

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Mayfair Hotel

AND/OR COMMON Mayfair Hotel

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER 806 St. Charles Avenue

CITY, TOWN

St. Louis

VICINITY OF

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

#3 - Hon. Richard Gephardt

STATE

Missouri

CODE  
29

COUNTY

St. Louis City

CODE  
510**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Prestige Hotels Attn: Mr. Sorkis J. Webbe, Jr.

STREET &amp; NUMBER 806 St. Charles Avenue

CITY, TOWN

St. Louis

VICINITY OF

STATE  
Missouri 63101**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. St. Louis City Hall

STREET &amp; NUMBER 12th and Market Streets

CITY, TOWN

St. Louis

STATE  
Missouri 63101**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE 1. Architectural Survey of the Central Business District, St. Louis, Mo.

DATE October 1975,  
Revised April 1977  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.

CITY, TOWN

St. Louis

STATE  
Missouri 63101

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

MAYFAIR HOTEL

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

6

PAGE

1

2. Missouri State Historical Survey  
1978  
Office of Historic Preservation  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

state

ITEM NUMBER

10

PAGE

1

building 27' 6 3/4" to a point, turning N and continuing along the west side of the building 65' 2 3/4" to a point, turning E and continuing along St. Charles Avenue 127' 8" to the point of beginning.

ITEM NUMBER

11

PAGE

1

2. Jill Johnson and Donna Laidlaw  
Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.  
611 Olive Street - Suite 2187  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

July 13, 1978  
314/421-1778

3. Claire F. Blackwell, Editor  
Office of Historic Preservation  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

August 5, 1979  
314/751-4096

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

UNALTERED

ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE

MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Mayfair Hotel is an eighteen-story, commercial structure occupying the southwest corner of Eighth Street and St. Charles Avenue in the heart of St. Louis' Central Business District. Remarkably, the Mayfair has suffered little of the exterior alteration that commonly befalls such commercial structures and retains its three-story, terracotta-faced base replete with art glass windows. Extensive interior remodeling ca. 1977 has transformed the old building into an efficient, elegant downtown hotel.

The Mayfair is constructed of reinforced concrete, with reinforced concrete slabs and beams forming the floor construction as well. Visually divided into base, shaft and attic, the building is faced in red brick and off-white terracotta. It has a full basement that extends to the sidewalk curb, and it rises eighteen stories above ground level. Originally built as a seventeen-story structure, the building was expanded in the 1950's or 1960's by the addition of an eighteenth floor accomodating pool with fountain and patio. As common in other St. Louis commercial buildings, the dimensions of the Mayfair follow the lines of the street; as a result, no 90° corners are found in the building. It measures approximately 127' 6 3/4" on the south, 65' 2 3/4" on the west, 127'8" on the north and 68'4 1/8" on the east.

The base of the structure is faced with off-white terracotta imitating ashlar stone. Two-story, rusticated piers accentuate the corners and define the bays. Broad, segmentally arched windows, filled with mullioned art glass lights, illuminate the first floor. Ornamental terracotta surmounts those windows and forms the capitals of the piers. Above each first-floor opening, two segmental-arched windows capped with radiating voussoirs and keystones pierce the second story. Bands of terracotta mouldings with foliate designs set off the third story, which is distinguished by an alternation of windows and decorative panels with urns. A projecting terracotta cornice embellished with modillions and a dentil course marks the transition from base to shaft. The shaft is faced in red brick laid in common bond in Flemish variation. Windows of its lowest story (fourth story) are framed with terracotta. A terracotta stringcourse underscores the fifteenth story, where the motif of urn-filled panels is repeated. Above, another terracotta moulding marks the beginning of the attic, where brick pilasters with Ionic capitals divide the bays and two-story arched panels frame the windows. Elements of the original entablature and cornice are retained and above them is the added eighteenth story.

The interior of the Mayfair was completely redone ca. 1977 by architects Murphy, Downey, Wofford & Richman of St. Louis. The renovation, which carried a price tag of about \$4,000,000.00, reduced the number of rooms from 320 to 235 to provide more spacious accommodations. Although the interior was entirely redecorated and refinished, original features were retained and incorporated into the new design wherever possible.

# SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      ca. 1924-26                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Preston J. Bradshaw

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mayfair Hotel is significant as a surviving commercial structure in downtown St. Louis which retains its exterior integrity and continues to serve in its original capacity. Designed by prominent architect Preston J. Bradshaw ca. 1924, the terracotta-clad structure is an important architectural element in the Old Post Office (NRHP, NHL) vicinity. Lavishly refurbished on the interior ca. 1977, the Mayfair is a rare example in the St. Louis Central Business District of a successfully revitalized, historic commercial structure. Publicized as offering the traveller "a return to elegance...", the Mayfair has in fact made a dramatic return to the success and prominence of its heyday as a flourishing downtown hotel.

The American Architect of April 20, 1926, published a picture and plans for the newly completed Mayfair Hotel designed by Preston J. Bradshaw. A rendering of the Mayfair, signed by Bradshaw and dated 2-27-24, suggests that the building was constructed between 1924 and 1926. Bradshaw was a popular architect of the 1920's who gained national prominence in such work as collaboration with Stanford White on the design for buildings at Columbia University and the House/Senate Buildings in Washington, D.C. His St. Louis designs included the Paul Brown Building (1925), Lennox Hotel, Hotel Chase (1922), Hotel Coronado (1923) and Embassy Apartments (1926).

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE

1. Bryan, John Albury. Missouri's Contribution to American Architecture. St. Louis: St. Louis Architectural Club, 1928.
2. Casey, Marie A. "Hotel Extends an Elegant Welcome," St. Louis Construction News & Review, January 17, 1979.
3. Wofford, Ted. Telephone interview with C.F. Blackwell, July 2, 1979.

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME "Granite City, Ill.-Mo."

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 7,4,4 4,5,0 4,2,7,9 2,5,0

B                              

C                              

D                              

E                              

F                              

G                              

H                              

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point at the SW corner of St. Charles Avenue and North Eighth Street, City Block 194, St. Louis, Missouri, proceeding S along North Eighth Street 68'4 1/8" to a point, turning W and continuing along the S side of the

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

1. Carolyn Hewes Toft, Executive Director

ORGANIZATION

Landmarks Association of St. Louis, Inc.

DATE

July 13, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

611 Olive Street - Suite 2187

TELEPHONE

314/421-1778

CITY OR TOWN

St. Louis

STATE

Missouri 63101

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL     

STATE     

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

Director, Department of Natural Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer

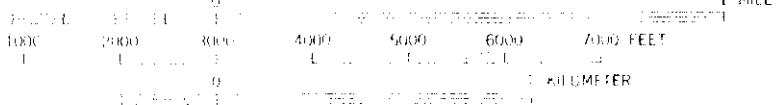
DATE

9-10-79

<b>FOR NPS USE ONLY</b>	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
	DATE
ATTEST: <b>KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER</b>	DATE
<b>CHIEF OF REGISTRATION</b>	



SCALE 1:24 000



OUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
 S REPRESENT 5 FOOT CONTOURS  
 ODEIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

MAYFAIR HOTEL  
 806 St. Charles Avenue  
 St. Louis, Missouri

U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle  
 "Granite City, Ill.-Mo." (1954, photorevised  
 1968, 1974)

Scale: 1:24,000

UTM References: 15/744450/4279250

WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 Y. DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
 AL SURVEY, URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801.  
 F RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION  
 NATURAL RESOURCES, ROLLA, MISSOURI 65401  
 PHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

**Photo Log:**

Name of Property: **Mayfair Hotel**

City or Vicinity: **St. Louis [Independent City]**

County: **St. Louis [Independent City]** State: **MO**

Photographer: **Vivian Paul**

Date

Photographed: **June 1978**

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 6. View from NE.

2 of 6. Rear elevation, view from S.

3 of 6. View from NE, showing terra cotta faced three-story base.

4 of 6. View from E, detail of N Eighth St. façade, showing first floor art glass window.

5 of 6. View from E, detail of NE corner, N Eighth St. façade, showing panels ornamented with urns and griffin like creatures.

6 of 6. View from E, detail of NE corner, N Eighth St. façade. Note the terra cotta faced corner pier, with rusticated shaft and playful capitals with dolphin headed tendrils.



**LEE**  
*Optical*

**LEE**  
*Optical*

Complete Optical  
**FINE EYE**

THE MAYEUR

ST. PAUL ST

←

ONE WAY





← PARK  
ALLRIGHT  
AUTO PARK



The MAYFAIR  
& GARDEN CLUB

The MAYFAIR  
& GARDEN CLUB

NO RIGHT  
ENTER







