

Mott Foundation Building

History & Fun Facts

The Mott Foundation Building is a 16-story office building located in the heart of downtown Flint, Michigan. Built as the Union Industrial Building, it was designed in the popular Art Deco style by architects Smyth, Hinchman & Grylls from Detroit and erected in 1930 by the Realty Construction Company of Flint.

Other building statistics:

- ▣ *Flint's first skyscraper with a total height of 226 feet to the top of the passenger elevator penthouse*
- ▣ *Construction took one year to complete at a cost of approximately \$2M*
- ▣ *Original design included seven retail stores on the first floor*
- ▣ *Total gross square footage is 156,752*
- ▣ *546 windows*
- ▣ *Original design included men's rooms on every floor, but women's restrooms only on every other floor*
- ▣ *Five passenger elevators and one freight elevator*
- ▣ *Passenger elevators were operated by an elevator attendant until automated dispatching controls were installed in 1960*
- ▣ *Freight elevator is still operated with the vintage 1930 controls*
- ▣ *Passenger elevators run at a speed of 700 feet per minute*
- ▣ *Building name was changed to the Mott Foundation Building on January 1, 1945*
- ▣ *Canopy was added in 1954 and first floor windows and stone fascia were replaced*
- ▣ *Marble staircase leading from the main lobby to the second floor was removed and replaced by an escalator in 1965*
- ▣ *Building did not have air conditioning until the mid-1960s*
- ▣ *Until the 1970s most building tenants were medical professionals*