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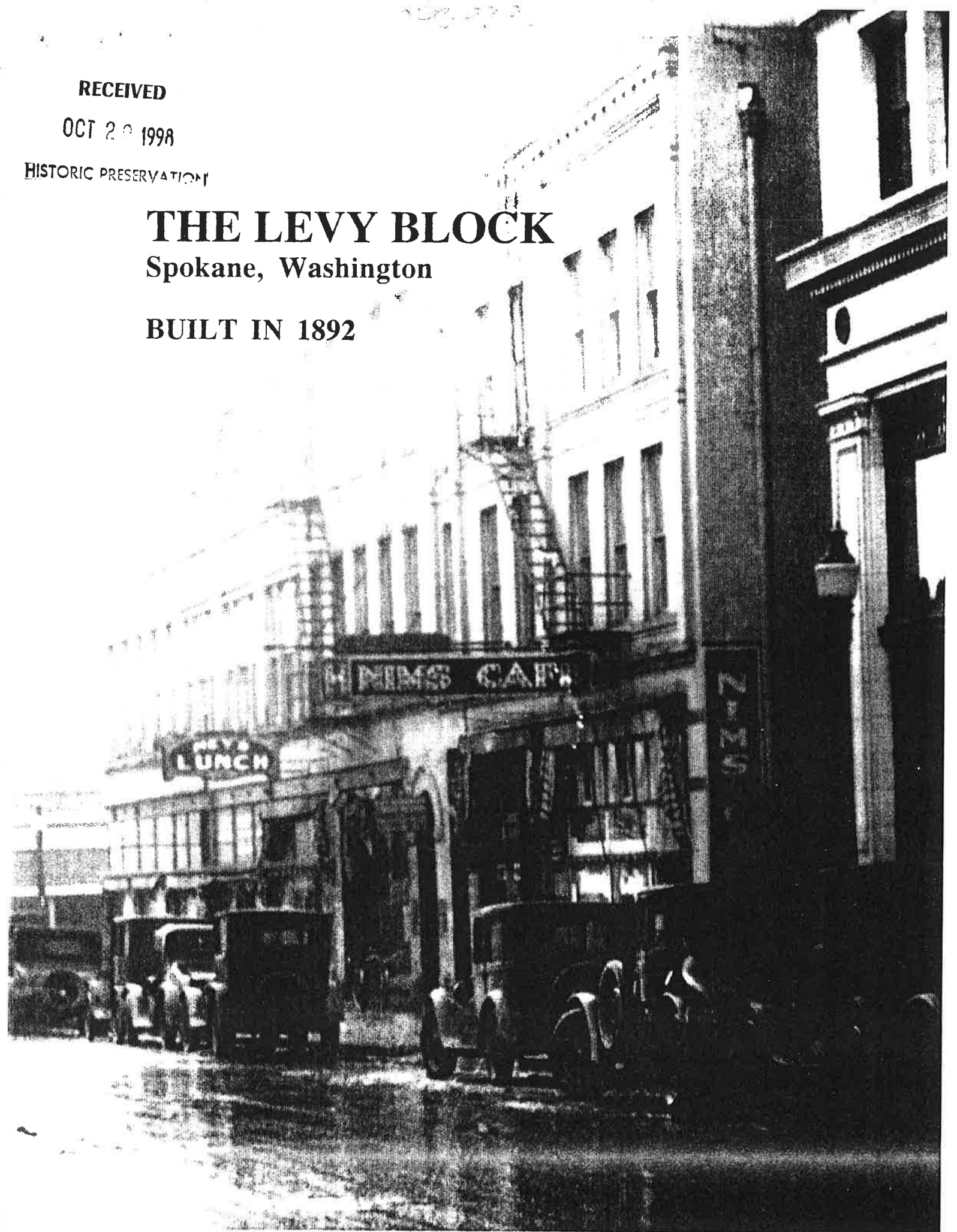
OCT 20 1998

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

THE LEVY BLOCK

Spokane, Washington

BUILT IN 1892



Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

RECEIVED
JUL 27 1998
HISTORIC NOMINATION

City/County Historic Preservation Office, City Hall - Sixth Floor
Spokane, Washington 99201-3337

1. Name of Property

Historic Name **LEVY BLOCK**

2. Location

Street & Number 118 North Stevens Street
City, Town, or Vicinity Spokane
County Spokane
State WA
Zip Code 99201
Parcel Number 35184.2309

3. Classification

Category of Property	Ownership of Property	Status of Property	Present Use of Property
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both		<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> residential
<input type="checkbox"/> object	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<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 Gregory Green
Street & Number 422 West Riverside Avenue, Suite 808
City or Town Spokane
County Spokane
State WA
Zip Code 99201
Telephone Number 509-444-1000

5. Location of Legal Description

Courthouse, Registry of Deeds Spokane County Courthouse
Street & Number 1116 West Broadway
City or Town Spokane
County Spokane
State WA
Zip Code 99201

(Final Draft 23 October 1998)

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Title City of Spokane Historic Landmarks Survey
Date Federal__ State__ County__ Local 1975
Depository for Survey Records Spokane Historic Preservation Office
City or Town Spokane
State WA

7. Description

Architectural Classification (enter categories from instructions)	Condition	Check One
	<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered
	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	
	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	Check One
	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> moved & date _____

Description of the present and original (if known) physical appearance:

Narrative Description

Summary Statement

Built in 1892, the three-story Levy Block is a fine example of the Commercial Block architectural style, and is one of the oldest buildings in the Spokane area. Exterior walls constructed of red brick laid in common bond measure twelve to twenty inches thick and form the building's structural, masonry-bearing form. Following a popular turn-of-the-century building practice used in early Spokane, the Levy Block's facade parapet exhibits a nameplate inscribed in capital letters spelling LEVY BLOCK--one of a few remaining buildings constructed in Spokane in the late 1800s that include the word "block" in its nameplate. Architectural design elements, including the simple, symmetrical fenestration, plain parapet, and brick construction, help establish the Levy Block as a typical example of the brick Commercial Block style.

1998 - Present Appearance and Condition

The Levy Block is located within the city's central business district and stands on the southern portion of Lot 5, Block 16 in Spokane's Resurvey Addition. The building faces west at 118 North Stevens Street and comprises a rectangular footprint measuring 42 feet wide by 60 feet long with 2520 square feet on each floor. A thick foundation constructed of native basalt and granite rock mortared with cement houses a full basement. The Levy Block is bordered by an alley to the south and is connected to the taller, three-story brick Bodie Block to the north, and a shorter, two-story brick building to the east. A paved sidewalk separates the Levy Block's street-level facade from Stevens Street.

Exterior

The three-story Levy Block rises more than 44 feet to a brick parapet capped by plain metal coping. Highlighting the facade, incised block letters spelling LEVY BLOCK appear in a centrally placed granite panel on the building's parapet. Brick corbeling supports a granite

**Spokane Register of Historic Places
Nomination Form**

Continuation Sheet
LEVY BLOCK

Item Number 7

Page Number 2

cornice located directly below the Levy Block's parapet. The building's facade design features three asymmetrical vertical bays separated by brick pilasters. Brick and granite spandrels separate the upper two floors horizontally. The ground-floor base of the building is visually set apart from the rest of the building by smooth, pressed red brick veneer applied in the 1970s. Street-level windows and doors exhibit an arcade pattern composed of four arched, metal-frame, multi-paned windows, one arched double-door entry, and one arched door located at the extreme north end. The upper floors are clad in the original red brick veneer laid in 1892 when the building was constructed. Six-ranked upper-level facade fenestration is composed of simple, single-pane metal-frame windows with horizontal mullions. The windows are capped by jack arches. Windows are arranged evenly between the brick pilasters.

The south elevation is weight-bearing brick wall is constructed of red brick laid in common bond. Evenly spaced symmetrical fenestration includes one-over-one, metal-frame, fixed sash windows capped by jack arches. On the south elevation's street-level, three windows are filled in with bricks, and a single segmentally arched entry is recessed and located at the extreme east corner. The east, rear elevation of the building is attached to a one-story building. The peeling paint of a faded advertisement appears on the east elevation's brick veneer. The north elevation of the Levy Block adjoins the Bodie Block.

Interior

The Levy Block's entire interior was gutted in a 1984 fire that destroyed nearly all of the woodwork, interior partitions, fir-planked floors, and ceilings. Located along the north wall of the building, a first-floor stairway leads directly from the front exterior of the building to the second and third floors. The rest of the first floor is open with exposed floor joists, exposed brick walls and a deteriorated and damaged fir-planked floor. The second and third floors also suffered extensive fire damage. Unpainted exposed brick walls, exposed floor joists, parts of woodwork framing some of the windows, and remnants of a square newel post that anchored the staircase are visible. The wood-planked floor supports pieces of framing that once supported interior partition walls revealing the outlines of an irregularly shaped open area by the stairs. A hallway leads to six small room which measure approximately twelve feet square, and a bathroom is located in the northeast corner of the building. The original sewer pipe, hot and cold water pipes, and bathroom fixture outlines are visible. The third-floor ceiling and built-up tar roof is badly damaged from fire.

1909 and 1920-1930 Historic Appearance

Historic photographs from 1909 and 1920-1930 depict the facade of the Levy Block in black and white detail. The building's street-level facade was composed of plate-glass storefront windows and clerestory units. The photos also show retractable window awnings made of stripped canvas mounted over the street-level storefront windows. An arched front entry was located on the extreme north end of the facade. A metal fire escape assembly was attached to the parapet and intersected the facade of the building. Attached to the building's brick veneer, a large sign projected out from the facade above the street-level

**Spokane Register of Historic Places
Nomination Form**

Continuation Sheet
LEVY BLOCK

Item Number 7

Page Number 3

windows. An advertisement was painted on the brick cladding on the building's southwest corner and south elevation. The upper-floor windows shown in the historic photographs appear to be one-over-one, double-hung sash units. The interior of the building was composed of six rooms measuring twelve feet square on each of the upper floors with a central hallway leading to a common bathroom in the northeast corner and to an open staircase at the northwest corner. The ground floor featured a staircase located on the north wall. An interior partition and load-bearing wall separated the stairwell entry from the rest of the street-level space.

1964-1998 Alterations

The Levy Block's facade has undergone change beginning in 1964. A rock-clad face and exterior aluminum sheeting were installed over the original storefront windows at street-level only. In 1974-1975, brick veneer replaced the circa-1964 aluminum and rock face. Arched, multi-paned windows and replacement front entry doors were installed. The original windows of the upper floors were removed and replaced with fixed, single-pane wood-frame windows. Bubble-shaped, canvas awnings were placed over the facade windows, and metal balconettes were attached to the building below the upper-floor windows. Beginning in 1998, the exterior bricks were cleaned with Pro-So-Company's masonry wash. In an effort to achieve identical window proportions matching the original one-over-one double-hung sash units removed in the 1970s, anodized aluminum-frame fixed-pane windows with horizontal mullions were installed on the building's facade in 1998. Metal-frame, one-over-one units were installed on the south and east elevations. The built-up tar roof was reconstructed. First, second and third floor interior space is currently being renovated to repair damage from the 1984 fire that gutted the building's interior. The current renovation project includes locating bathrooms on all three floors at the original lavatory site in the building's northeast corner. The remaining interior spaces will be left open to accommodate office space. The north stairwell will be rebuilt, some of the exposed brick walls will be left exposed, and original window trim remnants will be restored. New entry doors will replace fire-damaged doors on the building's facade and south elevations. The metal balconettes installed in the 1970s have been removed, and new canvas has been stretched over the existing circa-1974 metal awning frames mounted over the upper-floor facade windows. Possible street-level restoration may be planned for the future.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable Spokane Register of Historic Places Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for Spokane Register listing):

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Spokane 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 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.

Areas of Significance Commerce	Period of Significance 1892	Significant Dates 1892
Specific Dates 1892	Architect, Designer, and/or Builder Unknown	

Statement of Significance:

Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary Statement

The Levy Block was built in 1892--less than three years after the devastating Spokane Fire of 1889 that razed nearly all of the city's entire downtown business district. The building is eligible for listing on the Spokane Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with working class housing and the rapid growth of Spokane after the 1889 fire. Included in the National Register Multiple Property Listing *Single Room Occupancy Hotels in the Central Business District of Spokane, Washington, 1900-1910*, the building is also significant as one of the city's oldest representatives of the property type "single room occupancy hotels." Retaining exterior integrity on its upper levels, the Levy Block meets the registration requirements for SROs established in the Multiple Property Listing. Surviving more than a century, the three-story unreinforced brick building is a fine example of the Commercial Block style. The Levy Block is also eligible under Criterion C for listing on the Spokane Register for its architectural significance.

Historical Context

Early Spokane

Built around a series of unharnessed waterfalls spilling forth from the Spokane River, the early community of Spokane was founded in 1873--less than nineteen years before the Levy Block was built. The small town consisted of a mere 50 people, a sawmill and a trading post along with abundant, untapped natural resources. Initially named for the Spokane Indians who regarded the falls as an important fishing site, Spokane was also

**Spokane Register of Historic Places
Nomination Form**

Continuation Sheet
LEVY BLOCK

Item Number 8

Page Number 2

named for the river's powerful waterfalls. By the late 1870s, railroad routes linking Spokane to the Eastern United States were being laid, and significant gold and silver lodes were discovered in the Coeur d'Alene mining area north of Spokane. The town was officially designated in 1881 by the Territorial Legislature followed by rapid expansion during the decade from 1880-1889. Settlers arrived continuously, and businesses multiplied in Spokane's downtown core. The community grew and gained increasing recognition as a center for mining, lumber, agriculture, and rail transport. The area's economic climate, along with nationally improved financial conditions, led to a bustling building boom, and by the summer of 1889, frame structures were being replaced with more permanent and imposing brick "blocks." Spokane's future was bright. Then, on Sunday afternoon August 4, 1889, a huge fire devastated the town destroying 32 blocks of the city's business center. The tragedy gave rise to a frenetic and unparalleled period of building, and embarked the city on a 30-year cycle of growth and prosperity. The Levy Block is one of the few remaining buildings from Spokane's immediate post-fire building surge, and symbolizes the explosive rebirth of the city.

Early Land Owners of the Future Levy Block Site

Before the Levy Block was built in 1892 on Lot 5 of Block 16 in the Spokane Resurvey Addition, the southern 42 feet of the lot was owned by various businessmen, speculators and real estate investors. As the city's economic climate gained momentum and Spokane prospered, land became increasingly more and more expensive. In December 1878, James N. Glover, J. J. Browne and A. M. Cannon, three of Spokane's earliest pioneer businessmen, sold Lot 5 of Block 16 to N. L. Arthur for \$200. Five years later in 1883, Arthur sold the land to Nancy and Hiram Still, a writer, for \$650. The next year, banker Horace L. Cutter, Washington Water Power executive S. F. Moore and real estate entrepreneur Isaac N. Peyton bought the land, and later sold it to J. Amitz. Mortgage banker H. A. VanValkenburg purchased the land a few months later for \$2000. Blacksmith George McGlauflin bought the land in 1887, and leased it to John F. Robertson and Charles Lutz for \$20 a month. One year later in 1888, H. M. Currier bought the lot and sold it to Solomon Oppenheimer for \$5500. A month later, H. W. Bonne purchased the lot for \$6300. By 1889, successful Spokane baker John Sengfelder sold the land to hosteler U. P. Palmerston for \$12,600. Palmerston sold the lot to Sarah Moses for \$14,000 (with a mortgage assumption of \$3894 accruing at ten percent annually) in October 1889--two months after the 1889 fire that destroyed downtown Spokane. Less than a year later, on September 20, 1890, Philadelphia businessman Samuel L. Levy and his wife Anna Marie purchased the razed building site on Lot 5 of Block 16 for \$14,600.

Before Samuel Levy began constructing his brick business block, the land was occupied by a two-story, wood-frame building possibly serving as a private residence as noted in the aerial perspective *Spokane 1884*. Four years later, the *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of 1888-1889* also confirm the existence of the wood-frame building, and show Spokane Feed and Sale operated from the site. The building and feed store were destroyed in the Fire of 1889, and by 1890, the *Sanborn Fire Insurance Map* shows nothing occupying the Levy Block site.

**Spokane Register of Historic Places
Nomination Form**

Continuation Sheet

Item Number 8

Page Number 3

LEVY BLOCK

The Levy Block

The devastating Spokane Fire of 1889 was headline news, and a call went out via newspapers, fliers and railroad routes to the northern, southern and eastern United States for architects, carpenters, stonemasons and real estate businessmen to invest in Spokane and help rebuild the city. Philadelphia resident Samuel Levy answered the call, purchased a lot in 1890 one block from the heart of downtown Spokane, and commissioned the construction of a three-story brick commercial block bearing his name. Less than two years later, construction of Levy's three-story brick building was completed. By 1900, Stevens Street was paved, city water was supplied, and beginning in 1911, water meters were installed in the basement of the Levy Block.

In 1895, three years after the building was erected, the Levy Block housed two businesses. Cobbler Charles Flanders made boots and shoes at 120 North Stevens Street in the north half of the Levy Block's first-floor space. J. A. Long leased space at North 118 in the south half of the building for his harness, saddlery and carriage trimming business. One year later in 1896, the Levy Block was noted in *Polk's 1896 City Directory* in bold typeface under two classifications found in the business block section and was also noted under the alphabetical index of names under "Levy". Listed in the *City Directory's* business index, William J. Slater, hotel proprietor, advertised rooms for rent in the upper two floors of the Levy Block under "furnished rooms" and "lodging house". In addition, Mrs. Stella Burr occupied "Room Number One" where she advertised and operated a dressmaking business. Down below on the north end of the first floor, the cobbler shop was replaced by the Welcome Saloon owned by Joseph Rupprath, proprietor. *Polk's City Directory* never lists the owners of the Levy Block--Philadelphia residents Samuel Levy or his wife Anna Maria--residing in Spokane. Rather, the Levy's names are listed in the *City Directory* under the care of G. H. Munson Real Estate and Insurance Company. In 1898, eight years after the building was constructed, Samuel Levy was deceased, and his widow Anna Maria sold the Levy Block and other Spokane real estate to the Portland Trust Company of Oregon, a financial institution owned in part by prominent Spokane attorney and banker A. W. Witherspoon.

By 1900, the Levy Block housed three businesses listed in *Polk's City Directory* : J. A. Long's harness, saddle and carriage trimming shop located in the south half of the first floor, the You Know Saloon run by proprietor Matt Christensen located in the north half of the first floor, and upper-floor furnished rooms advertised by J. R. Wagner. By 1907, the second and third-floor single occupancy hotel rooms (SRO) were no longer advertised in the *City Directory* under "furnished rooms," but rather were listed under "hotels." Long's saddle and carriage trimming shop was replaced by George Wuich's restaurant and cafe, and the first-floor space at North 120 Stevens was occupied by the Christensen Hotel. Three years later in 1910, the Creamery Cafe operated from the south-end restaurant space, and the Persson Hotel and Bar were located in the north half of the first floor and offered single room occupancy hotel space in the upper two floors of the Levy Block. The Hotel Persson was advertised in *Polk's 1912 City Directory* in the alphabetical index as well as under "hotels" and "saloons." By 1915, the Persson Hotel was replaced by the You Know

**Spokane Register of Historic Places
Nomination Form**

Continuation Sheet
LEVY BLOCK

Item Number 8

Page Number 4

Hotel with Anton and Hannah Carlson noted as the proprietors. In 1921, during the prohibition of alcoholic beverages, the You Know Hotel changed its menu and offered "soft drinks" only.

With the advent of 1923, the You Know Hotel continued to operate as an SRO in the Levy Block while the restaurant space located in the south half of the first-floor was leased by a newcomer called Nims Cafe. Longtime Spokane residents Robert Hyslop and Norman Scheer remember the novel signage designed by the new eatery. They both recall functioning refrigeration coil bent and shaped to spell Nims Cafe in frosty, white script. *Polk's 1923 City Directory* reports that Nims Cafe offered:

"Clean, Prompt Service,
Tray Orders Taken,
and an Electric Kitchen"

Retired Spokane cab driver Wallace Gamble remembers Nims Cafe as a clean and popular working-class restaurant where he could order a "delicious dinner of meat loaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, salad, pie and coffee for only 35-cents." Nims Cafe--one of Spokane's longest running restaurants--operated at 118 North Stevens Street in the south half of the first floor in the Levy Block for 40 years until 1963. The You Know Hotel at the Levy Block's 120 North Stevens Street address kept their name for sixteen years from 1915 until 1931. The name was changed to the William Penn Hotel and continued to offer single-occupant hotel rooms to a dwindling clientele on the Levy Block's second and third floors until 1964 when the hotel rooms stood vacant.

Monte and Anne Baertsch bought the Levy Block for \$20,000 in 1957, continuing the Nims Cafe eatery. They sold the building to Alfred E. Naccarato in 1963. One year later, Naccarato remodeled the restaurant's interior and changed the Levy Block's street-level facade to accommodate a "modern" face incorporating rock and aluminum. His new eatery was called Phil's Fine Foods, and featured the Florentine Room and Lounge. By 1970, the restaurant space was leased to Clifford Erickson's Lil'Smorgie Restaurant. In 1975, Spokanites Fred Stejer, Jr. and Ralph Bockmier rescued the Levy Block's failing restaurant business. They removed the circa-1964 rock and aluminum street-level covering, but did not restore the original face. They, instead, covered the street-level facade with a red pressed-brick face and arcaded, multi-paned windows. The new restaurant, named "Strobels" for Fred Stejer's grandmother, offered *haute cuisine*, and was re-designed in a style reminiscent of a summer gazebo. Spokane resident Robert Hyslop remembers a Rolls Royce was frequently parked in front of the restaurant on Steven Street. Spurring interest and activity, Strobels was one of Spokane's most popular restaurants.

Four years later, Strobels closed its doors in 1979. Oliver's Restaurant operated in the Levy Block in 1980 and was changed to the French Quarter in 1983. In 1984, the Levy Block sustained heavy fire damage rendering it uninhabitable. After changing ownership

Spokane Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

Continuation Sheet
LEVY BLOCK

Item Number 8

Page Number 5

several times, the Levy Block was purchased in 1997 by telecommunications entrepreneur Gregory Green who is currently renovating the building for use as office space.

Architectural Significance

Single Room Occupancy Hotels

Eligible for listing in the Spokane Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with working-class housing and the rapid growth of turn-of-the-century Spokane, the Levy Block served as one of the city's oldest SROs for more than 70 years. In addition, the building is an excellent representative of the property type "Single Room Occupancy Hotels" as identified in the National Register Multiple Property Listing *Single Room Occupancy Hotels in the Central Business District of Spokane, Washington, 1900-1910*. The Multiple Property Listing defines SROs as "unreinforced masonry structures of two or more stories, with commercial bays on the ground or street-level, and the upper floors consisting primarily of single rooms without baths", but with at least one common bathroom on each floor. A stairwell from the first floor "usually led to a lobby or manager's desk on the second floor" and to the single-occupancy rooms. Multiple Property Listing author Craig Holstine best describes single room occupancy hotels and their use:

"The concept of single individuals occupying a private room was not new; first-class hotels had always met the needs of traveling business persons who could afford pay for the space and accompanying service. SROs, on the other hand, had private rooms furnished only with a bed, sometimes with a sink and portable closet, in moderate buildings offering lodgings at prices affordable to the legions of working class immigrants arriving to fill the ranks of new and expanding industries" (*The Commercial Block National Register Nomination*).

Holstine explains the Great Fire of 1889 destroyed most of downtown Spokane, and nearly all of the city's lodging facilities were lost. "Following the disastrous Fire of 1889, laborers, carpenters and architects poured into Spokane, resulting in one of the most rapid rebuildings experienced by any fire-gutted city in the West. Working-class housing must have been among the first structures to rise up from the ashes..."

The Levy Block was one of the first buildings constructed after the fire, and symbolizes the city's rebirth and frenzied building boom that spawned an overwhelming influx of immigrant and working-class people arriving in Spokane between 1890 and 1910. Hundreds and thousands of men and women flocked to Spokane in search of employment and a better life. Local historian Orville Pratt gives the following report: "So many homeless men were thronging in that the hotels and lodging houses could not care for them. Many slept on chairs or floors in hotels and saloons." Working-class housing was at a premium and many commercial buildings were constructed with single-room occupancy hotel space in the upper floors. The Levy Block, with twelve single-occupancy

**Spokane Register of Historic Places
Nomination Form**

Continuation Sheet
LEVY BLOCK

Item Number 8

Page Number 6

rooms on two floors and a community bathroom at the end of the hall, was one such facility. The *United States Census of 1900* reported eight people residing in the upper-level hotel rooms. One of the residents called himself the "lodging house" proprietor of the Levy Block's hotel rooms. By 1910, the *United States Census* reported twenty-one "lodgers" residing in the Levy Block's twelve single-occupancy rooms. The majority of residents were men who held working-class occupations such as hotel manager, laborer, saloon keeper, miner, lumberjack, railroad brakeman, cook, carpenter and meat cutter. Together with a first-floor saloon and restaurant, the Levy Block served Spokane's working-class as an SRO located one block from the heart of Spokane for over seven decades.

Over 500 buildings were erected in Spokane between 1889 and 1893 for four years after the city's Great Fire of 1889. Once serving as SROs for at least part of their lives, less than twenty-five buildings constructed between 1889 and 1893 exist in Spokane's central business district. From the 1890-1893 post-fire building boom, the Levy Block is one of the few remaining Commercial Block style buildings that served as an SRO. Like the Levy Block, the existing Bennett Block (1890) along with adjoining Star (1892) and Rima (1890) buildings were built just after the fire. Similar in size and building materials to the Levy Block, the three buildings housed the Savoy and Adlon Hotels until the 1970s. Constructed in the same style as the Levy Block and sharing a common wall, the Bodie Block (1890) operated as an SRO with the Persson Hotel (originally located in the Levy Block) and later, with the Ardis Apartments. In contrast, the four-story brick Miller Block (1890) represents a different architectural style and served as an SRO for a short time until 1914 when it was renovated for use by the Sherman-Clay Music Company. Other existing post-fire blocks served as SROs, but are unlike the Levy Block in appearance. For example, the four-story, brick-clad Merton Block (1890) operated as an SRO, but is much larger than the diminutive Levy Block.

The Commercial Block Style

Built in 1892, the Levy Block is one of Spokane's earliest and best examples of the Commercial Block style, and is eligible for listing on the Spokane Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its architectural significance. Although the architect for the Levy Block remains unknown, the building's significance is not diminished. Defining elements of the style include an unadorned two- to five-story square or rectangular brick-clad, "block-shaped" building with a plain parapet incorporating classic lines, symmetrically patterned fenestration composed of rectangular one-over-one windows, and plate-glass, street-level storefronts. A centered parapet plaque with incised or raised letters proclaiming the building's name and date of construction is common on vernacular examples of the style. Even though the Levy Block's street-level storefront facade has been altered, the three-story building's block form, evenly spaced fenestration and plain parapet reflect defining elements of the Commercial Block style. The Levy Block and Spokane's Bennett Block, Symons Block, and Merton Block represent four Spokane

City/County Historic Preservation Office
Sixth Floor - City Hall, Spokane, WA 99201

**Spokane Register of Historic Places
Nomination Form**

Continuation Sheet

Item Number 8

Page Number 7

LEVY BLOCK

buildings erected in the late 1890s that use the style's descriptive word "block" in their parapet appellations. *Building Blocks* author Robert Hyslop says the term was lost by 1915, and few, if any succeeding buildings were inscribed with the word "block".

Conclusion

In conclusion, the Levy Block is significant for many reasons. First, it is one of Spokane's oldest remaining Commercial Block style buildings erected after the Fire of 1889. It symbolizes the city's rebirth and frenetic building boom that led to an unprecedented population surge from 1890 to 1910. The Levy Block is associated with Spokane's early working-class housing and the rapid growth of the city, and served as an SRO for over seven decades. In addition, the building is an excellent example of the property type "Single Room Occupancy Hotels" identified in the National Register Multiple Property Listing *Single Room Occupancy Hotels in the Central Business District of Spokane, Washington, 1900-1910*.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form. Use continuation sheets if necessary)

- Eastern Washington State Historical Society, photo archives, Cheney Cowles Museum, 1909-1998.
- First American Title Company, warranty deeds, 1878-1998.
- Gamble, Wallace. Personal interview with Linda Yeomans, Sept.-Oct. 1998.
- Holstine, Craig. *The Commercial Block*, National Register of Historic Places Nomination. Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Office, Spokane, 1993.
- _____. *Single Room Occupancy Hotels in the Central Business District of Spokane, WA, 1900-1910*, National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Spokane City/County historic Preservation Office, Spokane, 1993.
- Hyslop, Robert. *Spokane's Building Blocks*, Spokane: Standard Blueprint Company, 1983.
- Polk, R. L. *City Directory*, Spokane, 1885-1998.
- Pratt, Orville Clyde. *The Story of Spokane*, Unpublished MS, Northwest Room, Spokane Public Library, 1948.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps*, Spokane Public Library, 1888-1952.
- Scheer, Norman H. Personal interview with Linda Yeomans, Sept.-Oct. 1998.
- Spokane 1884*. Aerial perspective, Eastern Washington State Historical Society, Cheney Cowles Museum, Spokane.
- Spokane County Assessor records, 1999.
- Spokane County Building Permits, 1900-1998.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one (1) acre.

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification

Resurvey and Addition Spokane Falls, South 42.44 feet, Lot 5, Block 16
The nominated property includes the entire parcel and urban legal description which contains the Levy Block.

11. Form Prepared By

Name and Title	Linda Yeomans
Organization	Consultant
Telephone	509-456-3828
Street & Number	501 West 27th Avenue
City or Town	Spokane
State	WA
Zip Code	99203
Date	18 October 1998

12. Additional Documentation

Black and white photographs, color prints, color slides, Spokane plat map, historic photograph (photocopy) from 1920-30.

13. Signature of Owner(s)

X Marshall Wells, LLC
by [Signature]
Robert C. Brewster, Jr
member

14. For Official Use Only:

Date Received: _____ Attest: [Signature]
Date Heard: December 14, 1999 City Clerk
Commission Decision: _____ Approved [Signature]
as to Form: _____
Council/Board Action: Approved -12-14-99 Assistant City Attorney
Date: January 19, 1999

We hereby certify that this property has been listed in the Spokane Register of Historic Places.

[Signature]
MAYOR, City of Spokane
or

CHAIR, Spokane County Commissioners

CHAIR, Spokane City/County Historic Landmarks Commission

OFFICER, City/County Historic Preservation Officer
City/County Historic Preservation Office
Sixth Floor - City Hall, Spokane, WA 99201

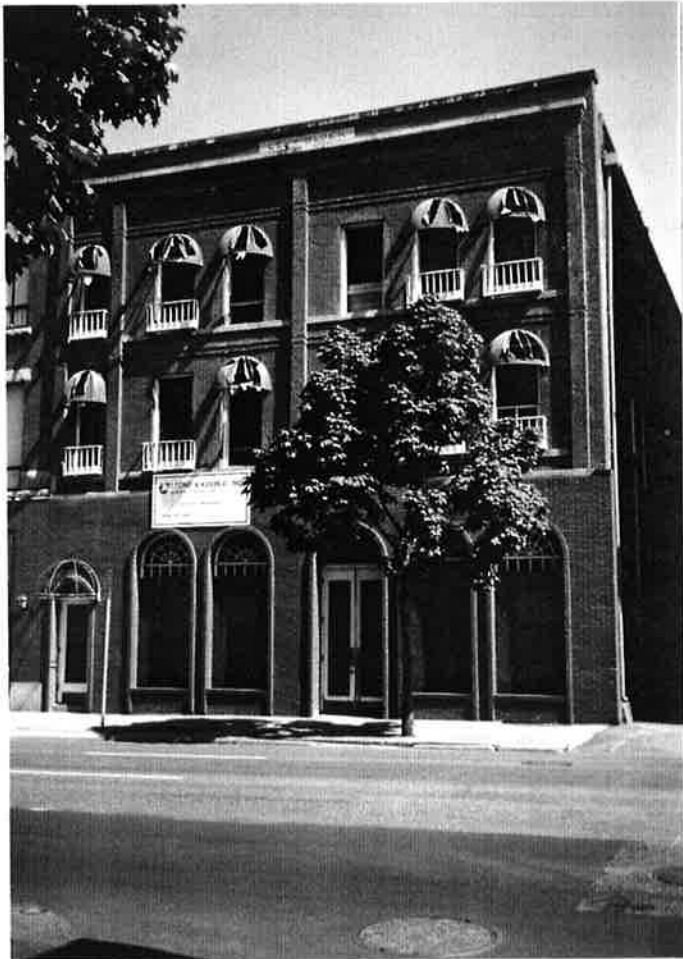
THE LEVY BLOCK

Photo 1: The Levy Block, west facade, summer 1998.
Photo 2: The Levy Block, west facade, fall 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photo 2, 3 and 4: West facade, summer, 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photo 5, 6 and 7: West facade, fall, 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photos 8 and 9: South elevation of building, summer, 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photos 10 and 11: South elevation of building, fall, 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

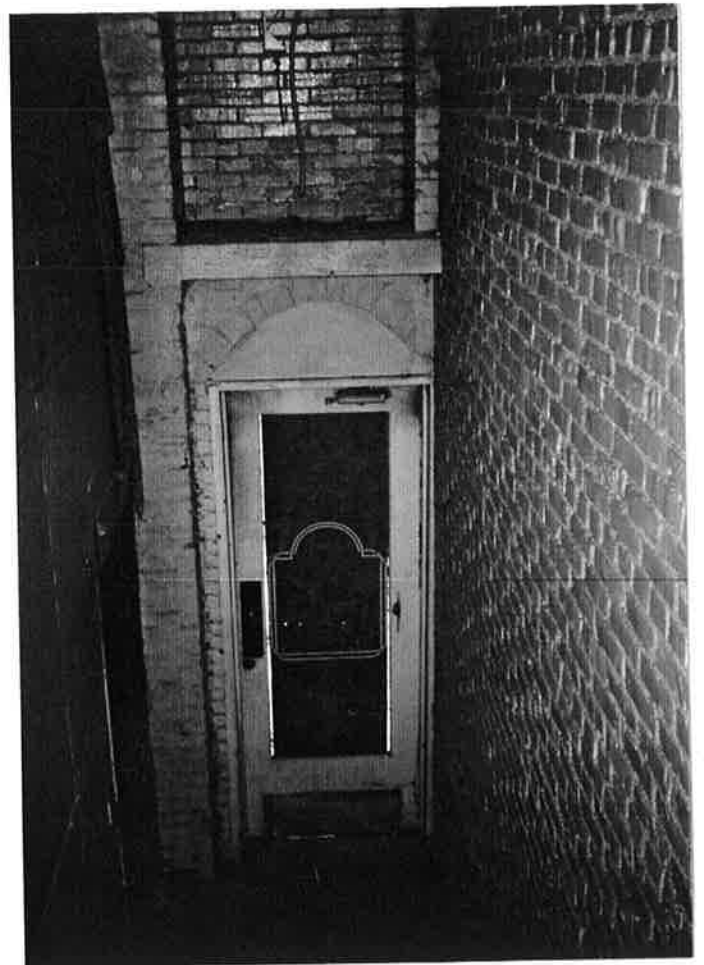
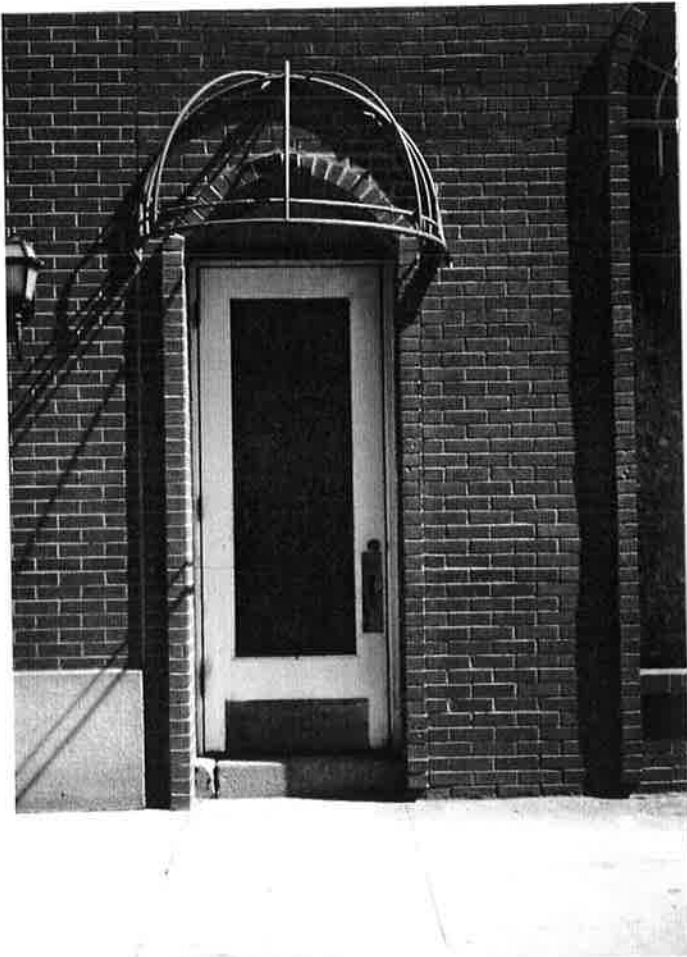
Photos 12 and 13: Rear, east elevation of building showing faded sign painted on brick, summer 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

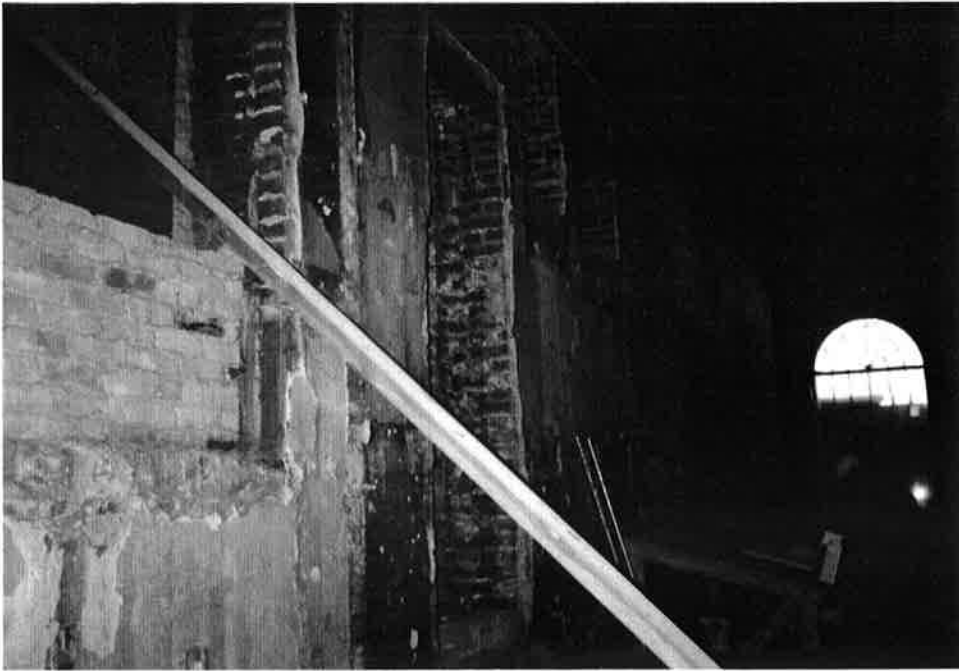
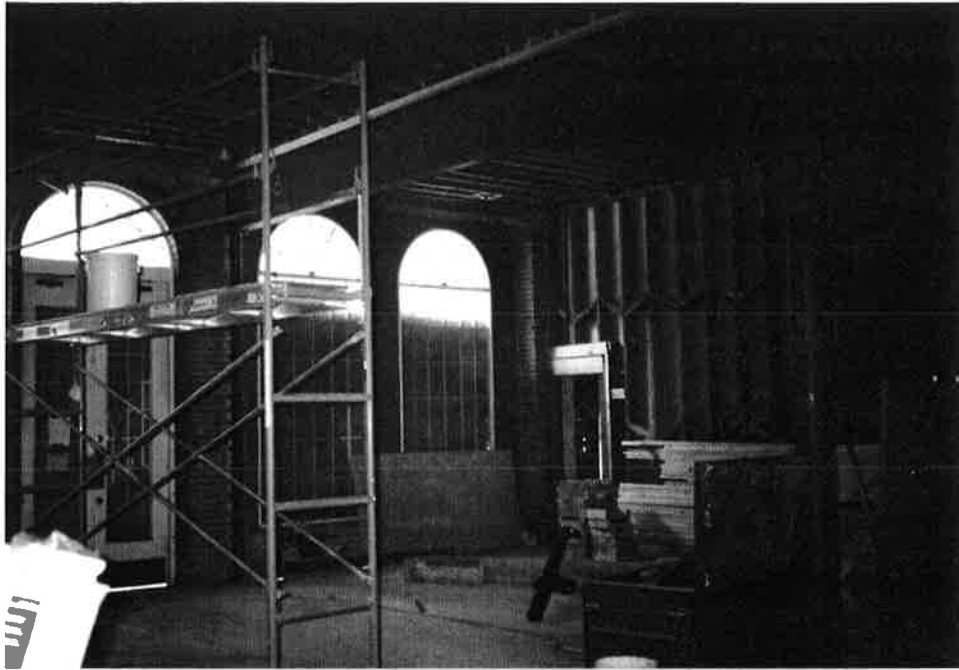
Photo 14: West facade door at north end, summer 1998.

Photo 15: Street-level interior, door at north end, summer 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

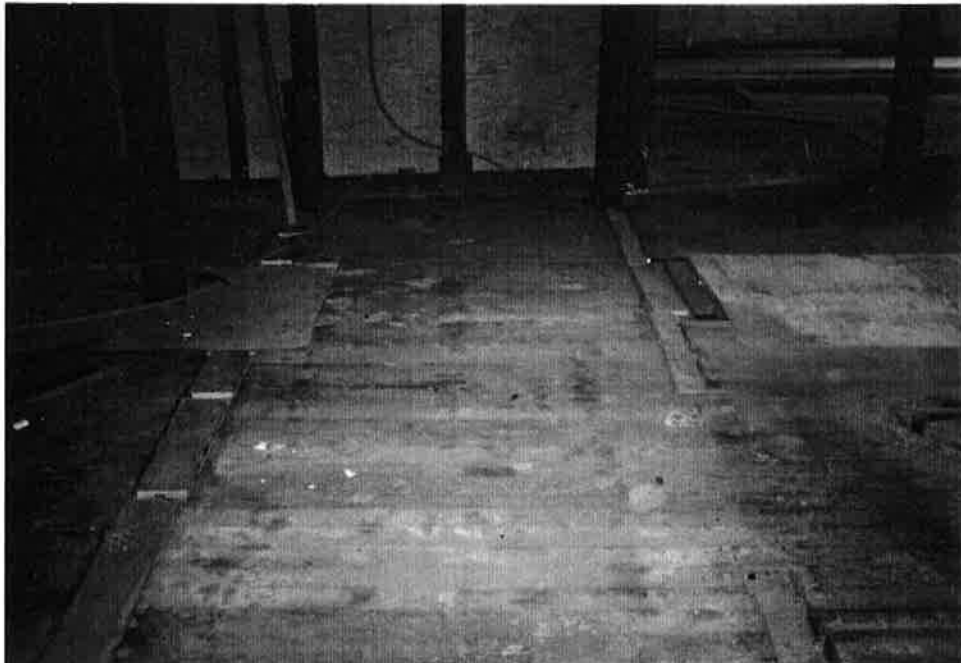
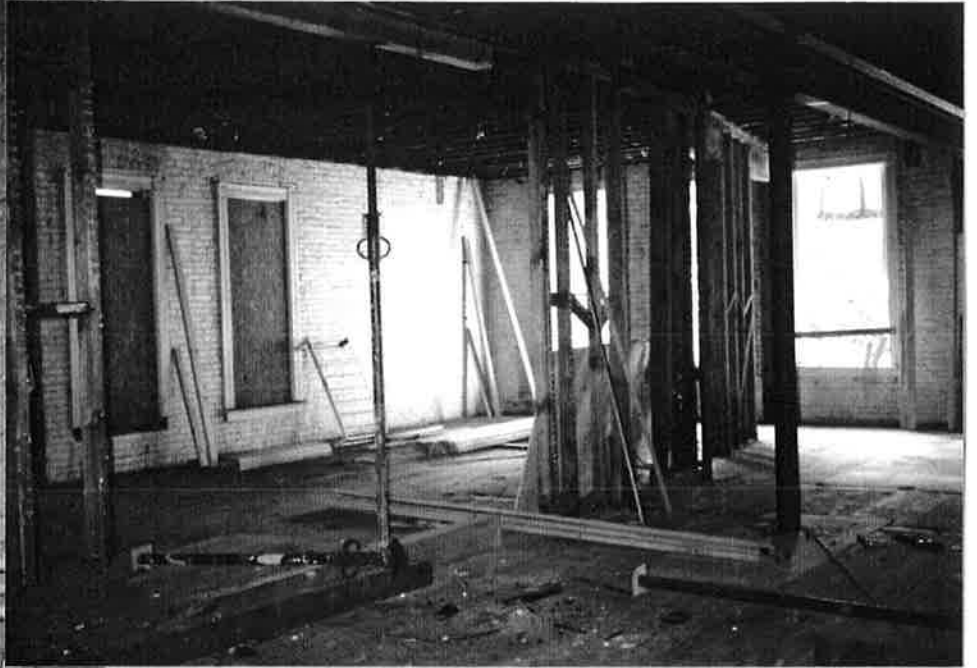
Photos 16 and 17: First floor, interior looking west at front of room towards Stevens Street, summer 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

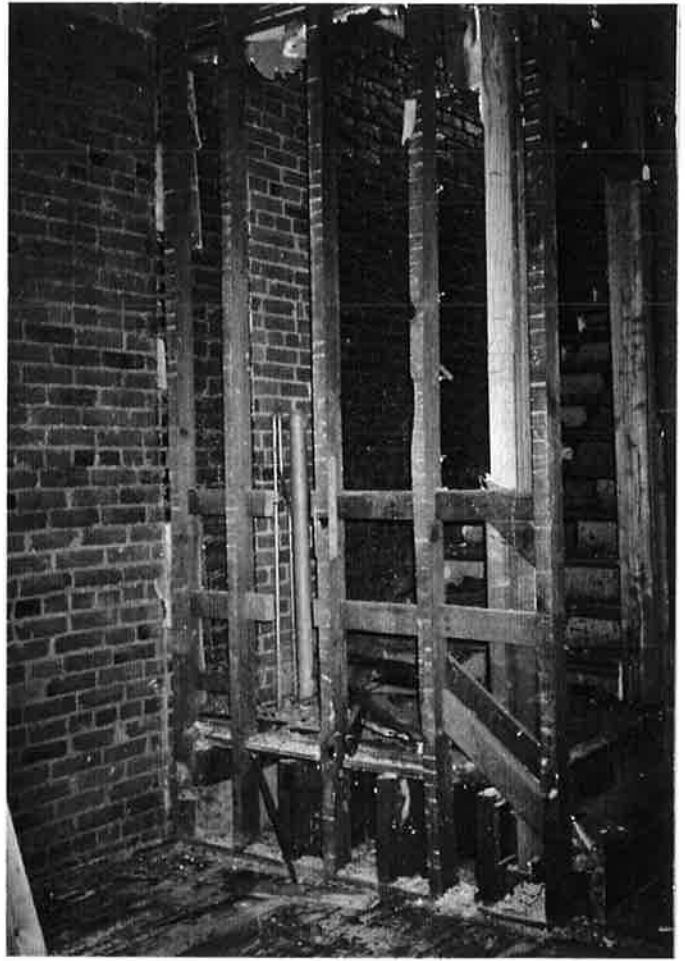
Photos 18 and 19: Second floor, interior looking southwest and detail of window frame, summer 1998.

Photo 20: Second floor, interior floor indicating evidence of interior partition walls, summer 1998.



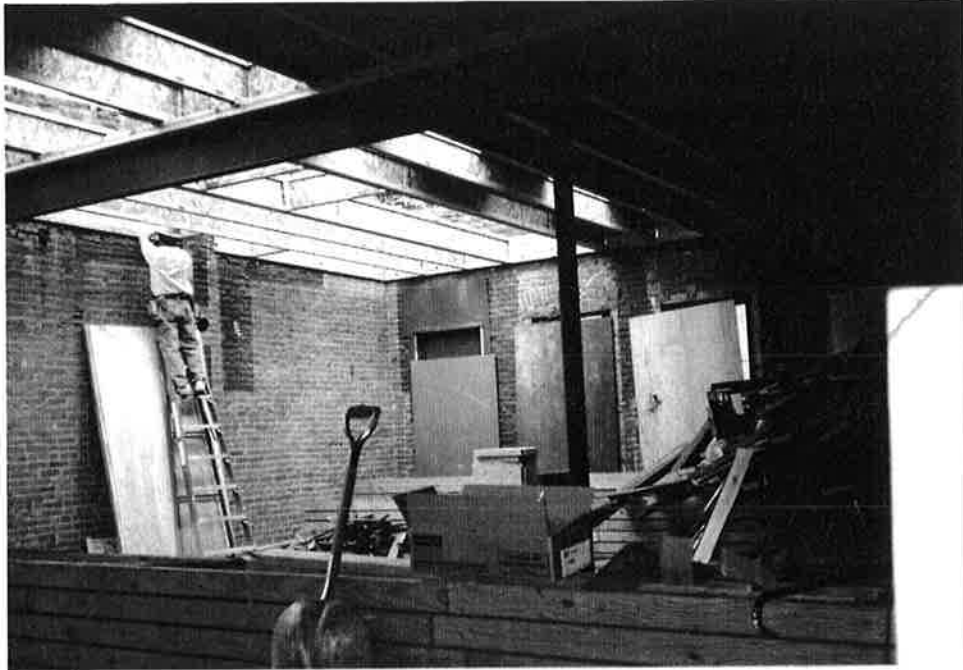
THE LEVY BLOCK

Photos 21 and 22: Second floor, interior staircase and newel post remnant, summer 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photo 23: Third floor, interior looking at northeast corner, summer 1998.
Photo 24: Roof, looking east, summer 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

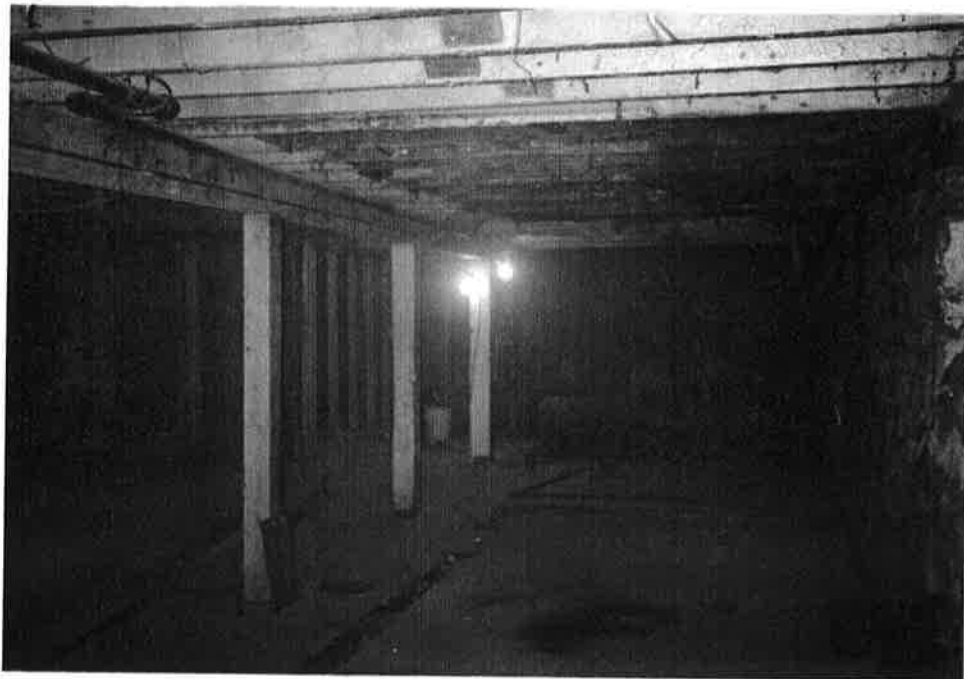
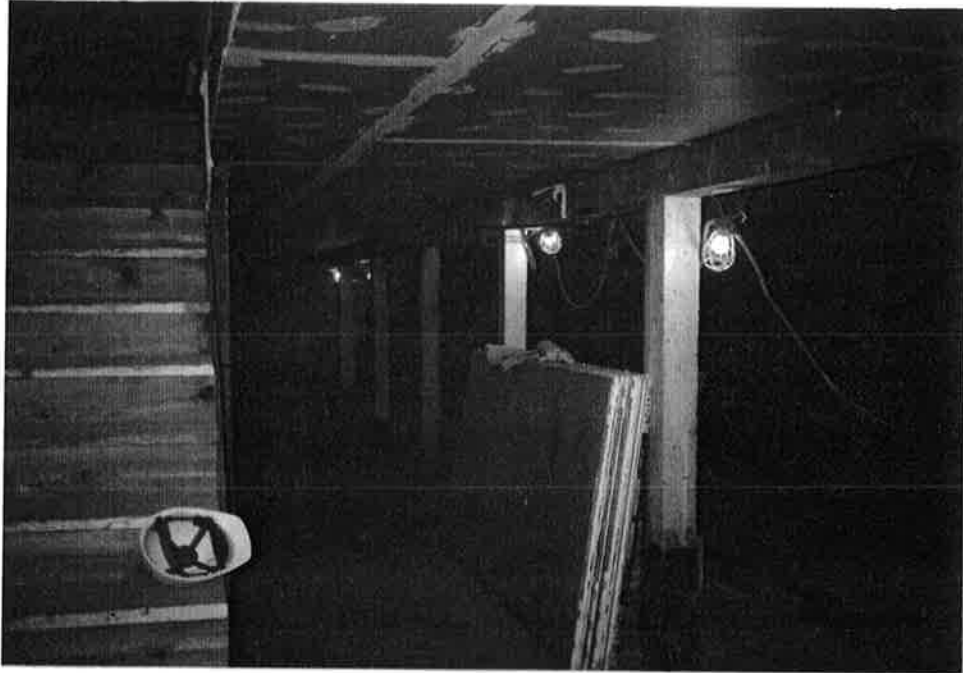
Photo 25: Stevens Street sidewalk in front of Levy Block, glass blocks lighting window to basement, summer 1998.

Photo 26: Basement interior, looking west and up to Stevens Street sidewalk through glass block window, summer 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photos 27 and 28: Basement interior looking east, summer 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photos 29 and 30: Basement interior, arch detail, summer 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photo 1: The Levy Block, west facade, summer 1998.

Photo 2: The Levy Block, west facade, fall 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photo 2, 3 and 4: West facade, summer, 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photo 5, 6 and 7: West facade, fall, 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photos 8 and 9: South elevation of building, summer, 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photos 10 and 11: South elevation of building, fall, 1998.



THE LEVY BLOCK

Photos 12 and 13: Rear, east elevation of building showing faded sign painted on brick, summer 1998.

