

Askin, Tim

From: no-reply@relay.milwaukee.gov
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2023 4:51 PM
To: Historic Preservation Commission
Subject: HPC Plaque Program

ApplicantsName: Michael Iannelli
ApplicantsAddress: 625 N Broadway
ApplicantsEmail: iannellisupholstery@yahoo.com
ApplicantPhoneNumber: 414-272-0543

OwnersName:
OwnersAddress:
OwnersEmail:
OwnerPhoneNumber:

BuildingName: Marble Hall
ConstructDate: 1845
NRHP: on
MRHP: on

Explanation:

Likely one of the oldest buildings still standing in Milwaukee - circa 1845
Between the re-discovered elements, the historic photos, framed artifacts and the storefront Iannelli has attempted to restore as fully as possible to its original appearance; it's pretty clear that this building holds a unique and significant place in Milwaukee's history. While we may never know the true age of the old Marble Hall building, it does remain a contender for oldest building in Milwaukee, at least pre-dating the establishment of Wisconsin as a state in 1848.
<https://www.wuwm.com/regional/2016-11-12/marble-hall-a-contender-for-milwaukees-oldest-building> Although Marble Hall was actually a saloon, the name fixed itself to the entire building and identified the gambling rooms on the second floor, scene of wholesale political wagering, as well...Marble Hall was political headquarters for the entire state. Governors and mayors rubbed elbows there...Marble Hall's gambling was 'big league'. Huge wagers were made on every election – national, state, and local. No odds were official until Marble Hall set its own. But it was the 'downstairs' that shaped the political destiny of the city, and state. There judges, mayors, councilmen, even governors were 'made' – and their toasts drunk in Old Crow or Hennessy, neat. Though the exact age of the building is unknown, Giese believes it goes back to about 1846. "There used to be four stories, but now you only see two. That could have been because of the fire of the Newhall House, or who knows what other damage may have been caused," he explains. The Newhall House Hotel fire of 1883, which by all accounts was nothing short of devastating, completely destroyed the hotel located next to Marble Hall. A photo was taken after the hotel fire shows Marbel Hall with advertisements on the side of the building. "So, we know the building was here prior to the hotel being built," Giese explains.

[See Current Results](#)