

REINHARDT BUILDING  
133 South Illinois Street  
Indianapolis  
Marion County  
Indiana

HABS No. IN-255

HABS  
IND  
49-IND,  
54-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
Northeast Region  
Philadelphia Support Office  
U.S. Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, P.A. 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

REINHARDT BUILDING

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Location: 133 South Illinois Street  
Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana

USGS Indianapolis West, Indiana Quadrangle  
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:  
16.571960.4401820

Significance: The Reinhardt Building is the oldest surviving building along Illinois Street in the Mile Square section of downtown Indianapolis. The scale and materials of this structure, along with the remaining two buildings on the east side of South Illinois Street between Chesapeake and Georgia Streets, present a unified visual expression of the small, multi-use commercial structures which became an integral part of the post-Civil War building boom.

Description: The principal facade of the three-story, brick, commercial building is divided into four bays. The first floor storefront is framed by original, classically detailed limestone pilasters and an entablature. A third limestone pilaster, in association with the northernmost storefront pilaster, defines the original location for the entrance leading to the stairway to the second floor. The wood and glass storefront, complete with wood doors, bases, transoms and display windows was reconstructed during a 1984-85 rehabilitation. The second and third floor window openings have limestone sills and reconstructed sheet metal window hoods. All replacement windows are 4/4 double hung wood sash; rounded arched on the second floor and segmental arched on the third floor. A reconstructed steel balustrade sits above the storefront entablature, in front of the second floor windows. Four oculi attic vents with raised brick surrounds are centered above the third floor window hoods. A wooden entablature, also reconstructed in 1984-85, with raised diamond shapes in the frieze, brackets and projecting cornice, caps the facade.

History: Built in 1864, the building was originally occupied by the owner, German immigrant, Peter Joseph Reinhardt. The building served as the location for his locksmith and bellhanger shop on the first floor and the family residence above. Reinhardt sold the building in 1884 and it became commercial rental property housing a restaurant in the late

1880's and the Kistner Shoe Store in the first decade of the twentieth century. It served as a luggage, jewelry and pawn shop operated by the Samuel Dorfman family from the later 1920's until 1982. The building was rehabilitated in 1984-85 for commercial and residential use.

The building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on July 14, 1982 as part of the Indianapolis Union Station - Wholesale District. This project was undertaken by the Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission (IHPC) in compliance with the Memorandum of Agreement with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation as a mitigative effort before partial demolition.

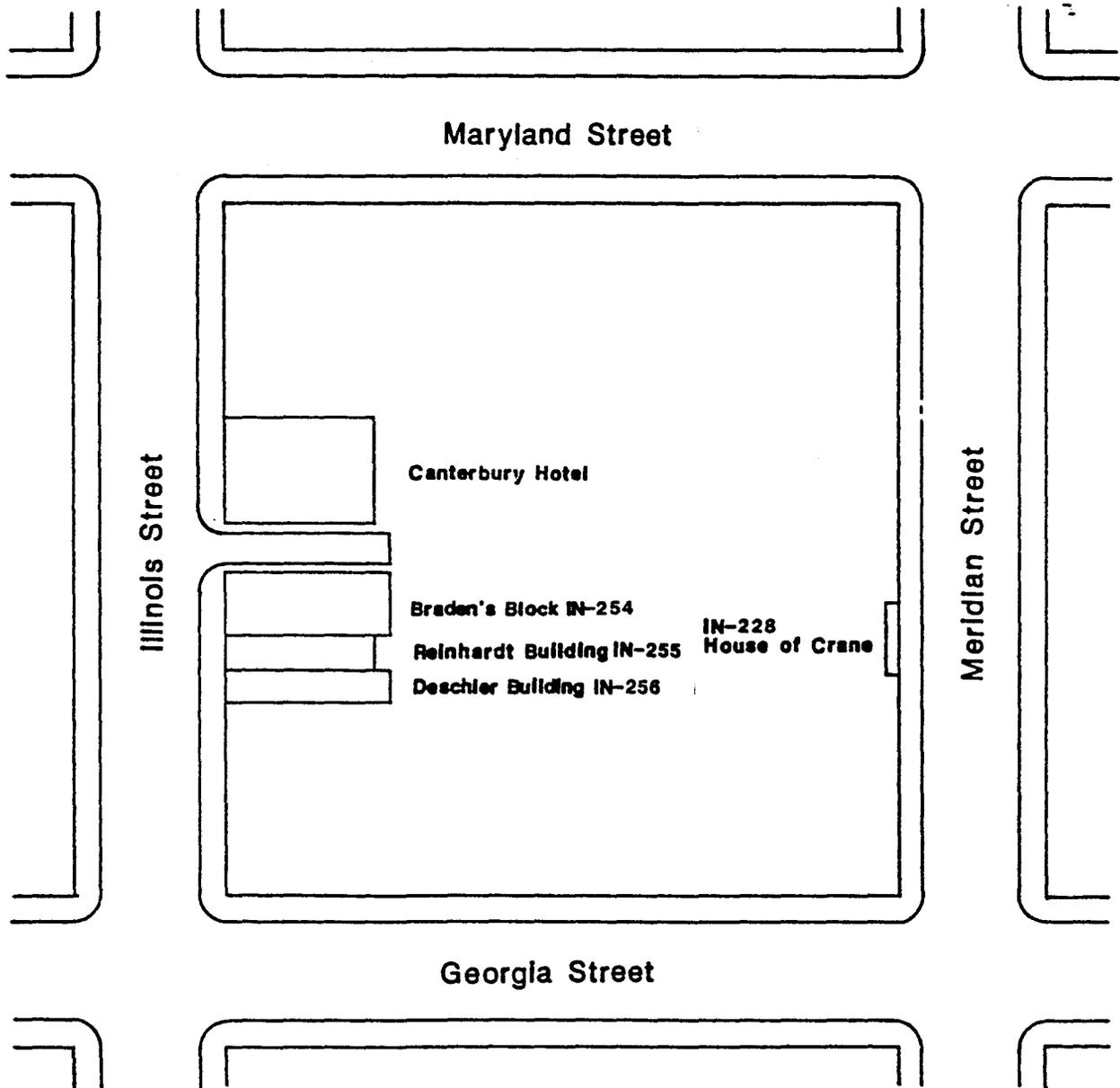
Sources:

Reinhardt Building. Historic Preservation Certification Application - Part 1 form, 1982.

"Wholesale District Historic Area Plan," Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission, 1990.

Historian:

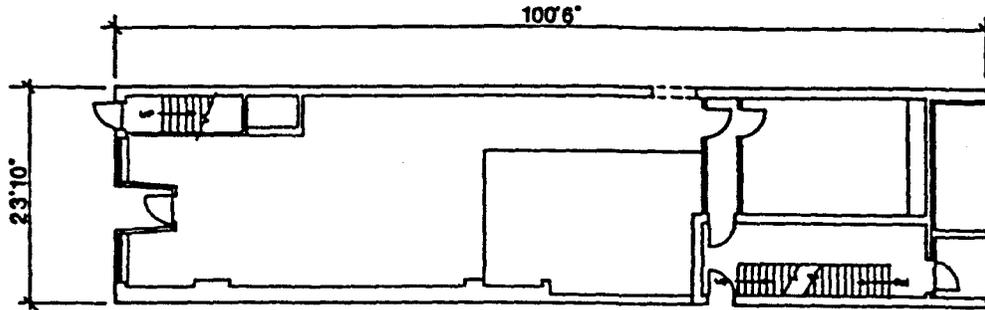
David A. Kroll  
Ratio Architects, Inc.  
36 South Pennsylvania Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
June, 1994



NORTH

# CITY SQUARE 75

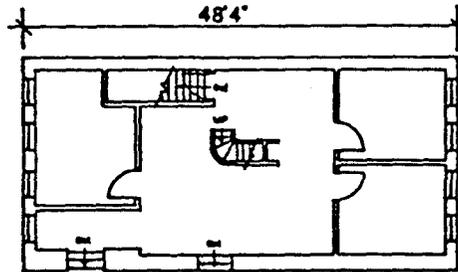
Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana



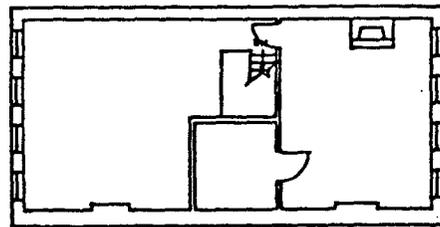
First Floor



NORTH



Second Floor



Third Floor