

Historic
Resource
Inventory
CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON.

0-682-01005

1005 S.W. Ninth Avenue

Portland, Block 221, Lots 7, 8
QUARTER SECTION MAP #: 3029.5
Downtown Community Association

ORIGINAL NAME: Roosevelt Hotel
OTHER NAMES: Roosevelt Plaza Apartments

ORIGINAL FUNCTION: Hotel
OTHER FUNCTIONS: Apartment House

DATE BUILT: 1925

STYLE: Twentieth Century Classical

ARCHITECTURAL PLANS BY: Claussen and Claussen

ORIGINAL OWNER: Prudential Finance Corporation, Smith, Dr. Earl, Heathman,
George

OTHER OWNERS: St. Francis Investment Corporation

TAX ASSESSOR'S ACCOUNT #: R-66772-3690

ZONING: RXZ

Rank III

SPECIAL FEATURES AND MATERIALS:

Red, combed-face brick. Off-white glazed terra cotta decoration includes decorative cornice, pilaster capitals, belt course, decorative window heads and sills.



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838-A

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SPECIAL F/M - ORIGINAL REMOVED:
Entrance marquise.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

Architecture: Glazed terra cotta was used as an exterior sheathing material and for individual decorative elements in buildings in Portland from about 1900 to 1930. Terra cotta blocks (which are similar in size and configuration to concrete blocks but have decorative glazed faces) were made by pressing fine clay into plaster molds. The clay blocks were then glazed, dried, and fired.

Because terra cotta was fireproof, lightweight and, compared to carved stone, inexpensive to produce, it was the favored material for the large commercial structures built during Portland's era of rapid growth. However, cast stone ornament (concrete), developed in the late 1920s, was even less expensive, and gradually gained popularity over terra cotta. Later, with the introduction of mass-produced aluminum and glass-wall systems, the use of decorative masonry ceased altogether.

Although most glazed terra cotta buildings in Portland are found in and around the downtown retail core, there are numerous schools and apartment buildings with glazed terra cotta decoration scattered throughout the metropolitan area.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

City of Portland Buildings Bureau microform and card files.

Multnomah County Tax Assessor records, microform, automated data files, and card files (Portland, 1980).

Portland Historical Landmarks Commission, inventory form.

Newberry, Schuette and Wheeler, Roosevelt Hotel alteration working drawings, 1976, City of Portland Buildings Bureau Microfiche Collection.

Roosevelt Hotel, photographs, OHS Collection.

OREGONIAN, Dec. 1, 1976, p. D1.

Pioneer National Title Insurance, title abstract.

Urban Tour Group, unpublished typescript, UTG Collection.

Wheeler, Andrew, unrecorded interview by Virginia Ferriday, 1979.

ORIGINAL BUILDING PERMIT #: 157337

MAJOR ALTERATIONS: 1976/504225/Newberry, Schuette, and Wheeler

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EVEN

393

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Present owners, as of May 1980: Roosevelt Plaza Oregon Limited
MAILING ADDRESS: c/o Washington Mortgage Company, Inc., 720 Central Bldg.,
Seattle 98104

No Preservation Funding

Negative: 502-12

Score - Design/Construction: 8

Score - Historical:

Score - Rarity:

Score - Environment: 10

Score - Integrity: 10

Score - Intrinsic: 8

Score - Contextual: 18

359

338-C

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