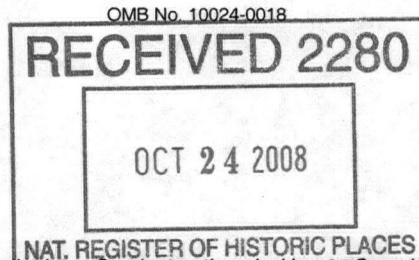


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. *See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A).* Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.



1. Name of Property

historic name The Niagara

other names/site number The Hotel Niagara; John's Niagara Hotel; Park's Inn International; Days Inn-Falls View; Travelodge Hotel Fallsview.

2. Location

street & number 201 Rainbow Boulevard [N/A] not for publication

city or town Niagara Falls [N/A] vicinity

state New York code NY county Niagara code 063 zip code 14303

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements as set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide, ☒ locally. ([] see continuation sheet for additional comments.)

K. D. Purpura
Signature of certifying official/Title

BSHPO

10/20/08
Date

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ([] see continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
[] see continuation sheet
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
[] see continuation sheet
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register

☐ removed from the National Register

☐ other (explain) _____

Signature of the Keeper

[Signature]

date of action

12/5/2008

The Hotel Niagara

Name of Property

Niagara County, New York

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	TOTAL

Name of related multiple property listing **Number of contributing resources previously**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/hotel

COMMERCE/restaurant

COMMERCE/specialty shop

SOCIAL/meeting hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH C REVIVALS

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls brick, limestone, granite, terra cotta

roof Asphalt, copper

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 1

The Hotel Niagara
Name of Property
Niagara County, New York
County and State

Description:

Imposing while chaste in architectural beauty, towering to a height of 190 feet, its substantial walls of brick and stone lining a new skyline, Niagara's new hotel, in its setting of marvelous panorama, overlooking the majestic cataracts, the rapids and other enthralling scenic endowments of nature, is within a place of beauty and great charm, a hostelry rivaling the world's best in all that makes for the comfort and care of exacting travelers, tourists and other guests (Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925)

The Hotel Niagara is located at 201 Rainbow Boulevard in the city of Niagara Falls, Niagara County, New York. The trapezoidal site is located two blocks away from the Niagara Reservation State Park and the Falls, at the intersection of Rainbow Boulevard North and Rainbow Boulevard, formerly First Street and Jefferson Avenue. The site slopes slightly from south to north resulting in a change in grade along Rainbow Boulevard North. The footprint of the building occupies almost the entire half-acre site,¹ curving in response to the intersecting streets. The 12-story building was constructed in 1923-1925, and consists of a sub-basement and basement; a rusticated base of ground floor and mezzanine; an uninterrupted middle zone; an upper intermediate floor and a heavy cornice to terminate the building making it a paradigm of the tall building parte. A three-story penthouse, seen only from the distance, completes the composition. The imposing structure rises 190-feet above the cataracts of the Niagara offering a panoramic view of the rapids and Falls from its upper levels and roof deck.

The building presents a restrained and sophisticated exterior composition with sharp, crisp corners, and understated ornament. The detailing of the pedestal and cornice makes reference to the Italian Renaissance Revival Style,² in contrast to the minimalist shaft consistent with a revival of the Federal Period Style.³ The interior was originally rich in materials, fabric and furnishings. Though much of the material fabric has been removed or covered with later materials, the ornamental plaster executed in the Adam Style⁴ remains intact.

¹Erie County Office of Geographic Information Services. 2007. *Niagara County GIS*. On-line. Available from internet, <http://gis1.erie.gov>, accessed May 12, 2008.

²The Renaissance Revival Style saw a resurgence of restrained Italian Renaissance classicism specifically that of the Palazzo. Classical details based on Italian Renaissance sources are often applied, however often the source is late 18th Century American Colonial Classicism or early Federal examples as seen in the work of Charles Bulfinch.

³The Federal Style is often referred to as the Adam Style after the English architects Robert and James Adam. The Federal style was popular in the United States from about 1780 to 1820, and was particularly popular in port cities along the eastern seaboard. Ornament in Federal Style buildings was typically restrained with windows cut cleanly out of the wall surface and lacking frames. The proportion of window shapes and wall surfaces became the primary source for interest on the façade. Charles Bulfinch and Samuel McIntire are examples of architects practicing during the Federal Period.

⁴Robert Adam traveled to Italy and the Mediterranean to study classical Roman and Greek architecture. Adam was influenced by the spatial planning in many of the Roman monuments as well as motifs such as swags, garland, urns and stylized geometric designs (Greek key) which were reinterpreted in his interior designs.

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Continuation Sheet

Section 7 Page 2

The Hotel Niagara
Name of Property
Niagara County, New York
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The Exterior:

Principal Elevation:

The structure of the hotel was designed by Van Renassalaer P. Saxe of the Standard Concrete-Steel Company of Baltimore.⁵ In order to reduce the costs associated with the proposed structural steel skeleton and cinder concrete floor slabs, Saxe designed a "System M" steel frame with a stone concrete floor arch. "System M" is described in a period newspaper as being "erected with the ease and speed of steel with the resultant saving in the cost of superintendence besides a saving of 50 per cent of the cost of the steel" (Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925). Construction photos show the "System M" steel frame encased in firebrick and faced in artificial granite, Indiana limestone and cloister face brick. The columns are placed on an approximately 20-foot grid with slight variations due to the irregular shape of the site.

Artificial granite and Indiana limestone cover the walls of the two-story rusticated pedestal. The pedestal curves in response to the street intersection, and is penetrated by five large arched openings with polychrome terra cotta lunettes in the arches. Articulation of the fenestration is in direct response to the function of the spaces behind. The three central arched window openings are expressive of the two-story lobby space behind, whereas the outer two have a spandrel band marking the location of the mezzanine floor. Each of these openings has a tripartite division at the upper and lower levels. The upper windows are all six-over-six, with two-over-two side lights, as are the units with the spandrel band. The windows on the lower level at the lobby are six-over-nine, with two-over-three side lights. One enters into the lobby space through a recessed revolving door in the lower portion of the central arched opening. The original copper marquee cantilevered out beyond the sidewalk, and was tied back in tension with rods projecting out from the mouths of ornamental lion heads. The original marquee was replaced as ownership of the property changed hands.⁶ Today the only remnant of a marquee exists in "severed" rods projecting from the lions' mouths. A copper sign, "The Niagara", is still located above the entrance. The copper does not have a patina as it has been painted gold. The sign was designed by W.R. Taylor of Niagara Falls, the same artist who supplied the original marquee.

As one moves north along Rainbow Boulevard North, two small rectangular openings on the second level of the pedestal suggest utilitarian spaces behind. Simple swags, two courses above the windows, are the only ornament associated with these small penetrations of the wall. The pedestal continues, projecting horizontally beyond the termination of the vertical shaft. Three large rectangular openings on the second-story give presence to the ballroom behind. The middle opening of the three is slightly wider than the outer two. This is the only location where the opening is not a cut in the plane of the wall; rather a delicate band surrounds each opening, projecting beyond the wall plane. A simple festoon is centered above each window. French windows open into the ballroom space marked on the exterior by a rail at their lower range.

⁵ On April 8, 1925 the Niagara Gazette published a supplemental edition describing in detail the Hotel Niagara from inception, through design and as a finished product. This edition describes the materials used, and notes manufacturers and trades who worked on the hotel. Much of the information describing the original materials and finishes used at The Hotel Niagara was obtained from this source.

⁶ Images published in the Niagara Gazette in July 1971 and July 1988 show the new marquees.

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Section 7 Page 3

The Hotel Niagara
Name of Property
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The openings on the first floor of this bay originally provided light and entry from the street into what was the Oak Room Coffee Shop, and with the end of prohibition became the Indian Room Tavern. Today the openings have been enclosed and the door provides a handicap accessible entry to the building.

The southwest portion of the pedestal along Rainbow Boulevard is divided into five bays. The openings on the second level are smaller than those on the first and provide light into what were private dining spaces and are now meeting spaces. Railings mark the lower portion of these French windows. The larger units on the ground floor open into the main dining space. There are no ornamental panels on this portion of the pedestal. The pedestal was painted in May 1985⁷ and is now a salmon pink color.

Alternating brick and limestone panels with decorative swags mark the transition from pedestal to shaft at the third floor, and continue below the parapet which hides the roof of the vaulted ballroom. The windows at this level show a simple cornice projecting beyond the wall plane.

The beauty of this otherwise severe façade is not found in the ornamental motifs on the pedestal alone. The sweeping curvature of the shaft is punctured by relatively small, unadorned openings leaving a grid work of voids with crisp, sharp edges. The result is a dynamic rhythm moving vertically and horizontally across the façade. Originally these windows were three-over-three wooden sash units painted a pale patina green⁸, and set back slightly in the plane of the wall. The red cloister face bricks⁹ are laid in the common, or American bond pattern. The contrast of the slightly textured red cloister bricks and the pale green windows was dramatic. The white mortar is also course, speckled with pebbly sand taken from the Niagara River. The windows were replaced with brown, one-over-one aluminum units c1980 negating the contrast which existed in the original composition.

A terra cotta string course separates the shaft from the upper intermediate level, and a broadly projecting terra cotta cornice encircles the roof tying the composition together. The windows in the intermediate level are embellished with stone surrounds, again in contrast to the red brick, and providing a vertical terminus for the composition.

Southeast Elevation:

The southeast elevation faces St. Peter's Episcopal Church (c1875). The pedestal portion of the elevation is penetrated by five rectangular window openings on the ground and mezzanine floors similar to those facing Rainbow Boulevard. The opening on the east corner of ground floor elevation is blind. The windows on the third through eleventh floors are also detailed similarly to those facing Rainbow Boulevard, however they are more widely spaced to accommodation the layout of the guest rooms behind.

⁷ A photograph published in the Niagara Gazette on May 25, 1985 shows the rusticated stone being painted.

⁸ Paint chips taken from the pedestal level and at the window frame on the upper levels show the patina green paint color.

⁹ The cloister brick was produced by the Western Brick Company (Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925)

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The Hotel Niagara
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North Elevation:

There are no windows on the two-story pedestal portion of the north elevation. Construction photos show a building directly adjacent to this elevation indicating that the blank façade was in response to a neighboring building.¹⁰ The vertical shaft is set back the distance of the ballroom space and is terminated by the heavy terra cotta cornice. A 'ghost' on the brick masonry marks the location of a 5-story sign that ran vertically along the western edge of the façade from just under terra cotta string course.¹¹

Tertiary/Service Elevations:

The shaft rises vertically, set back from a three-story brick-faced service structure that continues east around the rear portion of the building from the north elevation. Construction photographs show that the portion of this structure to the north originally rose three-stories in height, and the portion to the east rose two-stories. A c1950 addition added a large meeting space to the two-story structure resulting in the three-story elevation seen today.¹² The heavy terra cotta cornice, the prominent cap for the major elevations, is not present on the tertiary elevations. The penthouse rises to its full height in the 'el' of the intersecting wings of the building shaft.

Penthouse:

The penthouse is composed of a central three-story L-shaped mass, flanked by two-story, hip-roofed wings. The penthouse is set back off the main façade, and continuous with the tertiary/service elevations. The central mass of the facing elevation of the penthouse is curved, echoing the curvature of the main building block. Rectangular windows on the first and second levels are set back within two-story wall arches. The original windows were three-over-three wooden sash units, which were also replaced with one-over-one brown aluminum units c1980. The roof and cornice are copper. The flat roof in front of the penthouse allows for a panoramic view of the city, the rapids, the Falls and Niagara Falls, Canada. Remnants of the rail which once surrounded the roof at the parapet remain.

The Interior

One enters the two-story lobby space through a recessed revolving door in the center arched opening on the main façade. The stairs leading up to the door are Queenston limestone. The main volume of the space is two-stories in height with a surrounding mezzanine. The curve of the mezzanine echoes the curve of the front façade. The original volume of the lobby and mezzanine has been maintained, as has most of the decorative plaster. The ornamental detailing was executed in the Adam/Federal style.

On axis with the entry are two elevators, set back behind a screen of square columns with gilded Corinthian capitals which extend up through the entire volume of the space to the ceiling above. Colonnets, also with gilded Corinthian capitals, extend up to the mezzanine level. A beige tile covers the surface of the columns and walls. The decorative frieze, cornice lines, ceiling modillions all remain, expressive of the

¹⁰ Wright & Kremers, Inc, construction photograph, April 3, 1924. The Niagara Falls Public Library, Local History Room collection.

¹¹ Photographs c1977 show the vertical sign and a large roof sign both with the words "The Niagara". Both signs have been removed.

¹² A change in brick texture and size is visible on the exterior where the addition was added vertically. Building permits obtained from the City of Niagara Falls do not document this addition. The construction materials visible on the interior are consistent with the 1950s.

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The Hotel Niagara
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delicate, attenuated classical forms typical of the Adam style. Originally the plaster walls of the lobby and columns were scored and painted to give the illusion of tan caen stone. Period accounts and artists renderings describe tan colored caen stone, with no reference to the faux technique.¹³ The colonnettes were later covered with marble wallpaper, and by 1977 the walls had been covered with large mirrors, and the columns and portions of the walls faced with beige tile.¹⁴ Located beside the elevators is the original "Letter Box" set in the wall. A simplified "letter box" is located vertically in-line on each guest floor. The vestibule floor of the lobby was originally flag stone and the lobby itself dark green terrazzo, both laid by L. Del Turco & Brothers from Harrison, New Jersey. Terrazzo was also used in the dining room, coffee shop, and along the outside edges of the corridors on the guest floors and the door-thresholds of the guest rooms. The stair treads were precast terrazzo. An example of the terrazzo still exists in a small area adjacent to the coffee shop/tavern where it was laid "in the most modern method, divided by brass strips" (Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925). The floor surface of the lobby is now a grey ceramic tile, laid in a diagonal pattern with small areas of carpet. Removal of some of the floor tiles in the lobby reveals the original terrazzo floor. Black marble baseboard, with green veining remains in the lobby and dining room.

The lighting in the lobby is typical of that found in 1980s hotels. The original lights in the lobby were "two hand-wrought iron fixtures, with hand-wrought decorations in black and gold. At the end of each of its four arms was a fixed cluster of five frosted lamps, while a center standard bore a group of ten electric candles" (Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925).

To the left of the entrance is the large dining room designed to seat 200 people. Originally a screen of hanging drapes separated the dining room from the lobby. The transition space between the two rooms is marked by a reduction in ceiling height. One moves from the lofty lobby into a transition space, compressed by a reduction in the ceiling height and detailed with square colonnettes and a relatively heavy cornice. The dining room ahead is an open, brightly lit space. The ornamental language at the cornice and wall panels is delicate with a crisp linearity. Chandeliers, which hang from modillions in the ceiling of the dining room and from the ceiling in the foyer, are not original. The original were a cut crystal hemisphere suspended from eight crystal chains, with a cut jewel hanging pendant from the base of each bowl (Niagara Falls Gazette, April 8, 1925). The dining room ceiling is currently covered with acoustic tiles.

To the left of the lobby are the registration desk and hotel offices. At this location stairs access the mezzanine level and the coffee shop/tavern area. Another set of stairs lead to the basement level where the shoe shine and barber shop are located. These areas remain intact with original tile and marble finishes. A period newspaper article refers to the "desk" as being to the left of the entrance, in front of the offices. The existing registration desk is not in keeping with a period description of the interior furnishings of the lobby that were a

¹³ Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925

¹⁴ A photograph in the Niagara Gazette, November 23, 1975 shows the 'marble' and tile. A photograph appearing July 1, 1977 shows 'marble' wallpaper on the colonnettes, and decorative wallpaper on the face of the columns and lobby walls. A photograph in the Buffalo Evening News on July 8, 1977 shows the mirrors on the lobby walls. Remnants of the marble wallpaper and decorative wallpaper have been discovered above dropped ceilings at the registration desk. Faux caen stone has been found under the large wall mirrors and under the beige tiles at the columns.

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The Hotel Niagara
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“rich walnut and of the heavy and massive proportions required by the large scale of the room” (Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925). The existing desk is likely a product of the renovations which occurred in the late 1970s as it is finished in a manner similar to the lobby columns and walls. The height of the ceiling above the registration desk has been lowered approximately six-inches below the frieze.

Since the hotel was constructed during prohibition, a tavern was not part of the program. The Oak Room Coffee Shop, described as a large room intended to seat 86 guests, was accessed from the hotel via a corridor behind the offices and reception, and by an entry off 1st Street (Rainbow Avenue North). This room became the Indian Room Tavern after the end of prohibition and had a large canvas mural of the Five Seneca Nations behind the bar. This mural was removed c1988 and donated to the Native American Center for the Living Arts¹⁵ across the street.

There is no grand stair in the lobby. The stair is tucked away to the left of, and is secondary to, the elevators which would have been appropriate given that the elevator was a modern, electric invention that allowed a building to soar taller than ever before. The detailing of the metal rails and wooden handrail at the stairs has not changed, and continues along the mezzanine level. The stairs which were originally green terrazzo are carpeted. The mezzanine wraps itself around the lobby space echoing the curvature of the front façade. The grand ballroom is to the north, and private dining rooms and meeting rooms to the southeast. The grand ballroom retains a high degree of integrity. The original quarter sawn oak floor laid in a diagonal parquet pattern remains, as does the Adamesque ornamental plaster along the vaulted ceiling, cornice and frieze. The Corinthian pilasters were in “verde antique with gold caps carrying a gold cornice with a verde antique frieze relieved in gold festoons” (Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925). The original chandeliers hang from modillions in the vaulted ceiling.

The guest floors are typical in arrangement with guest rooms flanking the central hallway and the service spaces surrounding the elevator shaft. All of the rooms are approximately 11-ft x 16-ft with larger rooms and suites located along the curved elevation and at each end of the corridor. When it was constructed the hotel boasted that each room had running ice water and was equipped with a bath, adjacent to a bathroom, or carried bath privileges. The layout of the rooms has not changed considerably with the major alteration being “modernization” of the bathrooms and combining two rooms into one. The original 218 guest rooms was reduced to 193 guest rooms. The rooms and hallway are detailed with simple molding where the wall meets the ceiling.

The penthouse is accessed by elevator at the roof. The lower level of the penthouse was public space, complete with lavatories. The upper floors house the water tank and elevator machinery. The wooden formwork remains visible in the penthouse ceilings. The roof was intended to be a viewing platform. Remnants of the railing at the parapet are still present.

¹⁵ The Native American Center for the Living Arts closed in 1993. The building remains vacant.

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The Hotel Niagara
Name of Property
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The service spaces, including kitchen and storage are located toward the rear (southeast), in a two-story space that wraps around the shaft. An alley provides access to the service spaces. The kitchen was considered to be state of the art when designed. The space is larger than necessary for the requirements of a modern commercial kitchen. Located above the kitchen is a large meeting space added c1950. This room is not detailed in a manner consistent with the rest of the hotel.

The Hotel Niagara remains a prominent feature in the skyline of Niagara Falls, New York when viewed from both Niagara Falls, New York and Niagara Falls, Canada. The building retains a high degree of integrity with minimal alterations having been made to the exterior. The interior volumes and Adam Style decorative motifs have not been significantly altered, with the major changes being the removal or covering of finish material. The building is a good example of the Classic Revival tall building paradigm with Italian Renaissance Revival and Federal Stylistic references.

The Hotel Niagara

Niagara County, New York

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave
- ☐ **D** a cemetery
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance:

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance:

1925

Significant Dates:

1925

Significant Person:

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect/Builder:

Esenwein & Johnson of Buffalo, N.Y.

Wright & Kremers, Niagara Falls, NY

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☒ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by historic American Building Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other repository: _____

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Section 8 Page 1

The Hotel Niagara

Name of Property

Niagara Country, New York

County and State

Statement of Significance:

According to an advertisement in the Niagara Gazette dated April 7, 1925 the hotel was "Visioned and developed by the Chamber of Commerce and built by the citizens of Niagara Falls, Hotel Niagara is an example of civic cooperation and achievement of which this city may well be proud".

The Hotel Niagara, designed by Esenwein and Johnson of Buffalo, was constructed in 1923 -1925. It was not the vision of, or financed by an individual, rather it was the vision of and financed by the community. At the time of construction it was considered to be a first-class, state of the art, fireproof hotel catering to the needs of the business traveler and the convention trade, on par with other modern, urban hotels of the period. It was the last large hotel from this era constructed in Niagara Falls, and is the only one remaining. The building retains a high degree of integrity with minimal alterations having been made to the exterior. The interior volumes and Adam Style decorative motifs have not been significantly altered, with the major changes being the removal or covering of finish material. The building is a good example of the tall building paradigm with Italian Renaissance Revival and Federal Stylistic references.

Historical Background and Significance:

The Niagara, proud fulfillment of this city's cherished hopes of many years, crowning achievement of a great civic enterprise, outwardly imposing as its towering walls of stone and brick lift high into the clouds, exquisite within with the highest art of modern hotel designing and architecture, superbly adorned and appointed, luxurious in its arrangements and furnishings, with equipment unexcelled and in the hands of an operative organization of highest skill and experience, is opening now to serve Niagarans and visitors from all the world (Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925).

The Niagara is a product of the history of Niagara Falls: tourism, industry and commerce. It is also unique because it was not the vision of an individual who finance and build a grand hotel as had often been the case. The Hotel Niagara was conceived by civic and industrial leaders and financed by the local community. The resulting building is restrained and dignified, rising essentially unadorned in the skyline of Niagara Falls.

Discovery of the Falls

As early as 1603 Samuel de Champlain, geographer to Henry IV, alluded to a large waterfall and described an Iroquoian-speaking tribe living in villages in the Niagara area called the Neutral Nation. The Neutrals who lived along the Niagara River were called Onguiaronon, "People of the Thundering Water". Onguiaronon was later anglicized as "Nee-ah-guh-ah" - Niagara.

In 1678 Europeans explored the area Champlain had described. Louis Hennepin, a Flemish Recollect priest, was the historian on LaSalle's second exploration of the two lower great lakes. Hennepin, who would stay in the area for three years, is credited as the European discoverer of the cataract. He writes of his inadequacy to describe the "Wonders of this prodigious frightful Fall". In 1683 Hennepin describes the Falls in

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The Hotel Niagara
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his *Description de la Louisiane* and again in 1698, *A New Discovery of a Vast Country in America*.¹⁶ It is through Hennepin's publications that Europeans discover the Falls.

The Niagara area was the site of 18th Century wars among various groups vying for control of the area: Indian tribes, the French and the English. Fort Niagara, Fort George and Fort Erie are all products of the various conflicts that occurred in this area.¹⁷ After the War of Independence (1775 – 1783), The Treaty of Paris (1783) established the Niagara River as the dividing line between British North American and the United States of America. Today this dividing line marks the international border between the United States of America and Canada, the line between the Falls at New York and the Falls at Ontario.

18th Century philosophers such as John Dennis, Joseph Addison and Edmund Burke¹⁸ wrote treatises regarding the beautiful and sublime. These ideas found their expression in architecture, landscape compositions, literature and painting which would further interest in the Falls. Immediately before and after the American Revolution, Niagara Falls became a popular destination for European travelers and natural historians. After the War of 1812, it became part of the Northern Tour taken by Americans. Conflicts with France resulted in many British coming to the Falls as opposed to the making the customary European Grand Tour. After the Erie Canal was completed in 1825, Buffalo and the Niagara were now linked to the Atlantic Ocean. "Canalling" provided an inexpensive means of travel, replacing the steamboat and stage coach. Together with the railroad Niagara Falls was now easily accessible to the 'common' traveler and the Tourist Industry was born.

The Tourist Industry

Literature, painting and romanticism of the 18th Century in combination with the canal and railroad system made Niagara Falls a highly desirable and easily accessible destination for the traveler. By the 1850s Niagara Falls had been dubbed the "Honeymoon Capitol of the World". The honeymoon began as the upper-class "bridal tour" when friends and family went to visit relatives who could not attend the wedding. Bridal tours arrived at the Falls after 1825 when the Falls became easily accessible. By the 1870s the "honeymoon" had worked its way down the class system with the assistance of popular periodicals such as *Harper's Weekly* which ran pictures of honeymooning couples at the Falls.

The genteel class had specific expectations in terms of service and accommodation when they traveled. In 1825 the Cataract House was built, followed by the International Hotel (1853) and Prospect Hotel in 1887 to

¹⁶ Originally published in 1697 as *Nouvelle découverte d'un très grand pays situé, dans l'Amérique entre le Nouveau Mexique et la mer Glaciale*. The description of Niagara Falls is part of a larger account of his explorations.

¹⁷ Fort Niagara was originally built in the late 17th Century to protect the interests of New France in North America. It fell to the British in 1759. Fort Erie was the first British fort constructed after the Treaty of Paris (1763). Fort George was built in 1802 by the British Army who had been forced to withdraw from Fort Niagara.

¹⁸ John Dennis writes of the horror and terrible joy associated with the Alps in his 1693 *Miscellanies in Verse and Prose* and Joseph Addison would publish his response to the beautiful and sublime in *The Spectator* (1712). Burke wrote *A Philosophical Inquiry into the Origin of Our Ideas of the Sublime and Beautiful* (1757) where he establishes the characteristics which define and contrast the beautiful and the sublime. He writes that terror is the ruling principal of the sublime and is associated with feelings of dread, danger and even death. Attributes of the sublime, according to Burke, include power, darkness, vacuity, vastness, magnitude, infinity and magnificence.

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 3

The Hotel Niagara
Name of Property
Niagara Country, New York
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cater to the genteel traveler who would come and spend weeks and often the entire summer at Niagara Falls. The 1892 City Directory listed forty-two (42) hotels in the city. This number did not change considerably with forty-seven (47) hotels listed in the 1930 City Directory. The Red Coach Inn, which opened for business in 1923 and The Niagara, which opened for business in 1925 were the last constructed in this era.

By the 1870s the working and middle class would purchase one-day rail passes to visit the Falls. This gave rise to the many souvenir shops and what many of the upper-class saw as a cheapening of the Falls with this lower class tourist. Parallel to this the State of New York and the province of Ontario purchased land and buildings around the Falls to "naturalize" the area. Frederick Law Olmsted designed the "American Reservation", a natural setting of secluded paths which opened in 1883. As Olmsted was restoring nature at the Falls, industry was harnessing its potential power.

Industry, Power and the Falls

The Niagara area was considered to be the main gateway of commerce and travel between Canada and the United States. It was also considered to be one of the major distribution centers in North America in part because of its commanding position in the field of transportation (Development Committee of the Niagara Area, 1928). Within 500 miles of the Niagara Area lived 60% of the population of the U.S. and 80% of that of Canada (Buffalo Journal of Commerce, 1928). The Falls was considered to be a "natural wonder" and also a source of power that would facilitate the development of industry along the upper gorge. By the early 1870s the Gaskill Flouring Mill was the first to utilize the hydraulic canal falling over the "High Bank". By 1886 milling companies, including Central Milling Niagara Wood Paper Company, and Schoellkopf and Mathews Big Flour Mill, would dominate the high bank.¹⁹

By the 1890s power projects had begun that would harness water at the Falls to produce hydroelectric power which would light the 1901 Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo. The promise of a cheap supply of continuous electrical energy would bring other industries to Niagara Falls. "Silicon, calcium carbide, graphite, phosphorous, ferro-alloys, caustic and other products were being prepared for commercial use through the medium of electricity" at Niagara Falls (Buffalo Journal of Commerce, 1928). In 1928 Niagara Falls promoted itself as the leading center of industry and included companies such as The Carborundum Company, Norton Company and General Abrasive Company, the Acheson Graphite Company, Hooker Electrochemical Company, and Roessler and Hasslacher Chemical Company. One of the main products produced by the chemical companies was chlorine which was used to develop a host of other chemical products for industry, commerce and war munitions. The Hotel Niagara was also a product of industrial development as it marketed itself toward the business traveler and convention trade as opposed to just the tourist on vacation.

In the early decades of the 20th Century the invention of the automobile changed the nature of the family vacation and gave rise to the motor inn. Families would travel from destination to destination stopping only for a day or two at any particular spot before moving on. The large hotels, which once catered to the upper class family who stayed at the Falls for an extended period of time during the summer, were now looking toward a

¹⁹ Historic photographs in the collection of the Local History Room of the Niagara Falls Public Library document the construction of mills on the high bank.

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The Hotel Niagara

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new clientele and market niche. The sublimity of the Falls which provided the allure to travelers also provided the potential power around which industry and business at the Falls would develop. Niagara Falls became a destination not only for the traveler, but also for industrial development. It is in this context of industry, commerce and tourism that The Niagara was born in the minds of community and industrial leaders.

The Hotel Niagara

The Chamber of Commerce

By 1918, community and business leaders in Niagara Falls saw the need for a first class, fireproof hotel, to meet the needs of the business traveler and convention trade. Even though there were forty-five hotels in the city at this time, none of them utilized fireproof construction,²⁰ and they were geared toward the resort and tourist industry. The city was seen as "budding rapidly into a real convening center for many of the most popular organizations in the country, fraternal, political and commercial" (Niagara Gazette April 8, 1925).

The Chamber of Commerce formed a hotel committee and appointed Frank A. Dudley,²¹ president of the United Hotel Company and a local citizen, as chairman. Although this committee dissolved, various other committees would be formed eventually leading to the formation of the Niagara Hotel Company chaired by Walter McCulloh. The Niagara Hotel Company looked at various sites and proposals, eventually settling on Jefferson Hill at the intersection of 1st Street and Jefferson Avenue, today's Rainbow Boulevard North and Rainbow Boulevard. They retained J.H.L. Patterson of Niagara Falls and C.H. Kimpel of Chicago to design a hotel on Jefferson Hill. Their plan called for a 12-story, 890-room residential and tourist hotel which would cost \$1,630,000. This design would never be realized due to an inability to secure funding. A number of proposals were entertained in the early years of the 1920s, all of which would require local subscription through the sale of bonds and/or stock. In May 1922, Dudley contacted W.W. Kincaid, president of the Chamber of Commerce and told him that the United Hotel Company could cut the cost of construction considerably by using a standardized plan of hotel building. He proposed that the construction of a 200-room hotel on the Jefferson Hill site would cost one million dollars.

Paul A. Schoellkopf, A.J. Porter and W.W. Kincaid formed a thirty member committee that would sell stock to raise money for the hotel construction. A five day subscription campaign would result in 1,240 subscribers purchasing \$783,300 worth of stock and by day eight of the campaign \$1,000,000 worth of stock had been sold. Construction of the hotel designed by Esenwein and Johnson, a Buffalo architectural firm, began on September 5, 1923. Three months before the scheduled opening in April 1925, a final fundraising campaign sold \$352,000 worth of hotel bonds to 462 individuals. The Niagara was promoted as a hotel for the citizens of Niagara Falls, built by the citizens of Niagara Falls.

Esenwein & Johnson, Architects

The Buffalo architectural firm of Esenwein & Johnson was commissioned to design The Niagara. The supervising architects were Kirkpatrick and Cannon of Niagara Falls with George P. Post of New York City

²⁰ The International Hotel burned down on January 3, 1918.

²¹ Dudley would be influential in establishing hotel management as a course of study in universities, specifically Cornell University, Ithaca, New York (*Biographical and Autobiographical Sketches of Frank A. Dudley*, 1945)

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hired as consulting architect. Wright and Kremers of Niagara Falls were the general contractors. Van Renassalaer P. Saxe of the Standard Concrete-Steel Company of Baltimore designed the structural system for the building.

Esenwein & Johnson had an active practice in Buffalo in the early decades of the 20th Century. Their designs include The Temple of Music²² for the 1901 Pan American Exposition in Buffalo, the original Buffalo Statler (demolished 1967)²³; the General Electric Tower (1912, NR); the Ansonia Building (1906); the Buffalo Museum of Science (1929) and the Calumet Building (1906) among others.²⁴

Esenwein was born in Esenwein-Virnsberg in 1856. He studied architecture and engineering at the Stuttgart Polytechnic University (1874 - 1879) before moving to Paris to work as a draughtsman. After two years in Paris he immigrated to Buffalo where he spent two years working in the engineering office of the Delaware & Western Railroad after which he set up his own practice. In 1897 he formed a partnership with James Addison Johnson who was born in Syracuse, New York and received his architectural education in the United States. Johnson worked in the offices of Edward Kent; Silsbee & Marling; Richard Morris Hunt and in 1890 joined the practice of McKim, Mead and White.

The Hotel Niagara

Esenwein and Johnson proposed a design for a 218-room, 12-story hotel that would provide all of the amenities in service that the convention trade or business traveler would need. As expected the building was electrified throughout by the Niagara Electric Service Company and equipped with all of the modern conveniences afforded by electricity and expected at a hotel of this quality (Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925). The exterior was simple, refined and minimal in its use of ornament. The rusticated pedestal and cornice were executed using Italian Renaissance Revival motifs and the shaft of the building was dependent upon the texture and color of the cloister brick and fenestration for visual delight as was typical with the Federal Style employed by the architects. The delicate, attenuated, classical forms of the interior make reference to the Adam Style. The austere and controlled quality of the exterior, combined with the crisp, refined classical motifs of the interior were expressive of the intent for The Niagara to be a modern hotel that catered to the convention trade and the business traveler.

When it was constructed The Niagara was praised for possessing "those ultimate features of appointment and service found only in the most modern and luxurious establishments of the larger cities. The finer comforts that represent true hospitality are epitomized in the Roosevelt, at New York City and The Benjamin Franklin at Philadelphia and The Niagara is the equal of either of these houses in every respect excepting that of size"

²² President McKinley was assassinated by Leon Czolgosz in September 1901 at this site.

²³ The first Buffalo Statler was built in 1907 and renamed "The Hotel Buffalo" in 1922 after the completion of the second Buffalo Statler (1921). It was sold in 1930 and torn down in 1967. Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia, *Hotel Statler*, On-line. Available from internet, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statler_Hotel accessed May 30, 2008). The second Buffalo Statler was designed by George B. Post & Sons

²⁴ The Preservation Coalition Website of Erie County. *Buffalo Architecture and History*. On-line. Available from internet, <http://www.preservationcoalition.org/>, accessed May 7, 2008.

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The Hotel Niagara

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(Niagara Gazette, April 8, 1925). The hotel of the early decades of the 20th Century was quite different from that of the century previous. Modern amenities facilitated by inventions such as indoor plumbing and electricity resulted in an equalizing of experience among travelers. The modern hotel was not the hotel for just the genteel class. Further, companies such as the Statler Hotel Company and the United Hotel Company were managing chains of hotels throughout the United States and Canada. The "Roaring Twenties"²⁵ was especially primed for the modern hotel the Niagara and its contemporaries had to offer. At the time, the United Hotel Company was operating twenty-three hotels in urban centers extending across the United States and Canada including The Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia (1925, Listed 1982); The Roosevelt in New York City (1924); The Onondaga in Syracuse, New York (1922, NR Listed 2008)²⁶; The Dewitt in Albany, New York (NR Listed 2001) The Bancroft Hotel, Worcester, Massachusetts (1913, NR Listed 1980)²⁷ and The Clifton in Niagara Falls, Canada (destroyed by fire 1932). Closer to home Ellsworth Milton Statler's The Statler Hotel Company also had a chain of hotels that catered to the businessman and tourist. The first Buffalo Statler (1905-8), and second Buffalo Statler (1921) also provided modern amenities, catering to a new class of traveler.²⁸

The Beginning and End of An Era

The Niagara opened in April, 1925 to a fan fare of expectations for both the hotel and the city. The United Hotels Company had been contracted by the Niagara Falls Hotel Corporation to operate the hotel. The profit/loss sheets from the early years of operation show the hotel making money and dividends being paid to stockholders (Profit-Loss Statements 1924, 1925, 1926). By 1929 the Hotel had stopped generating a profit and dividends were not paid (Letter to Stockholders from the Niagara Falls Hotel Corporation, May 15, 1929). The onset of the Depression in the 1930s and high operating costs resulted in continued net losses for the company (Profit Loss Statements, December 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934). The Niagara Hotel Company was reorganized in 1935 and the United Hotels Company stock holdings were reduced from 50 per cent to about 8 per cent and their management contract ended (Stockholders Meeting Minutes, December 1935). At this time the hotel was technically bankrupt and the hotel was now completely under local control. By 1946, payment of dividends resumed and the original vision of the hotel as a vital part of the community was realized (Letter to Shareholders from the Niagara Falls Hotel Corporation June 30, 1947). The hotel continued operations until October, 1958 when the stockholders voted to sell the building and furnishings to Harold Levin and Vern Forsman of Buffalo marking the end of an era for the community owned hotel. (Letter to Stockholders from the Niagara Falls Hotel Corporation October 2, 1958)

²⁵ After World War I technology and a new 'modern' society were the new advance garde. It was the period of jazz music and the flapper, somewhat in reaction to the atrocities technology afforded the warring machine. People were optimistic. Applied here, it is the era of the hotel whose client is not the genteel, rather, it is the businessman in modern society – practicality juxtaposed in an era of amusement and fun manifest in jazz and dancing.

²⁶ The Onondaga Hotel is known as the Hotel Syracuse today. It was constructed in 1922, designed by George B. Post & Sons.

²⁷ The Bancroft Hotel was constructed in 1913, designed by Esenwein and Johnson.

²⁸ Statler died in 1928. His company would build hotels in Cleveland, Detroit, Saint Louis, New York, Boston, Washington, Los Angeles, Hartford and Dallas until they were sold to Hilton Hotels in 1954 (Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia. *Hotel Statler*. On-line. Available from internet, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statler_Hotel , accessed May 30, 2008).

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Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 7

The Hotel Niagara
Name of Property
Niagara Country, New York
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Recent History

Harold Levin and Vern Forsman owned the property until November 1970 when the doors closed and the hotel became the temporary property of the Guardian Life Insurance Company in New York City (Niagara Gazette, November 23, 1975). The building remained vacant until John Prozeralik purchased the property in the spring 1977 (Niagara Gazette, July 1, 1977). Prozeralik "renovated" the interior of the hotel. He removed the caen stone from the lobby and the black marble from the colonnettes. He covered the terrazzo floors and "redecorated" many of the guest rooms adding heart-shaped Jacuzzi's and modernizing the bathrooms. Period photos also reveal that Prozeralik removed and replaced the original chandeliers in the lobby. It is during this ownership that the original three-over-three sash units were replaced with one-over-one aluminum units. A photograph in the Niagara Gazette on May 25, 1985 shows the rusticated limestone being painted. "John's Hotel Niagara" was successful. It drew on a tourist market that came from an overseas network of group or charter travel. In 1988, Prozeralik property became a franchise of the Texas-based Park Inns International. (Niagara Gazette July 3, 1988). Within a year Prozeralik sold the property to Frank DiCosimo a Niagara Falls, Ontario entrepreneur who operated the hotel as the Days Inn-Falls View before changing its name to Travelodge Hotel-Fallsview (Niagara Gazette, February 6, 1989). His plans for an indoor swimming pool, health spa and exercise facility never materialized. In November 2005, a foreclosure judgment was brought against the property for failure to pay \$1.3 million in city and school taxes despite the fact that the hotel was successful, generating an average yearly revenue of \$2.5 million dollars between 1998 - 2002 (Niagara Gazette, February 22, 2005). The property was sold at auction to the Niagara Inn Corporation who continued to operate it as a hotel until 2007 when it was sold again at auction. The current owners plan to restore the 193-room hotel.

Summary Statement:

The Hotel Niagara is the last built and only surviving major hotel that once dominated downtown Niagara Falls. The building is a product of the Falls - its history of tourism, industry and commerce. It was conceived and built as a community effort. "Modern, efficient and comfortable, The Niagara is the last word in fireproof construction, artistic environment, and luxurious equipment. It is more than a hotel; it is a public trust" (Niagara Gazette April 8, 1925). The Hotel Niagara was owned and operated by its founding corporation, The Niagara Falls Hotel Corporation, until it was sold to private investors in 1958. The interior volumes and Adam Style decorative motifs have not been significantly altered, with the major changes being the removal or covering of finish material. The building is a good example of the tall building paradigm with Italian Renaissance Revival and Federal Stylistic references.

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The Hotel Niagara
Name of Property
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Section 9 Page 2

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Name of Property
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The Hotel Niagara
Name of Property

Niagara County, New York
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.53

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 169402 4778237
Zone Easting Northing

3 18
Zone Easting Northing

2 18

4 18

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kerry L. Traynor, Historic Preservation Specialists

organization KTA Preservation Specialists date June 17, 2008

street & number 422 Parker Avenue telephone 716.864.0628

city or town Buffalo state NY zip code 14216

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name Amidee Hotel Niagara, LLC

street & number 14420 W. Sylvanfield Dr. Suite 100 telephone 281.315.2100

city or town Houston state TX zip code 77014

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20503

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

Geographical Data Description:

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary for the property is bounded by Rainbow Boulevard along the South-West, 2nd Street to the North, and a common alleyway to the East. The boundary is indicated by the heavy black line on the attached map.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary for the nomination for the property located at 201 Rainbow Boulevard is defined the land historically associated with the property's construction in 1925.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section PHOTOGRAPHIC CAPTIONS **Page** 1

The Hotel Niagara

Name of Property

Niagara County, New York

County and State

Photo Key-

Photos: Daniel McEneny (NYSHPO)

Digital photo records stored at the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, Historic Preservation, Peebles Island,
Waterford, NY 12188

1-Princial Façade from Rainbow Blvd.

2-Main entrance

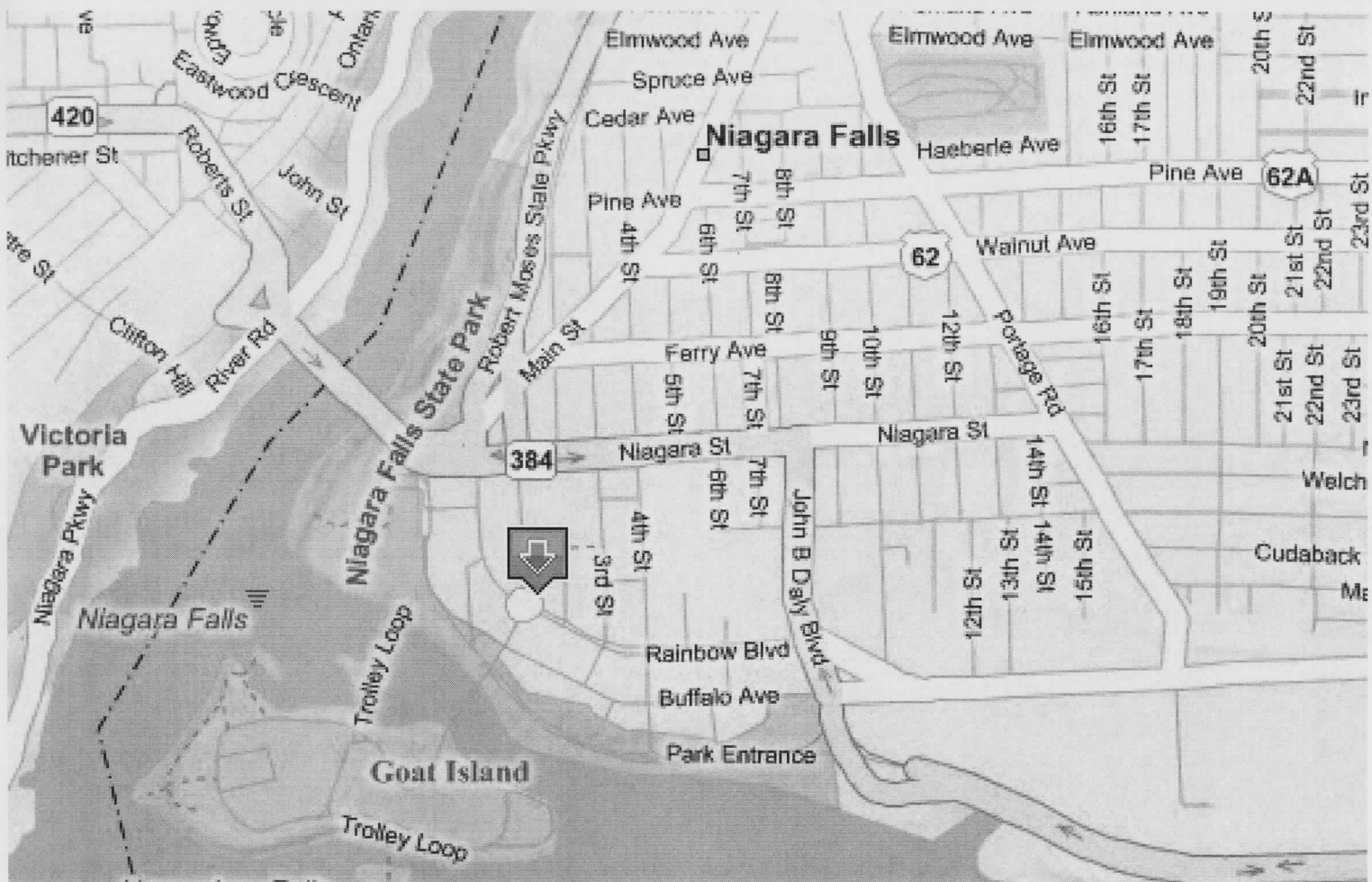
3-Mezzanine detail

4-Mezzanine from ground floor/main lobby

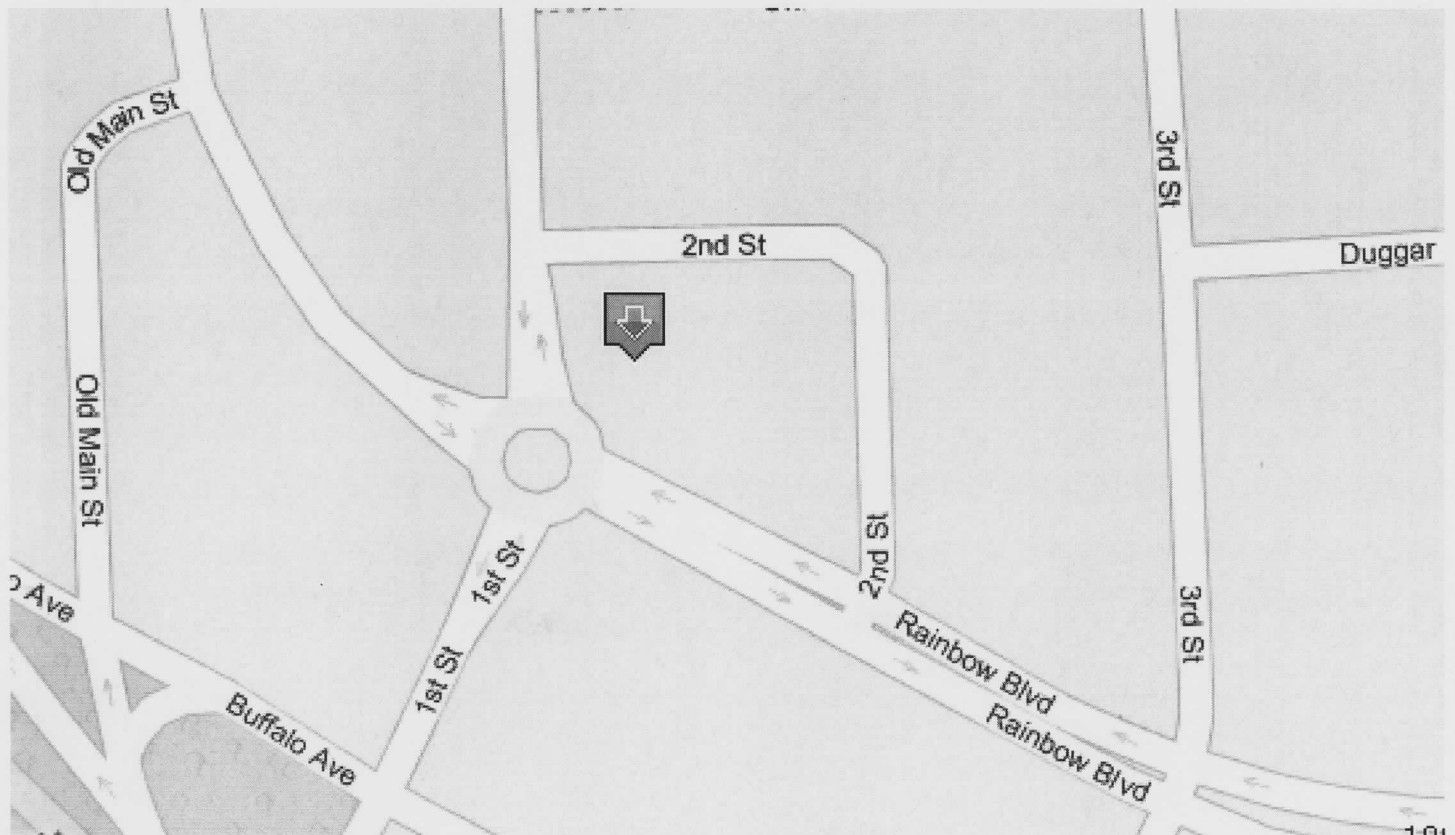
5-Shoe shine stand (Main lobby)

6-Hotel Mailbox (Main lobby)

7-View from roof facing West- (Niagara Falls State Park)



The Niagara, Niagara Falls, NY, Niagara County





158.12-1-16

159.09-1-17.2

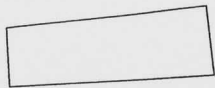
159.09-1-13

NIAGARA FALLS

← National
Register
Boundary

159.09-1-12

Boulevard →
← Rainbow



0 15 30 60 90 120 Feet

The NIAGARA
NIAGARA FALLS, NY
NIAGARA County



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Niagara, The

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Niagara

DATE RECEIVED: 10/24/08 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/10/08
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/25/08 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/07/08
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08001145

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 12/5/08 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

A good local architectural example
by the firm of Esekewitz + Johnson
Unusually it was locally financed
in the business + convention traveler

RECOM./CRITERIA C

REVIEWER Abernathy

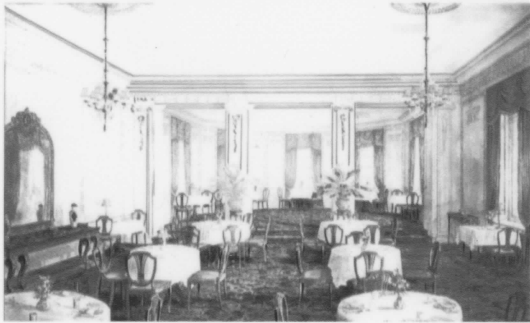
DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 12/5/08

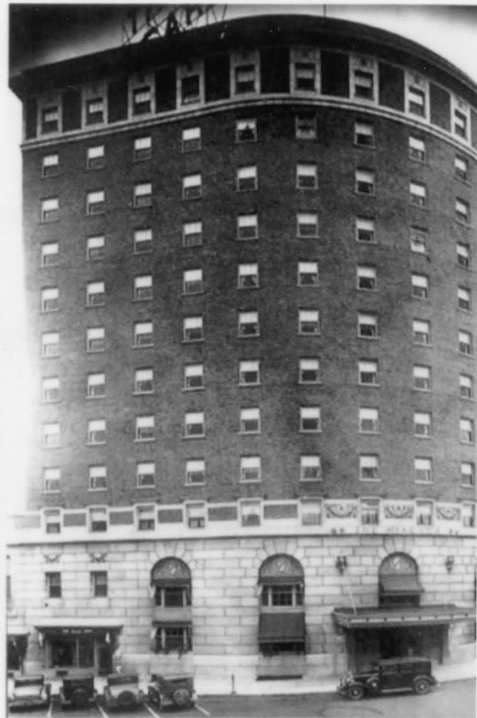
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the
nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



The NIAGARA
NIAGARA Falls, NY
NIAGARA County
Historic View 1

COCKTAIL LOUNGE, HOTEL NIAGARA, NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.



THE NIAGARA
NIAGARA FALLS, NY
NIAGARA COUNTY
Historic View 2



The NIAGARA
NIAGARA FALLS, NY
NIAGARA County
Photo 1



The NIAGARA
NIAGARA Falls, NY
NIAGARA County
Photo 2



THE NIAGARA
NIAGARA FALLS, NY
NIAGARA COUNTY
Photo 3



THE NIAGARA
NIAGARA FALLS, NY
NIAGARA County
Photo 4



The NIAGARA
NIAGARA FALLS, NY
NIAGARA County
Photo 5



LETTERS

LETTER BOX

U.S. MAIL

The NIAGARA
NIAGARA Falls, NY
NIAGARA County
Photo 6



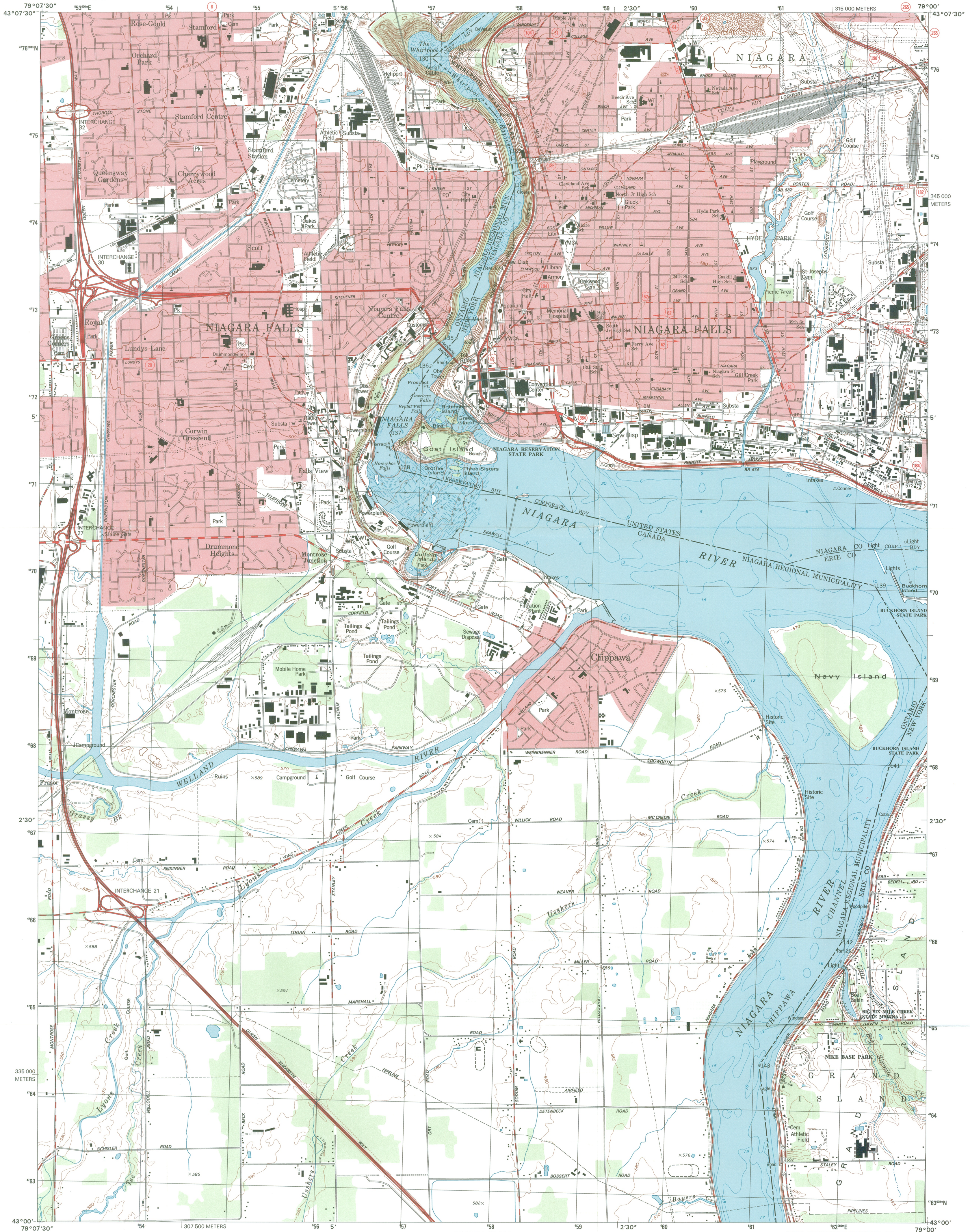
The NIAGARA
NIAGARA Falls, NY
NIAGARA County
Photo 7



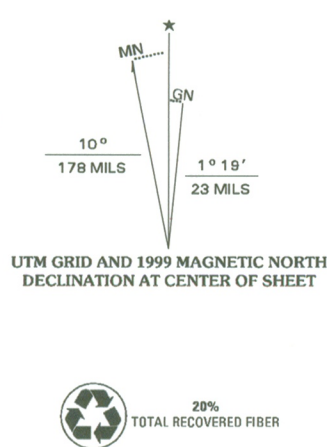
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The NIAGARA
NIAGARA FALLS, NY
NIAGARA Cnty
NIAGARA FALLS Quad
Zone 18
E 169402
N 4778237

NIAGARA FALLS QUADRANGLE
NEW YORK-ONTARIO
7.5-MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Topography compiled 1972. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1995 and other sources. Survey control current as of 1973
Map edited 1999. Canadian portion copied from Natural Resources Canada, 1:50 000-scale topographic map dated 1990
Canadian portions of this map © by Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, and may not be reproduced or redistributed without express consent of Natural Resources Canada, 4th Floor, 615 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0G9
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS Chart 14832 (1977)
This information is not intended for navigational purposes
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 1 000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 17
2 500-meter ticks: New York Coordinate System of 1983 (west zone)
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map
Landmark buildings verified 1973



SCALE 1:25 000
1 000 0 0.5 1 KILOMETERS
1 000 0 0.5 1 METERS
1 000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 8000 9000 10000 FEET
CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET IN THE UNITED STATES AND 10 FEET IN CANADA
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET
REFERENCE LEVEL 568.6 FEET, INTERNATIONAL GREAT LAKES DATUM
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway
hard surface
Secondary highway
hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or
improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U.S. Route
State Route

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

NIAGARA FALLS, NY-ONT
1995

NIMA 5170 II SE-SERIES V821



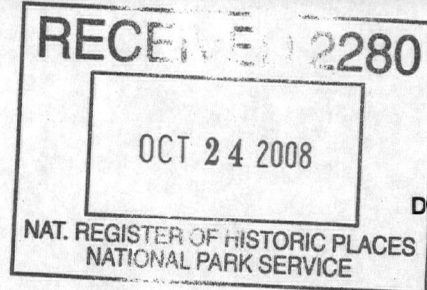


New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau • Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

www.nysparks.com



David A. Paterson
Governor

Carol Ash
Commissioner

October 22, 2008

Ms. Alexis Abernathy
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW
8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: Transmittal of National Register
Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to transmit five new National Register nominations to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register as follows:

Buffalo Tennis and Squash Club, Erie Co., NY

The Niagara, Niagara Falls, Niagara Co., NY

Annunciation School, Buffalo, Erie Co., NY

Harlow C. Curtiss Building, Buffalo, Erie Co., NY

The Baptist Church of Springville, Erie Co., NY

Thank you for your assistance in processing these proposals. Please feel free to call on me at 518-237-8643 ext. 3258 if any questions arise.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Peckham
National Register
Program Coordinator

enclosures

Recommendation: SLR_Return

Action: SLR_Return None

Documentation Issues-Discussion Sheet

State Name: NY County Name Niagara Resource Name Niagara, The

Reference No. 1145 Multiple Name _____

Solution:

JB Problem: - windows have been replaced - from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ aluminum

- no support for social history - suggest changing area of sig.
to entertainment/recreation or commerce

- more pics of building would be helpful - to see '50s
addition + interior changes.

Resolution:

SLR: Yes No

Database Change: