA2A.	N/A
	Cultural Arriilation	
	N/A	
Significant Person	Architect/Builder	
N/A	<u>fullgren, Herbert W."</u>	

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

### Significance

The Exton Apartments building is or statewide significance under National Register Criterion C because it is an outstanding Art Moderne style apartment house, one that has been noted in the text of the Art Moderne subsection of the Architectural Theme study unit of the State of Wisconsin's Cultural Resource Management Plan as being "an excellent example of a large scale apartment complex in the Art Moderne style."10 In addition, the building is arguably the masterwork or its architect, Herbert W. Tuilgren, one of the city of Milwaukee's most important architects in the 1920s and 30s. Tullgren's numerous Milwaukee hotel and apartment projects and his similar projects in other Wisconsin cities are among the city and the state's Dest large scale examples or Period Revival style and Modern Movement style architectural design. His Exton Apartments building has been called "One of Milwaukee's most spectacular and important "moderne" structures of the 1930s"11 and is also considered to be "Perhaps Milwaukee's most distinctive residential building. In the opinion of certain architects and historians, the 1260 Apartments is among the tinest surviving examples of Art Moderne architecture in the country.  $\pi^{\pm 2}$ Construction on the building (which was originally known as the Exton Apartments) began in the spring of 1938 and was completed in 1939, and the owner was Harry J. Grant, then the chairman of the board and publisher of the Milwaukee Journal newspaper. The significance of the building is further enhanced by its outstanding state of preservation.

The period of significance is the same as the date of construction of the building.

<sup>9</sup> Architectural Record Magazine, November, 1939, Op. Cit., p. 29.

<sup>10</sup> Wyatt, Barbara (Ed.). <u>Cultural Resource Management in Wisconsin</u>. Madison: Historic Preservation Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1986. Vol. 2, 2-35 (Arcnitecture).

<sup>11</sup> Zimmermann, H. Russell. <u>The Heritage Guidebook: Langmarks and Historical</u> <u>Sites in Southwestern Wisconsin</u>. Milwaukee: Heritage Banks, 1976, p. 70.

<sup>12</sup> Wishne, Brian. "The Progressive Ideals of Herbert W. Tullgren." <u>Wisconsin</u> <u>Architect</u>, July/August 1992, p. 25.

<u>X</u> See continuation sheet

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## HISTORIC CONTEXT

Because of its proximity to the downtown of Milwaukee, wisconsin's largest city, and its spectacular views overlooking Lake Michigan, North Prospect Avenue has long been known as Milwaukee's "Gold Coast." Beginning with the construction of the Clarke and Haney houses (non-extant) in the mid-1850s, North Prospect Avenue gradually evolved into the nome of Milwaukee's elite and by the turn of the century, mansions designed in every style lined both sides of the Avenue. By World War I, though, these sites had become too valuable to be utilized solely for single family occupancy and most of these mansions were ultimately razed and their sites reused by Milwaukee's first and its most extravagant apartment buildings.

Apartment buildings as a property type first started appearing in Milwaukee as early as 1885 when the Belvedere Flats building was constructed at the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Eighth Street. By 1895, there were nine apartment buildings listed in the Milwaukee City Directory of that year. Soon, nowever, the increase in area population, the increase in land prices, and the rise of greater public acceptance of this new style of living swelled the number of apartments in the city. By 1900, there were twenty-nine listings, and by 1903, there were sixty-seven listings under "Apartment Buildings" in the city directory of that year--the first time such a category was included in the classified business section of the directory. By 1910, the directory listed one hundred and sixty-eight and by 1921 there were three nundred and eleven listings.

Between 1900 and 1935, many masonry apartment buildings were built throughout the city. Some examples were planned around courtyards, and have well designed ventilation and lighting systems, evidencing the continual development of apartment planning in American cities in the early twentieth century. Stylistically, the apartment nouses were representative or the period revival styles popular in the first decades of the twentieth century. Spanish or Mediterranean, English Tudor, Georgian Revival, and Gothic exteriors were found on apartment buildings which lined the city's boulevards and residential streets.

The city's finest large scale apartment buildings were built along Prospect Avenue during the same period. Some replaced the nineteenth century mansions built by earlier generations of Milwaukee businessmen and industrialists. This shift in near-downtown density and land use - from the multi-roomed private house to the multi-unit apartment building - reflected the area's changing pattern of life in the early twentleth century.<sup>13</sup>

The first large apartment building constructed in the Prospect Avenue area was the four-story eight-unit Nummenacher Flats (extant-later the Sorrento) located at 1816

<sup>13</sup> Landscape Research. <u>Built in Milwaukee: An Architectural View of the City</u>. Milwaukee: Department of City Development, N.D. (ca.1981), p. 63.

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East Kane Place just off Prospect Avenue, and built in 1903. This and the few other buildings that followed in the next few years were luxurious examples designed to appeal to the type of person that lived in the mansions that then lined Prospect Avenue and the adjacent streets. Even so, such buildings were only grudgingly tolerated by the wealthy homeowners in the area, but within a rew years a new type of building began to appear that heraided a fundamental shift in land usage and building construction in the Prospect Avenue area. "Another phase of apartment building construction occurred between 1911 and 1917 when seven more buildings were constructed north of Kane Place (which is approximately five blocks northeast of the Exton Apartments). The earlier genteel buildings that contained nouse size apartments were succeeded by smaller, simpler structures that were constructed by corporations or individuals solely as investments. This signaled a shift away from owner-occupied luxury nousing built to accommodate a change in life-style among the wealthy to the exploitation of Prospect Avenue as fashionable real estate with a lake view that would rent up easily and command high rental rates."+\*

The era between world War 1 and the Great Depression saw the most gramatic changes occur on upper Prospect Avenue (the area around Kane Piace). The oid mansions all along the Avenue were continuously threatened by demolition to make way for nigher density apartment construction. Market forces alone were not entirely responsible for Prospect Avenue's apartment building construction boom. The development explosion was helped along by the city's land commission which established a zoning ordinance that encouraged apartment construction. The land commission determined that Prospect Avenue was destined, like west Wisconsin Avenue, the city's other Gold Coast or old mansions, to be redeveloped with higher density construction. The residents of Prospect Avenue protested the Land Commission's policies, since proximity to apartment nouses generally caused a decrease in property values for single family homes. They sought to change the zoning ordinance so that lower height limitations would make apartment construction unprovitable. It appears that wealthy residents along lower Prospect Avenue were at least partially successful in keeping out the dreaded apartment building by holding the line at Kane Place for only three such were constructed in the neighborhood perore the 1950s: The Prospect Terrace Apartments at 1710-1724 North Prospect Avenue (1924); the Edgewater Apartments at 1/42 North Prospect Avenue (1925); and the Devonshire Apartments at 1504 North Prospect Avenue (1925). The rest of the street remained lined with splendid older mansions.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Volmert, Les and Carlen Hataia. Prospect Avenue Apartment Buildings Historic District NRHP Nomination Form, p. 8-16. Written in 1989 for the Milwaukee Dept. of City Development and on file at the State Historic Preservation Office.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Ibid, pp. 8-19 - 8-20. The completeness of this list depends on what one means by "lower Prospect Avenue." For instance, the list doesn't include either the Exton Apartments (1939) or its near neighbors; the seven-story Lakeshore Apartments (1922) located at 1224 N. Prospect Ave., and the White Manor Apartments (1930), located next door at 1228 E. Juneau Ave., all three of which were designed either by Herbert W. Tuligren or by Martin Tuligren & Sons (the Lakeshore).

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Despite their dest efforts the residents of the single family houses along lower Prospect Avenue were only righting a holding action; the future of the avenue lay with the apartment houses that were slowly encroaching on them. For the area around kane Piace, though, change came much more guickly and the 1920s was the period during which the transition from single-ramily to multi-unit buildings that had begun in the 1910s was completed. "Nearly all the houses that had been built Detween 1890 and 1910 (on and around kane Flace; were replaced by large apartment buildings during the 1920s."" In the years before world war if the density of apartment buliding development in this area became so great as to eventually justify the City of Milwaukee's nominating a section containing twenty-two of the area's Dest examples to the NRHP (listed 4/19/90) as the Prospect Avenue Apartment Buildings Historic District. Two of the last apartment buildings to be built in the district during this period and the most modern in design were: the Hathaway Tower (1930) at 1830 East Kane Place, Milwaukee's first true apartment "tower" as the term is now used, which replaced the John M. W. Fratt house; and the Viking Apartments (1931) a block away at 1705-1717 East Kane Place, which replaced an older frame house. Both were the work of Herbert W. Tullgren, who with his father, Martin Tuligren, and his protner, S. Minard Tuligren, had been responsible for both the design and the financing of many of the area's earlier apartment buildings.

The onset of the Great Depression, however, brought a temporary halt to apartment building construction along Prospect Avenue, just as it did everywhere else, and it was not until the late 1930s that new apartment buildings again began to be built in this area. One of the first to be constructed when economic conditions finally improved was the Exton Apartments on "lower" Prospect Avenue, which was begun in 1938. Sanborn-Perris maps show that this stretch of Prospect Avenue was then still largely made up of older mansion-size houses although by 1938 many of them had begun to be subdivided into multiple living units of had been converted to other uses such as the Milwaukee Women's Club, which was located at 1330 N. Prospect Ave. (nonextant) a rew doors away." The owner of the new building was the Exton Realty Co., and its principal investor was Harry J. Grant, who a year earlier had been named chairman of the board of the Journal Co., publishers of the <u>Milwaukee Journal</u>, Wisconsin's most powerful and influential newspaper.

Harry Jonnston Grant (1881-1963) was born in Chillicotne, Missouri in 1881. After graduating from high school in St. Louis, Grant attended Harvard University from 1903 to 1906, leaving that institution to work in New York city for a position with N. W. Ayers & Son, advertising agents. Grant remained with this company until 1909, when he left for London to be a sales manager with another firm. There he met his future wife, Dorothy Glide Cook, of Pittsburgh, and made contacts that resulted in his returning to America in 1910 to became manager of the American Viscose Co. In

Proviment, Les and Carlen Hatala. Op. Cit., p. 8-20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>+7</sup> Fire Insurance Map or Milwaukee, Wisconsin. New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Co., 1910 (updated in 1939 and 1951).

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Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania, manufacturers of rayon. He remained with that firm until 1912, when he became the vice-president of O'Mara and Ormsbee in New York, which sold national advertising to newspapers.\*\* "The firm long represented The Journal, and Grant became well acquainted with Lucius w. Nieman, the great editor who had built The Journal from a partisan political organ into an important newspaper. When The Journal's advertising manager retired in 1916, Nieman offered the job to Harry J. Grant. Within three years Mr. Grant became vice-president and treasurer of the company, a stockholder and one of the three directors, and publisher."+\* Upon the death of Nieman in 1935, Grant became the editor of the paper and in 1937 the chairman of the board of The Journal Co.

A year later Grant began the construction of the Exton Apartments, choosing as his designer Herbert W. Tuligren, a prominent Milwaukee architect with a state-wide and even a national reputation as a designer of apartment buildings. Tuligren had pioneering ideas regarding the efficiency of using duplex units as an organizing principal for apartment buildings and this made him a logical choice for the job since Grant, a highly successful businessman, had similar ideas of his own about how his building should be designed. Grant's starting point was a careful analysis of the Milwaukee real estate market.

Occupying only 22% or a large plot located on Milwaukee's residential lake shore, the Prospect Avenue building has 32 five-room duplexes and 2 six-room single-level penthouses. This unusual concentration of relatively large units springs from the owner's careful analysis of the local tenant market, where prejudices were felt to be in favor of single-family nouses and against highly serviced apartments. Since it was expected that the tenants would be drawn largely from single-family nouses (rather than other apartment buildings), the five-room duplex was taken as a minimum. For the same reasons, the service staff was neid to an operating minimum--there are no doormen or elevator operators; the desk and central switchboards are eliminated.<sup>40</sup>

Grant's analysis of the market proved to be correct. A photo of his hearly completed new building was included in the real estate section of the May 2, 1939, issue of <u>The Milwaukee Journal</u> with a caption that stated that "Ogden & Co., rental agents for the new 1260 N. Prospect Ave. apartments reported that the building is 40% rented and that several families have moved in."<sup>11</sup> Another article printed later that month carried a photo of a furnished model apartment in the buildings along with a lengthy description of the apartment and the building.<sup>22</sup> The new

<sup>10</sup> Holmes, Fred L. (Ed.). <u>Wisconsin: Stability, Progress, Beauty</u>. Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Co., 1946. Vol. IV, pp. 51-52.

"" "Grant is Praised by Public Figures." <u>The Milwaukee Journal</u>, July 14, 1963, p. 2.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid, May 26, 1939.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Architectural Record Magazine, November, 1939, Op. Cit., p. 29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> The Milwaukee Journal, May 2, 1939, real estate section, p. 2, (pnoto).

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building was successful from the start and quickly attracted just the kind of childless couples Grant had targeted as his ideal tenants. By 1946, Grant himself had become a tenant, and he continued to occupy one of the hinth story penthouses until his death in 1963. By that time, Grant had built The Journal into one of the hation's most respected independent newspapers and he had gained a hational reputation, both as one of the hation's outstanding newspapermen and also for his pioneering effort to make The Journal an employee-owned paper, an effort which by the time of his death had resulted in 1050 Journal employees owning some 75% of the company stock.<sup>24</sup> The Exton Apartments, meanwhile, (which by 1965 had been renamed the 1260 Apartments), continues to be one of Milwaukee's most prestigious and successful apartment buildings to this day and it is still owned by Grant's heirs.

#### Architecture

The Exton Apartments is being nominated to the NRHP because of the excellence of its design, which is one of Wisconsin's finest examples of the Art Moderne style, and because it is one of the masterworks of its architect, Herbert W. Tuligren, who was one of the most important architects in Milwaukee during the 1920s and 30s. During the course of his career Tuligren acquired a national reputation as a designer of apartment buildings and his design for the Exton Apartments is both the culmination of his apartment designs and the culmination of several of Tuligren's design ideas that were closely associated with this body of work.

Herbert W. Tuligren was the son of another equally successful Milwaukee architect, Martin Tuligren. Martin Tuligren (1858-1922) was a native of Sweden wno studied architecture in his home country and then came to Chicago in 1881 and set up a practice. In 1900, Tuligren affiliated with Archibald Hood in the architectural firm of Hood and Tuligren, which they moved to Milwaukee in 1902. This firm designed numerous buildings in Milwaukee, a number of which they also developed (along with Sherman Goetz) as the Milwaukee Building and Construction Co. In 1909, Tuligren dissolved the partnership and went into practice with his two sons, who had served as draftsmen in the previous firm. The new firm of Martin Tuligren & Sons quickly enlarged on the elder Tuligren's reputation as a specialist in the design of notels and apartment buildings. Eventually, no rewer than eleven of the twenty-two buildings contained within the boundaries of the Prospect Avenue Apartment Buildings Historic District would be designed by the Tuligrens (between 1911 and 1931). Interestingly, given the current trend toward "design/build" architectural firms, several of these buildings were also developed and promoted by the Tuligrens.

Another trend ligustrated by the pre-war (world War i) apartment blocks (in the Prospect Avenue Apartments Historic District) was that of the architectural

<sup>--</sup> The Milwaukee Journal, July 13, 1963. Much of the first section of this issue of the paper is devoted to a lengthy obituary of Grant and a compliation of his many achievements.

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rirm as owner and developer of investment property. Three of the seven apartment buildings built between 1911 and world war 1 (in the district) were known to have been owned by corporations in which Martin Tuilgren and his sons were the primary stockholders. These corporations owned the Larayette Apartments (1911) at 1913 Larayette Place, the wallard Apartments (1911) at 1704 East Kane Place, and the Stellwin Apartments (1911) at 1982 North Prospect Avenue.-~

Still more apartment buildings designed by the Tuligrens were constructed in the area and elsewhere in Milwaukee after the war and this speciality survived the deaths of both Martin Tuligren in 1922 and S. Minard Tuligren in 1928.

The surviving son, Herbert W. Tuligren (1889 - 1944) was born in Unicago, and attended the public schools of that city and later Staunton Military Academy. Many of the best buildings designed in Milwaukee during the latter part of the 1920s and in the 1930s came from Tuligren's office, which continued to be called Martin Tullgren & Sons until 1935, when the name was changed to Herbert W. Tullgren, Architect. "Unce practicing on his own, Herbert Tullgren abandoned the eclectic revival styles of the previous era and empraced the modernity being promoted in the urban centers of America after 1925 [the date of the seminal Exposition des Arts Decoratif in Parisj. Aided by Eimer Jonnson, his newly recruited draftsman out of the Armour institute of Design in Chicago, Tuilgren's office guickly became Milwaukee's foremost purveyor of high quality Art Deco and Art Moderne architecture. Like his father and despite the disapproval of the professional association of architects, Tuligren combined his architectural practice with real estate development interests. This had two important consequences: it allowed him the freedom to test his architectural ideas; while at the same time it provided a framework of economic pragmatism that guided their development."\*\*

The first apartment building Tuilgren designed after the death of his brotner was the thorougnly conventional White Manor Apartments (1228 E. Juneau Ave.) in 1930 next to the lot where he built the Exton Apartments hine years later. The next three apartment buildings, though, represented a radical shift in design for both Tuilgren and Milwaukee. These are an exceptional group of Art moderne apartment buildings that are in many ways his most important achievement. "Though his practice included numerous public schools, commercial and notel commissions throughout Wisconsin it is Tuilgren's three distinctive moderne apartment buildings on Milwaukee's east side that warrant recognition as an important contribution to the history of architecture between the world wars. The nine-story Hathaway Tower,

<sup>24</sup> Voimert, Les and Carlen Hatala. Op. Cit., p. 8-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Wishne, Brian. "The Architecture of Herbert W. Tuligren." Milwaukee: Charles Allis Art Museum, 1992, u. p. (p. 2). This is the first of two articles in the catalog of a show held at the museum in 1992 entitled: "The Architecture of Herbert W. Tuligren.: Progressivism and Pragmatism in Depression-Era Milwaukee."

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on the bluff overlooking Lake Michigan at the very eastern end of Kane Place, opened in 1931 and was Milwaukee's first true apartment "tower." The viking Apartments, constructed at the same time and just one block west at 1/05-1/1/ East Kane, is the first design based upon the duplex apartment type that Tuilgren was using to promote as a solution to the nousing crisis throughout the decade of the 1930s. Finally, the apartment building at 1260 N. Prospect Avenue, opened in the improving conditions of 1939, represents a more luxurious refinement of the duplex type."40 The first two of these buildings were developed almost simultaneously and in the opening days of the Great Depression.

In 1931 Herbert Tuligren, Eimer Johnson and C. E. Look formed the Flygia Corporation for "the investment of money in property and construction of all sorts. In September of the same year both the Hathaway Tower and its hear neighbor the viking Apartments were completed. As Milwaukee's first apartment "towers", clad in a taught cream brick rhythmically punctuated by black vertical stripes through windows and stone spandrel panels, and suppressing any cornice or other norizontal line, they represented a coherent new modern style of architecture. More importantly, the viking introduced the two-story (or auplex) apartment prototype that was to dominate Tuligren's search for affordable middle-and working-class urban nousing for the rest of his abbreviated career.

Turigren was so certain or the economic and runctional advantages of the Viking Apartments that he appred for a patent on the design in 1931. As ne explains in an article of 1933 titled "Unusual Apartments That Rent." "Simply explained, the idea consists of building two-story rather than single floor suites; each apartment naving living room, dining room, kitchen and tollet room on the lower floor, and a private starrway communicating with bedrooms and bathrooms on the floor above.... By this arrangement, public corridors are not needed on sleeping room floors. So we converted corridor space into extra room space, giving tenants more room at no extra cost and effecting savings in maintenance and elevator equipment by this elimination of corridors on alternating floors."<sup>27</sup>

Tuligren's work with duplex units attracted national attention and the Viking Apartments was featured in articles in both <u>Architectural Record</u> and <u>Architectural</u> Forum; the two leading architectural publications of the day.~~ The article in the

\*\* Wishne, Brian. "The Progressive Ideals of Herbert W. Tuligren." <u>Wisconsin</u> Architect, July/August 1992, p. 25.

"' Wishne, Brian. "The Architecture of Herbert W. Tuligren." Milwaukee: Charles Allis Art Museum, 1992, u. p. (p. 2). The Flygia Corporation built the Viking Apartments. The Hatnaway Tower was developed by an investment corporation called the Hatnaway Group; Tuligren is not known to have been a part of this group.

<sup>2</sup>° <u>Architectural Forum</u>, January 1934, pp. 80-81; <u>Architectural Record</u>, March, 1934, pp. 228-229.

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latter publication in particular contained information that was probably a major selling point several years later when Tuligren and Grant were discussing the building that became the Exton Apartments. In the article the author noted that "the nouse has had an occupancy record of 92 per cent since its completion in 1931, is now 100 per cent rented. Other apartments in the city average only 60 per cent occupancy."<sup>44</sup> Tuligren had thus created a pragmatic design that was capable of appealing to the notoriously single family nome-oriented milwaukee renter of that day. Unfortunately, the worsening economic condition of the country in the years that rollowed the construction of the viking Apartments and the lack of construction capital meant that Tuligren had to wait until conditions improved before ne could take further advantage of his idea.

The opportunity came in 1938 when Harry J. Grant decided to construct the Exton Apartments on a superb lot overlooking Lake Michigan. Here Tuligren had the space and means to design a truly distinguished building and a client who was interested in making an experiment in urban design. The result is now considered to be one of Wisconsin's finest Art Moderne style buildings. According to the CRMP, "Art Moderne design is related to Art Deco in its celebration of industrialism and technology but is more volumetric, streamlined, and totally devoid of any historical references. While Art Deco stressed verticality, the streamlined effect of Art Moderne was achieved through horizontality emphasized by flat roofs and harrow bands of windows. The 1260 N. Prospect Avenue Building in Milwaukee designed by Milwaukee architect Herbert W. Tuligren, is an excellent example of a large scale apartment complex in the Art Moderne style."<sup>30</sup> Tuligren's design is all of those things, but it also reflects national trends and his own particular brand or modernism.

The 1260 Apartments, commissioned as an urban housing experiment by the owner or the Milwaukee Journal Company, opened in 1939. It is comprised of the most sopnisticated version of the two-story apartment. The striking vertical circular bays that dominate the exterior expression consist of dining areas on the lower floors and solaria on the upper floors of each duplex. The building is a further testament to Tuligren's design addity. Rather than the applied ornamental features of Art Deco, with which it is often confused, the 1260 Apartments illustrates a protound understanding of the formal principles of art moderne design. Massing and plan are predicated on regular geometric snapes, in this case the intersection of square and circle. vertical emphasis is achieved by the prominence of the stacked circular bays and terraces, while a counterbalancing horizontal continuity results from the window proportions, re -entrant corners and the corner window, railing and mullion detail. A sense or streamlining and machine aesthetic is supplied by the canitilevered circular canopies over the eight(h) floor terraces and the penthouse setDacks. The lack of applied ornament and the emphasis on volumetric expression rather than

<sup>29</sup> "Duplexes at \$6 Per Room." <u>Architectural Forum</u>, January 1934, p. 80.
<sup>30</sup> Wyatt, Barbara (Ed.). Op. Cit.

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surface is typical of the best of the art moderne. The architecture throughout reveals a highly skilled eye for proportion, geometric form, and precise detail.<sup>3+</sup>

it takes nothing away from Tullgren's skill as an architect to note that his use of vertical circular pays, which he arrived to what are otherwise relatively plain although completely modern wall surfaces such as those used on his earlier Hathaway Tower design, propably had as their inspiration the use or similar elements on the Rockereiler Apartments at 17 West 54th Street in New York City, Dullt in 1936, and designed by Wallace K. Harrison and J. Andre Foulinoux. Because of the prominence of the client and the luxurious nature of the commission (two thirteen-story bulldings on opposite sides of a city block with a private garden in between) the project received widespread publicity when it was constructed, including a lead article in Architectural Forum magazine and the details of this design were undoubtedly ramiliar to Tuligren, whose own earlier work had been reatured in the same architectural publication. 34 Other buildings in the country were also influenced by the Rocketeller Apartments as well, including the Majestic Apartments, 3200 Leth Street, in Washington, D.C., designed by Alvin L. Audinoe, Sr. and Harry L. Edwards, and opened in 1938, with circular bays that are very similar to Tullaren's.

As others have noted, nowever, Tullgren's design was at least a match for those of his peers.

Tuligren seems to have been looking very carefully at a very influential American work of the mid-1930s, Wallace Harrison's Rockefeller Apartments in New York City. The Rockefeller apartments received wide publicity, but in many ways Tuligren's reworking of some of the themes seen in New York produced the more interesting building. The 1260 Apartments utilize a duplex plan, patented by Tuligren after its use in the Viking Apartments. The Rockefeller uses a slightly less successful two-story plan for some of the units in the building. The advantage in the design of the 1260 Prospect arises from the grouping of bedrooms on alternate floors. Public corridors, entries and living spaces in the apartments are situated on the floors below the bedrooms. The advantage of this type or apartment unit is due to the use or a skip-stop elevator. The elevator stops only on the lower level or each unit eliminating the need for corridor space on alternate floors of the building and ultimately providing more rentable space within the building. Another space saver in the Prospect

\*\* "Rocketeller Apartments." Architectural Forum, January, 1937, pp. 4 - 12.

Wishne, Brian. "The Progressive Ideals of Herbert W. Tullgren." <u>Wisconsin</u> Architect, July/August 1992, p. 29.

Goode, James M. <u>Best Addresses: A Century of Wasnington's Distinguisned</u> <u>Apartment Houses</u>. Wasnington, D.C.: Smithsonian institution Press, 1988, pp. 343 -346.

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Apartments is the elimination of the extensive service areas, including maids rooms, which occupy almost 1/3 of the space on a rioor of the kockerelier Apartments.

The most striking similarity between the two buildings is the facade treatment dominated by curving bay windows. Taking into consideration the different possibilities offered by a more open site, the 1260 is able to take advantage of the interior stacking of functions to create exciting view-oriented spaces on both levels of each duplex apartment. In fact, earlier plans which show the long axis of the building parallel to the shoreline were rejected in favor of the more equal distribution of lake views in the design as built. Viewed as a totality in the round the volumetric emphasis of its moderne design is more apparent than the street-oriented siting of its more famous predecessor in Mannattan.<sup>34</sup>

With his Exton Apartment building Tuilgren achieved an ideal match between theory and practice and created a building worthy of national attention. The building was thoroughly treated in the lead article of the November 1939, issue of <u>Architectural</u> <u>Record</u>.<sup>35</sup> The 1260 Apartments is therefore being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places because of the excellence of its Art Moderne style design and because it represents the work of a master architect, Herbert W. Tuligren. This outstanding building is both a source of local pride and is one of Wisconsin's important 1930s buildings and it is believed that its placement on the NRHP will help to insure its continued existence.

#### <u>Owners</u>

The Matex Corp., Inc. C/O Mr. Paul F. Melssner, Secretary Melssner & Tierney S.C. III E. Kilbourne Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53202

<sup>34</sup> Bruegmann, Robert. "Herbert Tullgren and America in the 1930s." Milwaukee: Charles Allis Art Museum, 1992, u. p. (p. 2). This is the second of two articles in the catalog of a show held at the museum in 1992 entitled: "The Architecture of Herbert W. Tullgren.: Progressivism and Pragmatism in Depression-Era Milwaukee." <sup>35</sup> Architectural Record Magazine, November, 1939, Op. Cit., pp. 28 - 33.

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Architectural Record, March 1934, pp. 228 - November 1939, pp. 28 - 33.	- 229; UCTODER 1936, pp. 302 - 303;
Previous documentation on file (NPS): preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National	<u>_X</u> See Continuation sheet Primary location of additional data:
Register previously determined eligible by the National Register	State Historic preservation office Other State agency Federal agency
designated a National Historic Landmark	Local government University
	<u>X</u> Utner Speciry repository: Nomination Preparer
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property <u>Less than one acre</u>	
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с <u>/ ////</u> и	
	See continuation sneet
Verbai Boundary Description	
Rogers' Addition to the City of Milwaukee in Block 199, NE 109 feet Lot 3 Exc. railroad a	
	See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification	***
The above boundaries contain all the land th Exton Apartments.	nat is historically associated with the
	See continuation sheet
11. Form Prepared By	
name/titleTimothy F. Heggland Consultar	nt for the Matex Corp.
organization	date August 14, 1995
street & number <u>1311 Morrison St.</u>	telepnone251-9450
city or town <u>Madison</u>	

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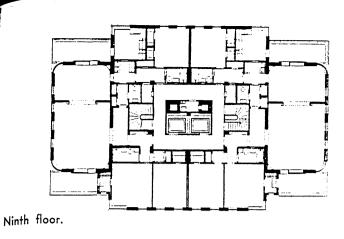
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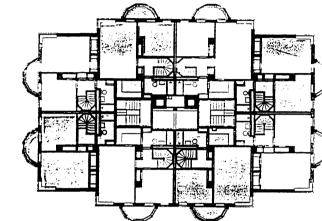
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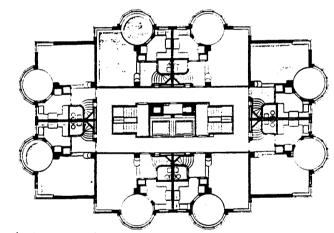
NPS Form LU-900a (Rev. 8-86) Wisconsin Word Processor Format Approved 2/87 United States Department of the Interior National Park Service NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET Exton Apartments Building, Milwaukee, Milwaukee Co., WI Section number <u>Protos</u> Page <u>1</u> items a-d are the same for each photo FUOLO T LUOLO IT a) Exton Apartments Building e) interior, typical unit, bedroom, D) Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin iacing NW c) Timotny F. Heggiand, April 28, 1995 f) Photo 11 of 11 d) State Historical Society of Wisconsin e) General View or block, facing S t) Photo 1 of 11 <u>Photo 2</u> e) Main racade, racing SE r) Photo 2 of 11 Photo 3 e) Main facade, facing SE f) Photo 3 of 11 Photo 4 e) Main facade, entrance, facing E ij Photo 4 of 11 Photo 5 e) Main facade, facing E i) Photo 5 of 11 Photo 6 e) Side elevation, facing NE r) Photo 6 of 11 Photo 7 e) interior, lobby, tacing SE i) Photo 7 of 11 Photo 8 e) interior, typical unit, entrance hall, facing SW f) Photo 8 of 11 Photo 9 e) Interior, typical unit, living room, facing NW f) Photo 9 of 11 Photo 10 e) Interior, typical unit, dining room, facing W f) Photo 10 of 11



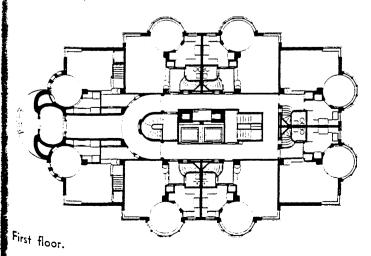


Eighth, sixth, fourth, and second floors.

1

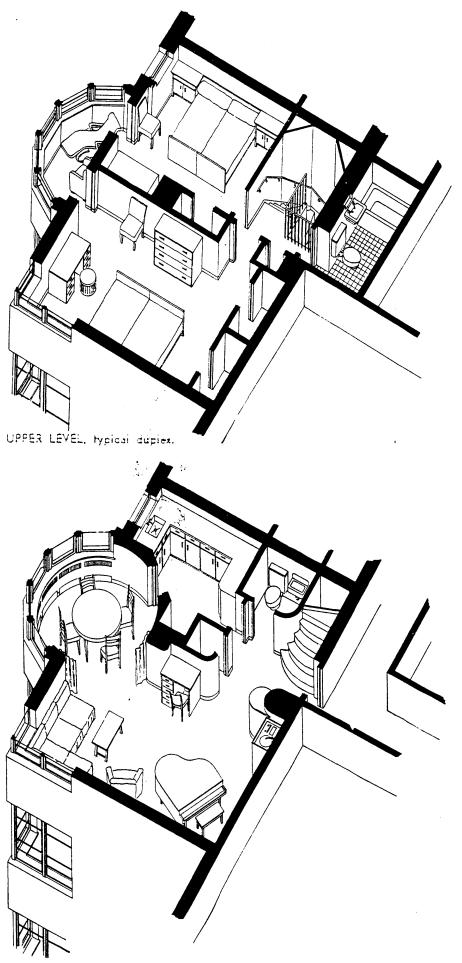


Seventh, fifth, and third floors.



not to scale

ATTACHMENT A Exton Apartments Milwaukee, WI Milwaukee County



LOWER LEYEL, typical duplex. No

Not to scale

# ATTACHMENT B

Exton Apartments Milwaukee, WI Milwaukee County ARCHITECTURAL RECOR