

# The San Francisco International Hotel: A Historic Landmark and Symbol of Resistance



The San Francisco International Hotel (also known as the I-Hotel) is a historic landmark and symbol of resistance. The hotel was built in 1908 and was once home to thousands of low-income tenants, many of whom were

immigrants and refugees. The I-Hotel was a hub for social justice activism and community organizing, and it played a key role in the fight for affordable housing and against gentrification and displacement.



## San Francisco's International Hotel: Mobilizing the Filipino American Community in the Anti-Eviction Movement (Asian American History and Culture)

by Estella Habal

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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In the 1960s and 1970s, the I-Hotel was a center of the Asian American movement. Activists from the hotel organized to fight for tenant rights, affordable housing, and an end to police brutality. The I-Hotel was also a gathering place for artists, musicians, and writers, and it played a role in the development of the counterculture movement.

In 1977, the I-Hotel was threatened with demolition. The tenants and their supporters organized a successful campaign to save the hotel. The campaign brought together a diverse coalition of activists, including Asian Americans, Latinos, African Americans, and whites. The campaign helped to raise awareness of the issue of displacement and gentrification, and it led to the passage of legislation to protect low-income tenants.

The I-Hotel is now a National Historic Landmark. It is a symbol of resistance to displacement and gentrification, and it is a reminder of the power of community organizing. The I-Hotel is a place where people from all backgrounds can come together to fight for social justice.

## **The History of the San Francisco International Hotel**

The San Francisco International Hotel was built in 1908. The hotel was originally intended to be a luxury hotel, but it was never able to attract enough guests. In the 1920s, the hotel was bought by a group of Chinese investors. The new owners converted the hotel into a residential hotel, and they began to rent rooms to low-income tenants.

In the 1960s and 1970s, the I-Hotel became a center of the Asian American movement. Activists from the hotel organized to fight for tenant rights, affordable housing, and an end to police brutality. The I-Hotel was also a gathering place for artists, musicians, and writers, and it played a role in the development of the counterculture movement.

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## **The I-Hotel Today**

The I-Hotel is now a National Historic Landmark. It is a symbol of resistance to displacement and gentrification, and it is a reminder of the

power of community organizing. The I-Hotel is a place where people from all backgrounds can come together to fight for social justice.

The I-Hotel is still home to low-income tenants, many of whom are immigrants and refugees. The hotel also houses a number of community organizations, including the Asian American Legal Center, the Chinese Progressive Association, and the Manilatown Heritage Foundation.

The I-Hotel is a vibrant and diverse community. It is a place where people from all walks of life can come together to live, work, and fight for social justice.



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