COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box, 1 photograph box, 10 architectural folders


PROVENANCE: David L. Baker

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: M 1053, Tom C. Huston Materials, 1976-2000; Front & Centre: The Official Magazine of Circle Centre, HF 5430.5 .I55 C54; Artsgarden (Circle Centre) Clipping File

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998.1017

NOTES:
HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Circle Centre Mall Preservation Project Materials collection contains items on the Historic Facade Reuse Plan for the Circle Centre Mall project. The Circle Centre Mall project was a downtown revitalization project envisioned in the 1980s by Indianapolis Mayor William Hudnut III and completed in 1995. The indoor shopping mall covers two and one-half city blocks and connects the mall to the Indiana Convention Center, numerous hotels, parking garages, and other downtown amenities, representing one of the largest architectural and structural engineering feats the City of Indianapolis has ever completed.

The Historic Facade Reuse Plan was the guiding preservation planning document used to determine which historic buildings would be restored, reconstructed, and/or relocated during the construction process. The plan was a sizeable collaboration between the clients: Simon and Associates, Inc., Circle Centre Development Corp., and the City of Indianapolis; the architects: Browning Day Mullins Dierdorf, Inc. and CSO Architects, Inc.; the historic preservation consultants: Ratio Architects, Inc.; the design architect: Ehrenkrantz & Eckstut Architects, P.C.; the construction manager: Demars Program Management, Inc.; and preservation entities: Historic Indianapolis, Inc.; Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana [now Indiana Landmarks], the Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission, Society of Architectural Historians-Central Indiana Chapter, and the Indiana State Historic Preservation Office, Department of Historic Preservation & Archaeology.

The plan to restore and integrate historic facades and some interiors into the Circle Centre Mall was established through the federal historic preservation standards outlined in the Section 106 process, which took place from 1987 through 1990. This process began with a survey of buildings affected by the mall project, with an emphasis given to those buildings listed or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Photo documentation was also completed in order to produce a feasibility study that outlined which facades would remain in place and which would be dismantled, as well as which ones would be salvaged completely or only for specific components. Ultimately, around $2.5 million was dedicated to the historic preservation facade projects.

The eight facades included in the Historic Facade Reuse Plan include:

- The Rost Jewelry Company Building, built 1887 and remodeled in 1936 and 1948, and relocated two blocks south from 25 N. Illinois St. to 153 S. Illinois St.
- The J.F. Darmody Company Building, built 1904, moved from 25-27 W. Maryland St. to 119 S. Illinois St.
- The Levey Brothers and Company Building, built 1889-1890, shifted from 15 W. Maryland St. to 13 W. Maryland St.
- The P.W. Jackson Building, aka the Malott Building, built 1896, moved from 118 S. Meridian St. to 120 S. Meridian St.
The Rothschild Building, built 1866-1867, reconstructed at its original location at 122 S. Meridian St.
The House of Crane Building, built 1866-1867, reconstructed at its original location at 124 S. Meridian St.
The Vajen Exchange Block Building, built 1872, relocated from 120 N. Pennsylvania St. to 116 S. Meridian St.
The Griffith Building, built 1872, moved from 36-38 W. Washington St. to 49 W. Washington St.

Sources:
Materials in the collection
**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Most of the materials in this collection relate to the Historic Facade Reuse Plan, the guiding document used to determine which historic buildings would be saved and how they would be restored, reconstructed, or relocated. These materials consist of research, surveying notes, historic and contemporary photo documentation, sketches, and letters; it also includes earlier drafts of the Historic Facade Reuse Plan as well as the final version. The first series includes all papers while the second series contains photo documentation.

Additionally, there are manuscript materials and architectural drawings related to the L.S. Ayres department store exterior work that was completed tandem to the mall project. The papers are listed in series 1 and the architectural drawings are included in series 3.
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