

History

The Hotel Minneapolis

The Hotel Minneapolis, located at 4th Street South and Second Avenue in downtown Minneapolis, occupies one of downtown Minneapolis' most historic structures, a ten-story Richardsonian Romanesque building which opened in July 1906 to house the Security National Bank. In June 1915, the building changed owners and became home to the Scandinavian-American National Bank, which changed its name to the Midland National Bank in 1917. Although the elegant structure has housed more than 100 tenants in addition to the bank during its century-plus history, the building has been consistently referred to as the Midland Bank building since the 1920s. In recent decades, the Midland Bank building's identity has endured, even after Midland Bank was absorbed by Norwest and later, Wells Fargo, through a series of banking industry mergers. In recent years, the building has become known as simply the Midland Building.

The building received a series of renovations during the late 1930s and 1940s, a significant expansion in the 1950s, and another major renovation in the 1970s. With each renovation and expansion project, considerable efforts were made to preserve the structure's original design and charm. Today, the original Carrera marble is preserved in the elevator lobbies of each guest floor and throughout the lobby area including the 17' high columns. The decorative, plastered, coffered ceilings, the original staircase and rails, and the vault door in the lobby area and meeting room spaces maintain the history of the Midland Building.

In 2006, Hempel Properties purchased the Midland Building with the intent of creating a hotel on the site. Hempel Properties sought an experienced and successful partner and forged a partnership with Saint Paul-based Morrissey Hospitality Companies to develop and manage the new hotel, to be called The Hotel Minneapolis –a Doubletree Hotel. Renovations to preserve the building's architectural charm while converting the space into a state-of-the-art 222-room hotel began in 2007.

Architecture

The building's original architects were Franklin and Louis Long. Franklin Long designed many of Minneapolis' best-known buildings of that era, including the Hennepin County Courthouse and City Hall at 350 South Fourth Street, the Lumber Exchange at 425 Hennepin Avenue, the Flour Exchange at 310 Fourth Avenue South, the Masonic Temple (now the Hennepin Center for the Arts at 528 Hennepin Avenue), all in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. Tushie Montgomery Architects have been the lead firm in architecturally designing The Hotel Minneapolis.