



## **The OAKLAND APARTMENT & HOTEL, 1889**

Architect—Harry Wild Jones (1859-1935)

Builder—William P. Burnett (1842-1921)

The Oakland Apartment Hotel is the first apartment building in Minneapolis, designed by prominent architect Harry Wild Jones in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The facade of the Oakland is designed to evoke the look and feel of a castle with a drawbridge front entrance, bracketed by rising turrets and topped with crenellation similar to battlements on a medieval parapet.

At its inception, the Oakland housed six luxury apartments in an upscale, entirely residential neighborhood. In the span of 30 years residences were replaced by commercial structures, multifamily buildings and large hotels. By the 1990s, skyscrapers had supplanted the landscape.

The top ten most endangered buildings of 2008 included the Oakland Apartments, and in 2010 it was declared the most endangered building in Minnesota. The Oakland has survived four fires, the most devastating occurred in 2016, prompting a public/private partnership to completely renovate and restore the historically significant structure.

The Oakland Apartment Hotel was designated a Historic Landmark by the Heritage Preservation Commission of Minneapolis in 2019. This marker was made possible in 2022

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