

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Knightstown Historic District

and or common

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Morgan, Adams, Third and McCullum Streets
See Location Map N/A not for publication

city, town Knightstown N/A vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Henry code 065

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Henry County Courthouse

street & number Broad Street

city, town New Castle state Indiana 47362

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title See Continuation Sheet has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date June, 1985 federal state county local

depository for survey records Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology

city, town Indianapolis state Indiana

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Knightstown Historic District is an area in the town of Knightstown which includes 654 structures, 118 being non-contributing. The district is primarily residential with a commercial strip lying along the main street, which is U.S. 40, the National Road. (Photos 1-4.) The district contains approximately 224.6 acres. Commercial buildings face the block-long Public Square. (Photos 5 and 6.) A number of light industrial buildings, as well as educational and religious structures, are scattered throughout the district. The historic district occupies most of the town of Knightstown which is bisected by the old National Road.

Knightstown is located on the crest of a hill rising between the Big Blue River and Montgomery Creek. Most of the district lies in Section 33 of Wayne Township of Henry County. Small portions of the district extend into adjacent Sections 28 and 34. Historically, Knightstown has grown northward from the original plat of 1827. The original plat established the precedent of development north of the National Road. Waitsell M. Carey's original plat included nine full blocks and three half blocks; of this, two-thirds of this plat was north of the National Road.

The south side of Knightstown did not experience the continued growth of the north side, because of the location of the railroad tracks which created a physical and psychological barrier. The other factor was that the south side is located on the southern slope of the hill on which the town is situated. This low land is near the confluence of the Big Blue River and Montgomery Creek which is susceptible to periodic flooding. These two bodies of water have shaped both the eastern and western boundaries of the town. The easternmost lots and westernmost lots are situated on the elevated banks where the land quickly drops off to meet the water.

Following the initial 1827 plat were several substantial additions in the 1830s, 1850s, and 1860s. The remaining decades of the nineteenth century and first two decades of the twentieth century were witness to continued steady growth. The plat and additions before 1870 are clustered along the National Road and Washington and Jefferson Streets.

Knightstown exhibits the full range of nineteenth century Indiana architecture with a number of these being high style representatives. A number of Greek Revival and Italianate houses reflect the substantial growth of the pre-1870s period. Most striking is the large number of Gothic Revival Style houses. Knightstown also has Queen Anne houses and bungalows, as well as an ample supply of Carpenter Builder houses and a sampling of brick and concrete block houses. Also of note are three Second Empire structures.

Two institutions which helped to shape the history of Knightstown are the churches and fraternal orders. The historic buildings of these institutions continue to contribute to the importance of the Knightstown Historic District.

The 1875 Henry County Atlas listed six Knightstown churches: Methodist Episcopal, Christian, Friends, Presbyterian, Baptist and Roman Catholic. With the exception of the Baptist Church, all of the above have historic structures which lie in the district. A Lutheran church is known to have been located in Knightstown sometime in the mid-nineteenth century, but its location is unknown. Other churches in the district include the Baptist Church at 210 East Jackson Street and the Wesleyan Church at Morgan and Franklin Streets. Both are non-contributing structures built after World War II.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1830s - 1936 **Builder/Architect** Various

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Knightstown Historic District is significant for its outstanding collection of mid-nineteenth century residential architecture. It also possesses an intact collection of Main Street architecture along the National Road, as well as industrial, religious, and educational structures, and residential architecture of the late-nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The Knightstown Historic District also possesses local significance in the areas of education, government, industry and commerce.

Early History of Knightstown:

In 1821, the Land Office in Brookville, Franklin County, Indiana, offered for sale 25 tracts of land located in Wayne Township of Henry County, Indiana.³ Some of the original purchaser of the tracts of land where Knightstown is today were Samuel Furgason, Abraham Heaton, Ebenezer Goble, Joseph Watts, Samuel Goble, Samuel Carey, Waitzell M. Carey, Daniel Heaton and Henry Ballenger. The August 6, 1827, Richmond Public Ledger contained an alluring notice for the sale of lots in "Knight's Town":

"The central position it occupies from other towns, its being encompassed by an extensive body of the most luxuriant soil, its contiguity to durable streams for machinery, and its being situated on the location of the great avenue from the east to the west, must render it a place of some importance...There are already erected and now in operation, in the vicinity of this place, two saw and two grist mills and a carding machine. Good materials for buildings are abundant and casually procured. But few places are blest with better health than this neighborhood. Blue River runs with a lively current over a beautiful bed of gravel, and the country is well drained by it and its tributaries Springs of pure water are everywhere to be found. This section of country is fast settling, and under a rapid state of improvement by an industrious and enterprising people. Mechanics and men of business are invited to examine the above situation, and it is thought it will be found worthy of attention. Waitzell M. Cary Jeremiah Grover "

Indiana pioneers were in the area of the site that was to become Knightstown as early as 1819. National Road surveyors scouting the section had recorded a trapper named Montgomery, for whom the creek was named, as having a camp. Samuel Furgason was the first to clear a farm and build a cabin east of Blue River. Ebenezer and Samuel Goble were the first permanent settlers on the west side of Blue River. Daniel and Asa Heaton arrived in the area east of Blue River as traders with the Delaware Indians. Their settlement on both sides of the River became known as the Heaton Neighborhood by the many pioneers from neighboring Wayne County who located in the area. Many of the Heaton Neighborhood settlers were originally from Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Kentucky by way of Wayne County.²⁴ The Heaton Neighborhood gained in appeal as settlers appreciated its high location. In 1822, when Wayne Township was incorporated and named after General Anthony Wayne, there were 200 people in the Heaton Neighborhood.⁵

NATIONAL ROAD

The National Road was first proposed in 1784 by George Washington and Albert Gallatin. Congress first funded the road in 1805.⁶ Originally, the National Road extended from

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 224.6

Quadrangle name Knightstown

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	<u>16</u>	<u>625540</u>	<u>4406630</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<u>16</u>	<u>626640</u>	<u>4406640</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<u>16</u>	<u>626660</u>	<u>4405280</u>
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D	<u>16</u>	<u>625540</u>	<u>4405230</u>
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E	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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F	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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G	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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H	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Please see continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
<u>N/A</u>			

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title William L. and Laura A. Selm, consultants
Sarah F. Ward, Project Coordinator

organization Historic Knightstown, Inc. date June, 1985

street & number 4025 Ruckle Street
220 Hill Avenue telephone 317/236-4406
317/345-2306

city or town Indianapolis state Indiana 46205
Knightstown state Indiana 46148

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national X state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer date 2-3-86

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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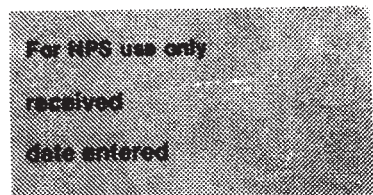
The Knightstown Academy was listed in the National Register on September 29, 1976, and has been recorded by HABS.

The Elias Hinshaw House was listed in the National Register on May 3, 1984.

A local survey was conducted in June, 1985, as part of the preparation of this nomination.

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The Friends Church at 214 East Brown Street (#13) illustrates the influence of the National Road on Knightstown's institutions. The Quakers established a pattern of settlement along the National Road with Richmond and Plainfield being major centers.¹ The strong anti-slavery position of the Friends in the Knightstown area may have been responsible for the small, early Negro population. The church was constructed during the summer of 1874 and completed in 1875.

The Presbyterians were first organized in the nearby village of West Liberty as early as 1832. Their first church in Knightstown was located across from the site of the present church at 112 South Franklin Street. This first church was of frame construction, built c. 1836. The second church on the site was built c. 1840, succeeded by a c. 1866 brick structure. The present structure (#32) was built in 1912 and is a rare example of the Neo Classical Style in the district. The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized c. 1824 in the house of Samuel Carey, brother of the town's founder. The first church was built in 1837 on a site southeast of the present church at 27 South Jefferson Street, on a lot donated by Waitsell Carey. The present church was constructed in 1885 in the Gothic Revival Style (#28).

The present Christian Church (#39) was built in 1882 and extensively remodeled in 1924. The first Christian Chapel was constructed 1870-1871, two years after the congregation was formed. The present church at 138 West Main Street is on the site of the original.

The former Roman Catholic Church of St. Rose of Lima was constructed c. 1873. The parish was organized in the late 1850s. The church at 227 East Pine (#17) was vacated by the parish in 1951 when a new church was constructed west of Knightstown and now serves as an apartment building. The African Methodist Episcopal Church (#40) was in the former Payne's Chapel, M.E. Church. This structure at 133 North Harrison Street was built before 1885 and is now a warehouse. The congregation was founded in 1868. A small but significant brick building at 125 North Harrison Street is described by the 1885 and 1890 Sanborn Atlases as a church, but the denomination is unknown.

Along with churches, the fraternal organizations of Knightstown were numerous and varied. They included the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Redmen, and Modern Woodmen, but only the Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias constructed permanent buildings which have survived.

The International Order of Odd Fellows, Number 99, was organized in 1851. The IOOF building at 21-29 North Washington Street (#45), on the east side of the Public Square, was built in 1897-1898 to replace the original hall destroyed by fire in 1868.² John Hase-coster, the architect of the Knightstown Academy (#9), designed the IOOF Building. Odd Fellow member C. D. Morgan named the theater "Alhambra." It hosted live traveling theater shows. Local business leader Harry Watts made the Alhambra a cinema in 1928. It was remodeled in 1940 according to the plans of New Castle Architect, C. Frank Mitchell. The Odd Fellows were responsible for the founding of Glen Cove Cemetery on North McCullum Street (not included in the district). The Knights of Pythias built a substantial meeting hall and commercial block directly across the Public Square from the IOOF Hall at 21-29 North Washington Street between 1890 and 1898. The Masonic Hall (#53) occupies a prominent location at Jefferson and Main Streets. It was constructed in 1900-1901 on the site of the previous 1863 and 1868 Masonic Halls which were both destroyed by fire.

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Both churches and fraternal organizations contributed to the development of Knightstown and were responsible for a number of significant architectural landmarks.

Knightstown's fine collection of the mid-nineteenth century architecture reflects the importance of that time in the town's history. Knightstown has experienced a gradual decline in the past two decades. This decline has been shared by all National Road towns which were bypassed by the construction of Interstate 70. A survey of the historical structures reveals that very few substantial houses exhibiting strong elements of style were constructed in Knightstown after World War I. A study of Sanborn Insurance Atlases shows that Knightstown has not changed significantly since 1928. Two streets north of the historic district are lined with post-World War II suburban housing stock. There is also a rash of post-war construction along McCullum Street, which is State Road 109, the connecting road to Interstate 70 to the north.

Despite the popularity of artificial siding, Knightstown has retained its extraordinary collection of nineteenth century and early twentieth century architecture. With the accessibility of Indianapolis and other points on the Interstate, Knightstown has been attracting the attention of people looking for a small town in which to live while working elsewhere. Historic Knightstown, Incorporated, was formed to promote the preservation of the Knightstown Academy and historic preservation in general.

Described below are 53 individual structures which provide a cross section of Knightstown's building types and styles. Most of these buildings are contributing to the Knightstown Historic District. The photograph numbers correspond to the sketch map and the photographs.

38 EAST MORGAN STREET (#7)

The cottage situated at the northwest corner of East Morgan and North Jefferson Streets is one of five dwellings constructed of decorative concrete blocks. The features of this Arts and Crafts cottage include a hip roof with a shed dormer and a gable over the side bay. The walls are constructed of rusticated concrete blocks with rock-faced concrete porch posts. The house appears to be unaltered and was constructed c. 1910.

362 EAST MORGAN STREET (#8)

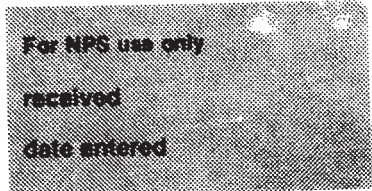
The brick cottage is situated on the north side of East Morgan Street. It is a simple structure with a gable roof, brick walls, shotgun plan, and one-and-one-half stories. The openings are segmented arches with four-over-four lights. This cottage has a shed rear addition and a side porch. This structure is essentially unaltered and contrasts with its neighbor at 370 East Morgan Street, which has been painted and has a substantial side addition.

KNIGHTSTOWN ACADEMY (#9 and #10)

The Knightstown Academy was built in 1876-77 and remains a superb example of the Second Empire style. It has changed very little since its erection. The only changes have been the additions built in 1887 and 1931 on the rear and west sides, respectively, and from deterioration. It is constructed of brick walls with a decorative brickwork corbel table, brick molded arched openings and pilasters, and limestone trim. The Academy is dramatically crowned by the mansard roof. The roof is clad with green and gray slate shingles in a decorative pattern. The roof is pierced by dormers framed with ornamental pressed metal fronts. The two towers rise above the roofline and are crowned with convex mansard roofs pierced by round-arched dormers. At the pinnacle of each tower is a dis-

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tinative stamped metal finial. The west tower bears a globe and the east tower bears a telescope. The windows throughout are round-arched with metal keystones. The Academy is located on the north side of Carey between Jefferson and Washington Streets. It was placed on the National Register in 1976.

203 NORTH ADAMS STREET (#11)

This one-and-one-half story painted brick Greek Revival house is located at the northeast corner of East Warrick and North Adams Streets. In excellent condition, this brick house was built c. 1860. It consists of a five bay facade with a half-story frame gable in the center. This gable was probably added between 1890 and 1908 when the original front portico was removed from the front and used as a side porch. A larger front porch was installed. Greek Revival features include a roof cornice, gable and returns and a symmetrical facade with a center entrance. The entrance is exceptional as it is typical Greek Revival with transom and sidelights, but with unusual sawtooth-profile mullions between the sidelights and the door. The windows have stone sills and lintels. The decorative mullions are a hint of the elaborate and distinctive decorative woodwork found in each room. The house is in excellent condition. Emmett Woods, son of prominent citizen Robert Woods, lived in this house.

37 NORTH ADAMS STREET (#12)

This two-story frame building is located at the southeast corner of Brown and Adams Streets. The main facade faces Brown Street and consists of six regularly spaced openings. The windows of this clapboarded gable-roofed structure have nine-over-six lights on the ground floor and six-over-six lights above. The three entrances are each protected by small enclosed porches. The structure now functions as an apartment house with all of its features intact. It appears on the 1857 map.

214 EACH BROWN STREET, KNIGHTSTOWN FRIENDS CHURCH (#13)

This significant brick church is located east of the northeast corner of Washington and Brown Streets. This simple structure exhibits some Italianate influence with segmented arched windows, a three-bay gable front and four-bay side walls. The bays are articulated by pilasters, a corbel table, and brickwork hoods. Alterations to this 1875 church include the addition of the pre-1928 gabled porch and a pre-1909 rear addition.

337 EAST MAIN STREET (#14)

This one-story brick house is located at the southwest corner of Main and South Front Streets. The main facade faces Main Street and is divided into three bays with segmented arched openings and a center entrance. The entrance has a transom and sidelights and is sheltered by a simple pre-1928 classical portico. The Greek Revival character is further exhibited by corner brick pilasters and a projecting cornice. The house was built c. 1850 by Tobias Hoover, a harness maker, noted on the 1857 map.

305 EAST MAIN STREET (#15)

This two-story brick Italianate house is situated at the southeast corner of Main and Adams Streets. The openings are segmented arched. The cornice of the cross gable roof is supported by modillions and brackets. The "L" plan veranda is in the Queen Anne style with a turned balustrade, classical columns, and a decorated corner gable added between 1898 and 1909. The house was built 1867-1868.

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235 EAST JACKSON STREET (#16)

This simple, two-story brick house is located at the southwest corner of Jackson and Adams Streets. The house exhibits some Italianate influence with a hip roof, cornice and paneled eaves. It has segmented arched openings with brick hoods. The main facade facing Jackson Street is pierced by four regularly-spaced openings. A house appears on this site on the 1857 map of Knightstown and on the first (1885) Sanborn map. The Sanborn shows the house to be a one-story double residence with no porch. The 1898 Sanborn shows the house to be single family with a long veranda and two stories. It remains in excellent condition with a side porch with turned posts. The 1857 map shows it belonged to the Charles family. They were prominent retailers on Main Street. The 1900 city directory advertises the Charleses as having been in business since 1859. The bricks for the house probably came from the brickyard just south of the house.

227 EAST PINE STREET (#17)

This two-story frame structure serves as an apartment house at the southwest corner of Pine and Adams Streets. The building is two bays deep and five bays wide, with a pronounced gable roof. It is covered with asbestos siding. The form of this c. 1873 structure has changed little but the detailing has; it was altered in the 1950s to serve as an apartment building. It was built as St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church to provide for the small mission parish organized in the 1850s. In 1881 two rooms were added to serve as lodging for the priest. The building stands on its historic site. Although altered, the building is important in the religious history of Knightstown.

302 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET (#18)

This large, two-story brick factory is located at the southwest corner of Washington and East Third Streets. The major architectural features of this structure are a low-pitched gable roof, segmented arched openings with two-over-two lights, and sawn gable vents. A number of openings have been altered. The building appears on the 1886 atlas map as P. Watts and Son Planing Mill. This building served later as part of the Knightstown Body Car Company.

232 SOUTH JEFFERSON STREET (#19)

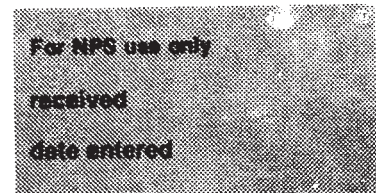
This two-story frame house is located north of the northwest corner of Jefferson and East Third Streets. Despite some alterations, this house exhibits Greek Revival characteristics. The house has a low pitched gable roof, cornice, and a cornice return that creates a pediment in each gable. The main facade is three bays wide with the entrance in the southernmost bay. The entrance has been altered, as have the two front first story windows. The entrance originally had sidelights and a transom. The altered porch was added between 1916 and 1928. The house appears on the 1857 map.

25 SOUTH ADAMS STREET (#20)

The Bell-Edwards-Noblitt House is an outstanding local version of Greek Revival. The major features of this two-story brick house include an "L" plan, hipped roof, projecting cornice, delicate paired brackets, stone lintels and sills, and a five bay front facade. The facade is divided into three parts. The central portion contains the entrance and portico. The two flanking portions each contain two bays and are recessed from the facade the depth of one brick, creating a panel. The portico is not original, but is a simplified

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classical type with square columns and a simple entablature. The Sanborn maps show that there was no porch until a veranda was added between 1890 and 1909. The portico is a recent addition. The maps also indicate that a porch was located on the north facade. This house remains unaltered with the exception of the porches and the altered size of two windows on the north facade. The original windows with double-hung sashes are elongated and typical of the period and Greek Revival style. The house was built in 1852. The builder of the house, hardware merchant Harvey Bell, opened his residence as a hotel c. 1855. Mr. Bell owned the entertainment hall downtown (demolished) and often the acts would stay at "The Mansion House," as the house was known at the time of the 1857 map. The house remained in the Bell family until 1947.

130 NORTH McCULLUM STREET (#21)

The Probasco-Morrison-Jones House was built c. 1868. It is a superb example of the Second Empire style. With the exception of the removal of the "L" veranda from the southeast corner, all of the distinctive elements remain intact. These features include an irregular form, central three-and-one-half story tower with a slate mansard roof, paired windows in segmented arched openings, and a slate mansard roof with cresting and dormers. The house occupies a high point in the town and is an awesome landmark in the western part of Knightstown. The house was built by wealthy merchant Ralph Probasco, who lived there only a few years. His store burned and he moved to Cincinnati. Honorable John I. Morrison, educator and politician, retired to Knightstown and bought the Probasco house. The building has been used as a sanitarium and it was once the residence of Ralph Silver, local auto manufacturer.

105 WEST PINE STREET (#23)

The Armstrong-Wright House was built c. 1860. This cottage is a good example of the Gothic Revival Style. Despite the loss of an "L" veranda between 1916 and 1928 and the addition of aluminum siding, this cottage has retained its distinctive pointed-arched gable window, sawn decorative bargeboard, and decorated entry. The functioning shutters appear to be original. The side bay appears to have been added later, as was the portico. The house was built by Elnathan Wilkinson, first president of Citizens National Bank. The house stayed in the family for four generations.

16 WEST MAIN STREET (#24)

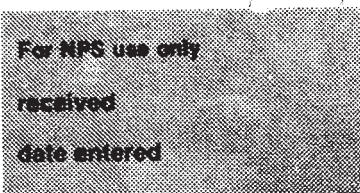
The Elias Hinshaw House was built in 1883 and is the only example of the Italian Villa Style in Knightstown. It was placed on The National Register of Historic Places in 1984. This two-story brick house features limestone details, an ornate entablature with brackets, an eastern bay and an imposing three-and-one-half story tower with a slated concave mansard roof. The date of construction and owner's initials are on the keystone over the front doorway. With the exception of the porch, which replaced the original one between 1916 and 1928, and the loss of the slate roof, the Hinshaw House retains all of its historic features. The exterior and much of the interior were restored in 1983-1984. Hinshaw was a blacksmith and farmer. Banker Erie Morgan, son of prominent citizen C. D. Morgan, lived here until he died in 1927.

305 NORTH ADAMS STREET (#25)

Located at the northeast corner of Adams and Carey Streets, this Italianate house was built in 1867. This painted brick house has a gable roof with a projecting cornice supported by wooden brackets. The main facade facing Adams consists of three bays with

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is almost square with a one-story, gabled kitchen wing on the west side. A brick corbel table is below the eaves of the low-pitched hip roof. The house is surrounded by open land, located on a parcel of land occupying the equivalent of four square blocks. The actual date of this house is disputed. 1834 is a date listed by local sources, but the house does not appear on the 1857 map. The house is believed to have been built by Mr. Church, owner of a flour mill in the south end of town.

143 WEST PINE STREET (#30)

This house is located at the southeast corner of Pine and South Madison Streets. The house is unusual in its appearance. The oldest portion of the house is two-story brick with segmented arched openings and a gable roof. The frame portion is clad with wood shingles. Built c. 1889, it is two-and-one-half stories in height and is perpendicular to the brick portion. The boulder rubblestone "L" veranda also dates from this remodeling campaign, as does the first story oriel on the west side. This unusual house has not been altered since the major remodeling campaign. The addition of major shingle additions to older brick houses is also seen at 35 West Pine, and 207 North Jefferson Streets (#52). This house was built by John Lowry, owner of the tannery on South Madison.

146 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET (#31)

This two-story brick Greek Revival house is located at the northwest corner of West Pine and Franklin Streets. The features of the house include a symmetrical front facade with a pronounced center entrance with a transom and double doors. The entrance and all other openings are segmented arched. The cornice projects from the hip roof and the plain frieze. The windows all have six-over-six lights. The house originally was without a porch; one was built between 1909 and 1916 but was removed when the house was restored. The house was built by an Englishment, F. Glass. He is listed in the 1866 Gazeteer as a carpenter and bridge builder.

112 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET, BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (#32)

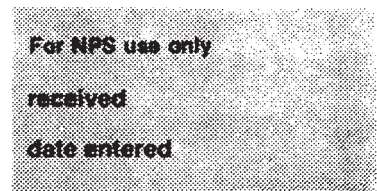
This Neo-classical church, built in 1912, is located at the southwest corner of Jackson and Franklin Streets. It is constructed of dark red brick and stands two stories high, resting on a raised basement. The main facade faces South Franklin and is divided into three portions. The central portion has a projecting classical portico with four smooth Roman Doric limestone columns which support an entablature and pediment. The frieze bears the inscription "Bethel Presbyterian Church." The entablature in the pediment and around the building is stamped metal, complete with cornice modillions and dentil. The two portions flanking the portico each have two bays with round arched, two-story windows. The spandrel panels separating the stories are also stamped metal. Limestone is also used as an accent for voussiors, water table, and pier bases. The church remains unaltered.

38 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET (#33)

This two-story Italianate house is located at the northwest corner of Franklin and Jackson Streets. The features include painted brick walls, segmented arched openings, projecting cornice with modillions, cross hip roof, and a bay on the south side. The two corner porches were removed after 1928. Col. Milton Peden built this house c. 1870. Peden was a farm hand who made money out West as a gold miner in 1849. He became an Indiana state representative in 1856 and a state senator in 1864. He was a friend of Conrad Baker, Oliver P. Morton, Benjamin Harrison and Caleb B. Smith.

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the entrance in the northernmost bay. All openings are segmented arched with stone voussoirs. The openings on the main facade have pronounced keystones. Although the house is Italianate, the form is the Greek Revival temple and wing form. The south wing has a porch and an added shed dormer. The house is largely unaltered and in excellent condition. The builder, James Mills (b. 1840), was a native of Wales. He moved to Knightstown from Columbus, Ohio. He was a railroad agent and later a merchant and grocer. The present owners have found documentation of an 1867 construction date.

238 EAST BROWN STREET (#26)

This imposing Italianate house is situated at the northwest corner of Brown and Adams Streets, facing Brown. The features of the house are a cross gable roof, a projecting cornice supported by paired brackets, segmented arched and round arched openings. The entrance is round arched with a limestone frame and recessed doorway. A corner wood porch with round arches and roof balustrade continue the Italianate detailing, which is also found in the east side, one-story frame bay. The house is in excellent condition and was restored c. 1978. It is thought to have been built in the 1870s. The house was occupied in 1882 by Charles Dayton Morgan, the second president of the First National Bank at 120 East Main Street (#48). His father-in-law was the bank's founder and first president, Robert Wood. Morgan was a state legislator during the governorship of Oliver P. Morton. He first arrived in Knightstown in 1851 from Wayne County, and worked as a teacher, later as a merchant, and also as an attorney.

201 EAST MAIN STREET (#27)

This two-story, brick commercial building is situated at the southeast corner of main and Washington Streets across the National Road from the Public Square. The building is two bays wide and fifteen bays long. The building was covered with rubble stone and aluminum siding in the 1970s. Only the south wall facing the alley is exposed, revealing a painted brick wall and two segmented arched windows. The northern portion of this commercial building appears on the 1857 map and on a c. 1866 photograph of Main Street. The photograph depicts the building as having flat headed openings, a simple parapet and no cornice. The Sanborns show that the building tripled in size to its present form, extending to the rear alley between 1898 and 1909. Although it is the oldest known commercial building in Knightstown, it is considered non-contributing to the district in its present altered condition.

27 SOUTH JEFFERSON STREET, METHODIST CHURCH (#28)

The Knightstown Methodist Church, erected in 1885, is located on the northeast corner of Jefferson and Jackson Streets. This Victorian Gothic church is an important landmark in Knightstown. The nave is oriented east-west with a transept and tower located in the corner. In the nave's west end and south transept end are large pointed arched openings with stained glass windows. The square corner tower is crowned by a squat pyramidal spire. The church is in excellent condition with the only alteration being a shortened spire. A one-story brick addition was built c. 1970 on the east side of the church. This church occupies the site of a previous brick Greek Revival Style church.

39 WEST THIRD STREET (#29)

This imposing painted brick farmhouse is located at the terminus of South Harrison at Third Street. The main facade (east) of this two-story house consists of three bays with a center entrance. The side walls have two bays. The plan of this large house

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301 WEST PINE STREET (#34)

This one-story brick cottage is located on the south side of West Pine Street between Madison Street and the former Big Four Railroad. The cottage has a cross gable roof and segmented arched openings. This cottage is largely intact but has an altered corner porch. The date of construction is unknown.

517 WEST MAIN STREET, LEHMANOWSKY HOUSE (#35)

This distinctive Gothic Revival House is located on the western edge of the Knightstown Historic District. This house is on the south side of West Main Street near Hill Avenue. It is recessed and barely visible from the street. This one-and-one-half-story house is constructed of brick and covered with stucco. The roof is gabled with a steeply pitched central gable pierced by a pointed arched window. The large front windows flanking the central entrance have been altered and made smaller. The original portico was removed sometime after 1928 and replaced with a smaller cast iron portico. The rear portion of the house is distinctive for its exposed raised basement and two-storied veranda. The lore of this house is the most interesting of all in Knightstown. Colonel Lehmanowsky, a Polish Jew, was a guardsman for Napoleon Bonaparte. Lehmanowsky was condemned to death after Waterloo. Somehow he escaped, converted to Lutheranism, and came to Knightstown to be pastor of the Lutheran church, then on Jackson Street. The house is believed to have been built between 1844, when Lehmanowsky purchased the land, and 1850, when he sold it.

105 WEST MAIN STREET (#36)

This distinctive house is located on the southwestern corner of Harrison and Main Streets. This two-story brick Italianate house has a crossed hip roof, projecting cornice, paired brackets and segmented arched openings. The style of the house became Italo-Eastlake when a conical roof was added to cap the round eastern bay and an elaborate Eastlake veranda was added between 1890 and 1898. The porch is complete with turned fretwork and balustrade, gables, and a corner veranda tower capped with a conical roof. The house is a significant landmark on the National Road through Knightstown. Leonidas P. Newby purchased the lot in 1882. He was a lawyer, state senator, and second president of Citizens National Bank. His son, Floyd, built the next house west at 115 West Main.

217 37 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET, POST OFFICE (#37)

The Knightstown Post Office is located at the southeast corner of East Brown and Jefferson Streets, and was erected in 1936 as part of the New Deal public construction program during the Great Depression. Typical of PWA post offices across the nation, this branch possesses a mural depicting a stage coach on the National Road. The exterior design is a stark combination of classical and modern design. The main west facade is symmetrically divided into five bays. Limestone relieves the brick walls with coping, a string course, spandrels, pilasters, and low-relief sculpture. The entrance is located in the center of the facade flanked by two large windows. The entrance and flanking windows are framed by stylized smooth pilasters. Low-relief sculpture above the two outermost windows depicts airplane wings, propeller, and engine. Louis A. Simon was the supervising architect and Neal A. Melick was the engineer of the structure, which is unaltered except for a replaced front door.

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508 WEST MAIN STREET (#38)

This large Federal house is located at the northwest corner of Pearl and Main Streets. The features of this house include a seven-bay main (south) facade with a veranda spanning five bays. The windows have brick flat arches and stone sills. The projecting cornice has a plain frieze and gable end returns. The gable is further accented by half-fan windows flanking the chimneys at each end. The entrance is in the center bay. A veranda wrapped around the south and east facades, according to the 1916 and 1928 Sanborn maps. This building was built c. 1836 by merchant Robert Woods (1806-1892). Woods founded the First National Bank (#48), was a school trustee, and was on the Board of Directors for the short-lived railroad from Knightstown to Shelbyville. The family later moved to a house on North Jefferson Street (now demolished).

138 WEST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIAN CHURCH (#39)

This brick church is located at the northeast corner of Madison and Main Streets. Built in 1882, this structure was extensively remodeled in 1924. This remodeling included a new brick facade, a southern gable parapet with limestone coping, and a squat corner tower. The round arch is used exclusively in the building's design. It is found in the four nave windows, entrance, and large gable (south) end windows. All windows have stained glass. Limestone is used as arch spring stones and buttress caps.

133 NORTH HARRISON STREET, PAYNE'S CHAPEL (#40)

This former church structure is located at the southeast corner of Harrison and Warrick Streets. The building is very plain with many of its features missing. The basic large form of the gable roof and three-bay nave has survived. The gabled vestibule has been enlarged and altered. All openings have been replaced and hardboard siding has covered most of the original clapboard except for in the upper gable. The structure was built before 1885 and now serves as a warehouse. This building is non-contributing, due to alterations.

424 NORTH FRANKLIN STREET (#41)

This frame bungalow is situated on the west side of North Franklin Street, the fifth house north of Lincoln Street. A typical bungalow, this house is nearly identical to its neighbor to the north at 432 North Franklin Street. This bungalow's features include a hip roof, hip roof dormer, and porch with open eaves exposing the rafter ends. The foundation is concrete block with a rock-face finish. As found in many other contemporary houses, this house has its porch supported by four concrete columns. Each column rests upon a rock-face concrete plinth. A simple wooden balustrade links the columns. Unlike its neighbor, which has asbestos wall covering, the bungalow at 424 North Franklin retains its wood clapboard siding. It was probably built c.1910.

433 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET (#42)

This frame bungalow is located on the east side of North Jefferson Street, the third house south of Morgan Street in the Knightstown Concrete Company addition of the town. This c. 1915 Bungalow is nearly identical to the other bungalows in this block. It is unaltered with the exception of the addition of asbestos siding. Other features include a hip roof, shed front dormer, dining room bay, and recessed front porch. The balustrades are between the plain square columns.

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316 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET (#43)

This two-story brick Italianate house is the second house north of the northwest corner of East Carey and Washington Streets. This painted brick house has a cross hip roof, a projecting wooden cornice with brackets, stone lintels, framed paired front windows, a side bay and a balcony. The only apparent alteration appears to be the removal of the wooden balustrade of the balcony and deck and replacement c. 1975 with metal grills between the posts. The house was built c. 1870 by William Penn Hill, who was a ruling elder in the Bethel Presbyterian Church (#32) and a conductor on the Knightstown-Shelbyville railroad. Later, he was associated with the First National Bank (#48).

21 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET, ODD FELLOWS BUILDING (#44 & 45)

The Odd Fellows Building is an important landmark in Knightstown. It occupies a prominent site on the east side of the Public Square. This three-and-one-half story brick building has an imposing gable roof accented with gable parapets. The main facade is divided into three parts with a large round arch serving as the center entry portal into the Alhambra Theater on the first floor. The two flanking first floor bays function as shop fronts. The round arch is repeated on the third floor with three grouped windows in the central portion. Between the third and second floors is a stone tablet bearing the legend, "IOOF No. 99," and the three-link chain symbol of the Odd Fellows. The date, 1897, flanks the tablet. The IOOF Building has suffered from remodeling which removed the three prominent front gables, four front pinnacles, and cornice. The architect, John Hasecoster, who designed the Knightstown Academy, is believed to have been the architect for this hall.

308 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET (#46)

The Schweitzer House is located at the northwest corner of East Carey and Washington Streets. It was built in 1914 and is the last of the grand houses constructed in Knightstown. Houses contemporary with the Schweitzer House are smaller Colonial Revivals or bungalows. Richard H. Schweitzer (1877-1952) was the proprietor of the local wire fence factory. The house is a good example of Georgian Revival. The two-story brick-veneered house has a five-bay main (east) facade with a prominent temple portico with two-story fluted, wooden Ionic columns supporting a pediment. The center entrance had a segmented archway framed by molded limestone, accommodating a fan, sidelights and double doors. The symmetry of the design is compromised by the two-story gabled wing on the south with grouped casement windows. The house remains unaltered.

124-136 WEST CAREY STREET (#47)

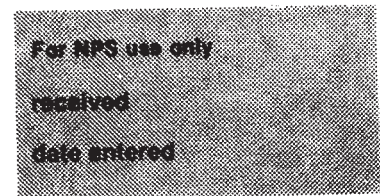
This industrial complex of three buildings is located east of the northeast corner of North Madison and West Carey Streets. The oldest (center) building of the complex was built between 1916 and 1928. The eastern wing was built after 1928 and the western wing was erected after World War II. All three buildings are constructed of concrete blocks, have gable roofs, and are linked together. The two historic portions are constructed of rock-face finished blocks, probably manufactured by the Knightstown Concrete Company. The Dennis Furniture Company manufactured wood furniture here until the 1970s.

108-120 EAST MAIN STREET, MORGAN BUILDING (#48)

This commercial building is located on the north side of Main Street between Washington and Jefferson Streets. This two-story brick building was built between 1866 and 1867 by Robert Woods. The 1867 features include the flat stone lintel and segmented arched windows,

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a jerkin gable roof and a brick corbel table. The main facade was extensively remodeled in the Romanesque Revival Style, including terra cotta banding, a round corner oriel with a slate conical roof, and a round arch arcade. The arches are separated by grouped granite columns with carved sandstone capitals. The terra cotta and brick banding of the parapet is interrupted in the center by a flat pediment defined by copper-capped finials and a center flagpole with an ornate copper bracket. The second story windows and the shop fronts of the western half of the first floor have been unsympathetically altered. This structure was probably remodeled and named c. 1885 by Charles Dayton Morgan, the bank's second president and son-in-law of Robert Woods, the founder. Despite the alterations, the Morgan Building is an important landmark on Knightstown's National Road/Main Street.

126 WEST PINE STREET (#49)

The Dayton Heritage House is located on the north side of Pine Street between Madison and Harrison Streets. Features of this one-and-one-half story brick house are a cross gable roof with a prominent front gable, a three-bay front facade, and a bargeboard. The four openings in the front facade exhibit three different arch styles: segmented, round, and pointed. The pointed arch is located in the front gable, framed by the bargeboard and the cantilevered wooden balcony. Below the balcony is the round arch of the center entrance. The entrance is highlighted by a brickwork label and sidelights. The Heritage House is the finest example of many Gothic Revival houses in the district. It remains unaltered and in excellent condition. The house was built c. 1866 by Charles Dayton Heritage, a local furniture retailer.

15-19 NORTH FRANKLIN STREET, OLD TOWN HALL (#50)

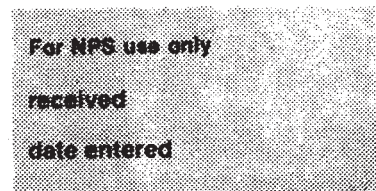
The former Town Hall is located on the east side of North Franklin Street between Main and Brown Streets. This imposing structure formerly functioned as the Town Hall, jail, fire and police station, and did so until the 1960s when the new hall was constructed. The hall is two-and-one-half stories high with a center gable, large truncated hip slate roof and a small bell tower. The main (west) facade has five bays. The opening in the gable is round arched, the second story windows have limestone lintels, and the first floor openings have segmented arches. The projecting cornice with modillions is supported by a brick corbel table. Each of the front entrances has a transom. The former Town Hall currently is used as an antique store with apartments on the second floor. The Old Town Hall was built in 1892.

108 EAST MAIN STREET (#51, left)

This commercial building was built c. 1880. It is located on the north side of Main Street between Jefferson and Washington Streets. This two-story brick building has a completely altered first floor and an intact second story. The second story has a variation of the Palladian window. The middle window is segmented arched flanked by two narrower and shorter windows with segmented half arches. The arches are highlighted by a course of limestone above the brick arch. The entablature is stamped metal with decorated frieze brackets and cornice. The Sanborn maps show the Post Office in this building in 1890, 1898, 1909, and 1916. It later served as a cinema and bowling alley. It was built as an investment property by Milton Peden, whose residence was at 38 South Franklin (#33).

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207 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET (#52)

This house is the second one north of the northeast corner of Warrick and Jefferson Streets. The first story of this two-story house is brick with the main (west) facade divided into four bays with flat stone lintels. This portion was built c. 1860. The shingled, frame second story was added between 1890 and 1898. The combination of the vernacular Greek Revival with the Shingle Style elements produced an interesting building. This combination of elements can also be found at 143 and 35 West Pine Street.

120 EAST MAIN STREET, MASONIC HALL (#53)

The Masonic Hall occupies a prominent location on the northwest corner of Main and Jefferson Streets. This three-and-one-half story brick building has suffered from unsympathetic alterations, including the total removal of the original fabric and design of the first story shop fronts, and the bricking up of upper story windows. The Masonic Hall bears some resemblance to the Odd Fellows Building (#47) and the Morgan Building (#48). Round arched windows are found throughout the Masonic Hall. The round corner oriel with a conical slate roof is a companion to the Morgan Building tower a half block eastward. The Masonic Hall was built in 1900 and dedicated in 1901.

102 EAST MAIN STREET (#54)

This commercial building is located at the northeast corner of Jefferson and Main Streets. Built between 1898 and 1909, this two-story brick building remains unaltered. Features include segmented arched openings, brick parapet, stamped metal classical entablature, and a shop front with transoms, cornice and an awning. It was built as a drug store by Dr. O. E. Holloway and continued in that capacity for several decades. Norman C. W. Reeves had his drugstore business in this building c. 1919. Mr. Reeves' son, Norman, later became president of Hooks Drugs, Inc.

214-227 EAST MAIN STREET (#55)

The Shipman House-Knightstown Hotel was built in 1856 by David Shipman. This imposing Italianate building is three stories tall with a hip roof, iron roof cresting, a front gable, projecting cornice with modillions, flat-headed and segmented arched windows. The main (south) facade is five bays wide. The segmented arched windows are found only on the third floor. The shop fronts on the first floor have stone lintels, as do the second story windows. The hotel has recently lost its slate roof. Knightstown has had several hotels. The Shipman House, the only brick hotel, is the last one standing.

2 EAST BROWN STREET (#56 and #57)

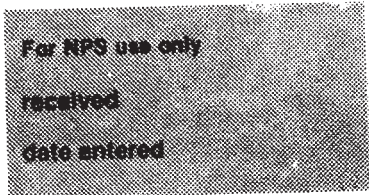
This modest industrial building was built between 1857 and 1885. It served a number of years as the Graf and Wallace carriage shop and later as the George D. Steiner blacksmith and carriage shop. This simple brick, one-story building with a gable roof and concrete block eastern addition possesses high integrity with no alterations. The openings are segmented arched and the wooden doors and hand-wrought hardware are still in place. The concrete wing was built after 1928.

106 NORTH JEFFERSON/38 EAST BROWN STREET (#58)

The Barrett-Rose home is an exceptional Queen Anne house at the northwest corner of Brown and Jefferson Streets. The house is unaltered. Its myriad of details have remained intact, including an octagonal corner tower, multi-gabled slate roof with cresting,

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elaborate brick chimneys with terra cotta panels, and turned posts and fretwork on the porches and balconies. The house is in excellent condition and has been painted in an appropriate polychromatic scheme. The house was built in 1891 by Simon Barrett.

25 EAST MAIN STREET (#59)

This brick, two-story house is an excellent example of the Arts and Crafts Style. Built c. 1860 as an Italianate house, it was drastically transformed into its present form by the Barker family between 1909 and 1910. Features include a steep, slated gable roof with gable dormers, paired windows, a first floor bay, center entrance, French doors, a deep veranda and stucco finish.

204 WEST BROWN STREET (#60)

Located at the northwest corner of Brown and Madison Streets is this simple, frame, Gothic Revival cottage. Features include one-and-one-half stories, gable roof, a gabled wing, side porch, long, first story windows with six-over-six lights, and a pointed arched gable window. Except for the addition of aluminum siding, the house remains intact. It was built c. 1865 and is a typical Gothic cottage in the district.

104 WEST MAIN STREET (#61)

This imposing Italianate house is located at the northwest corner of Main and Harrison Streets. Features include a cross hip roof with iron roof cresting; and flat-headed and segmented and round arched openings. This house has undergone a dramatic transformation since it was built c. 1865. Between 1890 and 1891 the house changed into its present form, from a simpler, four-bay facade house with a one-story rear wing. The remodeling also added an "L" veranda which was removed after 1928. The corner entry bay was also added. The entablature bears a distinctive decorated frieze which has been repeated on other structures in Knightstown. It is unusual that the remodeling produced an Italianate house rather than a Queen Anne or a hybrid of styles more popular in the 1890s. Clothing merchant A. E. Carroll owned the house during the major alterations. His son, Lee, inherited the house in 1933.

124 NORTH WASHINGTON STREET (#62)

This concrete block house is one of six in the district. All six are different. This house exhibits some Queen Anne features in the roofline. As with the other concrete block houses, this one is made of decorative blocks, specifically rock-face concrete blocks. The "L" veranda is supported by concrete piers and balustrades. It was built between 1890 and 1909 and is located on the west side of Washington Street, north of Brown Street. It is most likely that this unaltered house was constructed of locally-made concrete blocks.

5 EAST MAIN STREET, KNIGHTSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY (#63)

The library was constructed in 1912 at the southeastern corner of Franklin and Main Streets. The features of this structure include a raised basement, three-bay facade, center entrance, grouped windows, tile hip roof, brick walls, and limestone details. Above the stamped metal cornice and parapet is a low, truncated hip roof. The library has not been altered. The interior is intact with its bookshelves, counter and other fixtures being original.

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Cumberland, Maryland, (near the District of Columbia) to St. Louis, where it joined the Santa Fe Trail to continue to the Pacific. It was the first road nationally laid out and built.

A large part of the Midwest was settled by pioneers who traveled over this historic highway. Raymond Morgan, in his writings, mentions a letter of Selmira Phillips dated 1835 in which she describes, from her house's vantage point on the National Road in Knightstown, the passage of 120 covered wagons in one day.⁷ The National Road drastically altered Indiana's previous immigration pattern from south to north along waterways, roads and trails from Ohio, to the east-west orientation of the National Road.⁸ Even though Indianapolis, then the new capital, was only 33 miles away, it was little better than Knightstown as a trading point, and the merchants, farmers and pioneers would have depended on Cincinnati for trade and points of embarkation.

The surveyor of the section of the National Road across Indiana was Jonathan Knight, of Pennsylvania. He was a federal commissioner in charge of surveying and overseeing construction across Indiana. His four volumes of original survey field notes give a valuable description of Indiana's 1827 landscape. These notes include locations of mileposts and names of settlers and structures along the route. These volumes, as well as a detailed, 12-foot topographical map of the road's path across the state, are now in the National Archives.⁹ Knight's journals recorded a heavy forest cover of elm, walnut, hickory, sugar maple, oak, buckeye, beech, blue ash and hackberry in Indiana. Prairie clearings were rare.¹⁰

FOUNDING AND DEVELOPMENT

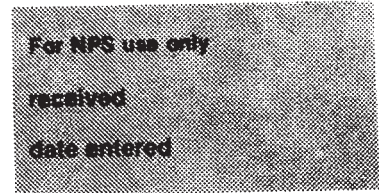
According to National Road Historian Thomas Schlereth, the road influenced the location of communities in three ways: as a conduit of settlement, as an expander of earlier settlements, and as the creator of new settlements. Knightstown fits into the third category. Jonathan Knight's placement of the road, attempting to keep it as straight as possible, encouraged new settlements where there had been none, and led to the demise of settlements that were bypassed.¹¹ Knightstown was platted in 1827 by Waitsell Carey, who named it after Jonathan Knight. It grew on the thoroughfare at the expense of West Liberty, a village located one-and-one-half miles southwest of Knightstown. Founded in 1823, the village never grew beyond nineteen houses.¹²

Waitsell Carey erected the first building in Knightstown near the northeast corner of Washington and Main Streets. Carey was awarded a charter to provide accommodations for all government agents working and traveling on the National Road.¹³ The site of Carey's tavern is a vacant lot marked by a plaque.

Carey's original plat included nine full blocks and three half-blocks from Jackson Street on the south, Jefferson Street on the west, Warrick Street on the north and near the banks of Big Blue River on the East. (See plat map.) The National Road cut through the lower portion of the plat. In 1836 Carey platted an addition directly west of the 1827 plat. This addition consisted of five full blocks and two half-blocks and straddled the National Road, then known as Clay Street where it ran through the town. The following year the First Southern Addition was platted by Edward K. Hart. This area was bound by Adams Street on the east, Jackson on the north, Franklin on the west, and the alley between Pine and Third on the south. 1839 saw three additions recorded, extending Knightstown southward between Jefferson Street, a major county road, and Big Blue River. The other two additions pushed the town westward along the National Road. In 1853 Knightstown extended northward

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with the northern addition, between Carey and Warrick, Adams and Franklin Streets. Throughout the 1860s five substantial additions extended the settlement in all directions but eastward. Between 1870 and 1921 there were a number of small additions which brought the Knightstown Historic District to its fullest extent.

Knightstown was also shaped and nurtured by the development of railroad lines. As the town was at the intersection of the National Road between Indianapolis and Richmond and a major county road, it was also between two county seats, Rushville and New Castle. Knightstown was also connected to other centers on the T.H. & I.E. traction line from Indianapolis to Dayton. The first railroad to reach Knightstown and Henry County was the short-lived Shelbyville and Knightstown Railroad which arrived in 1850 and was abandoned in 1853. Waitsell Carey and Robert Woods, another early leader of the town, were two of the directors of the enterprise. The Indianapolis-Richmond Railroad arrived in 1852 and later became the Indiana Central, and even later the Pennsylvania Central Railroad. This railroad followed the path of the National Road. The 1857 map of Knightstown shows the Indiana Central line, spurs and depots south of Third Street. The construction of the east-west railroad and its 1910-1911 elevation proved to be an effective barrier to development of Third Street. The north right-of-way line of the defunct Pennsylvania line forms the southern boundary of the district. The north-south railroad in Knightstown is the former Big Four Railroad line, constructed in 1891. This railroad forms a portion of the north-western boundary of the historic district. As with the line to the south, the Big Four line helped to retard the development of the town on the northwest side. As it was at grade level, it was not as effective a barrier as the east-west line. The only surviving railroad building is the dilapidated freight depot south of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad tracks, which is not included in this nomination. The Big Four depots and livestock holding pens at Harrison and Carey Streets have long since disappeared. The former inter-urban station at 227 East Main Street has survived but has been so extensively altered that no trace of the original building is evident (#55). The structure is non-contributing to the district.

ARCHITECTURE

The Knightstown Historic District contains an extraordinary collection of 19th and early 20th century architecture. These structures are of different types, styles and materials. Of particular significance is the large number of mid-19th century houses, especially those in the Gothic Revival Style. Knightstown's collection of Gothic Revival houses is one of the largest in the state. The other domestic architectural styles represented are Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Queen Anne, Bungalow/Arts & Crafts, and the abundant vernacular Carpenter and Brick Builder. Although a number of buildings in Knightstown may have been architect-designed, only three buildings in the district have documented designers.

The Gothic Revival Style is represented by three buildings described in Section 7. The Heritage House at 126 West Pine (#49), and the Armstrong House at 105 West Pine (#23) are two houses exhibiting strong Gothic features with bargeboards as well as pointed arches. The Lehmanowsky House at 517 West Main Street (#35) and others, have retained their Gothic identity, despite alterations. The cottage at 204 West Brown (#22) represents a number of similar simple cottages with the pointed arch window being the only remaining stylistic feature. The Methodist Church at 27 South Jefferson (#26) is representative of Victorian Gothic.

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Knightstown has a number of houses displaying the combination of the Greek Revival with other styles. The most prominent are 104 West Main Street (#61), the Bell House at 25 South Adams (#20), and the Woods House at 508 West Main Street (#38). Other examples include the Glass House (#31), the brick house at 43 South Adams Street (#83), and the frame house at 232 South Jefferson (#19).

The Italianate Style is well represented in the Knightstown district. The most prominent Italianate commercial structure is the Shipman House hotel at 216 East Main Street (#55). The Hinshaw House at 16 West Main (#24) is a National Register Italianate brick house which exhibits an exceptional Second Empire tower. The Italianate house across the street at 105 West Main (#36) has been transformed into an Italo-Eastlake house because of the later veranda addition. Both gable and hip roofs are found in the district's Italianate houses. Other outstanding examples can be seen in photos 25, 26 and 43.

Queen Anne Style houses are not so numerous as other styles. The finest example is the Barrett-Rose House at Jefferson and Brown Streets (#58). This house adds another tower to the district. Towers are located on three Main Street buildings, as well as on the Academy (#9), the Town Hall (#50), and the Probasco-Morrison House (#21).

The Second Empire Style is well-represented in quality rather than quantity. The National Register-listed Academy (#9), the Probasco-Morrison House (#21) and the house at 217 South Jefferson are the examples of the Second Empire Style, complete with slate mansard roofs, dormers, and round arched openings.

The Arts and Crafts/Bungalow Style is also represented in the district. Bungalows are concentrated in the northwest corner of the district. The best Arts & Crafts houses are the stuccoed house at 25 East Main Street (#59) and the cement block cottage at 38 East Morgan Street (#7). The cement cottage is one of six in the district (#62).

The Schweitzer House at 308 North Washington Street (#46) is one of the very few Colonial Revival Style houses in the district. This house was built in 1914 and is the last grand house exhibiting high architectural style in the district.

Abundant examples of vernacular and Carpenter and Brick Builder houses and cottages are found throughout the district. The cottages at 301 West Pine Street (#34) and 362 and 370 East Morgan (#8) represent the Brick Builder cottages.

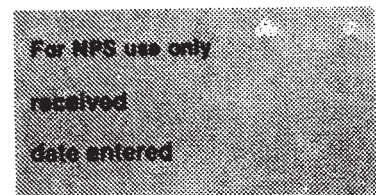
Because of the size and style of many of the district's commercial, religious and residential buildings, it is probable that a number of architects worked in Knightstown. However, only three names are evident: Charles H. Byfield, John Hasecoster, and Louis A. Simon. Byfield was an Indianapolis architect who designed the 1912 Public Library at 5 East Main Street (#63). Hasecoster was awarded the contract to design the Knightstown Academy (#9) and the Odd Fellows Building (#44). Louis A. Simon was the supervising architect for the Post Office.

INDUSTRY

Knightstown's early industrial development can be attributed to the town's location between Montgomery Creek and Blue River in addition to its National Road site. The flowing water furnished valuable motive power and steam for several gristmills, a woolen mill, several saw mills, planing mills, a flax mill and a burial case manufactory, listed in the 1875 Atlas, page 14.

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Abraham Heaton had a sawmill in 1822, perhaps the first in Henry County. Another early Knightstown family, the Gobles, had a flour mill on Blue River by 1830. A corn mill and the owner's house were built on Blue River early in Knightstown's history. City Mill, c. 1835, the enterprise of eminent citizen Robert Woods, was located just west of his brick house (#38) at 508 West Main Street (U.S. 40). This mill used Montgomery Creek to power its vertical saw.¹⁴ The house appears on the 1857 map.

The Henry County 1857 wall map lists a tannery south of the Indiana Central Railroad tracks on Madison Street, run by brothers Frank and George Lowry. Frank Lowry's house at 314 South Madison is still standing. It was shown on the 1857 map. There was another tannery on North Jefferson Street. Neither tannery remains. Another small industry listed is a marble and cabinet shop on West Brown Street. Another cabinet shop was in the house at 23 North Adams, which appears to have been extensively remodeled in the 1920s. Other industries include a brickyard. An 1866 Gazetteer includes "Harry Watts and Bro." as brick makers and masons. They may have made the bricks for the house at 43 South Adams in a brickyard just south of the house.¹⁵

The 1899-1900 Knightstown City Directory comments on the industry of the day. ". . . Knightstown is pretty well supplied. Here are flouring mills, strawboard works, chair, table, swing, box and sucker-rod factories, canning factory, ice cream factory. . . and many other diversified industries in the factory line." The selection of Sanborn maps from 1885 to 1928 indicates the area south of the railroad tracks and between Madison and Washington Streets (not included in this nomination) to have been an industrial area with a feed mill, ice company, coal yard, furniture factory, and other industries having located there at various times.

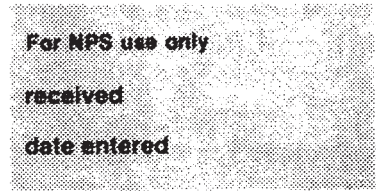
The Knightstown Buggy Company, started c. 1898 by Mason Walters and Robert Silver, moved to a factory location between Washington and South Jefferson Streets, on the south side of Third Street (#18). In late 1900 the Knightstown Buggy Company added the customizing of automobiles to its production. Mr. Walters, who lived at 427 North Adams, and Mr. Silver, continued the production of their model car until c. 1910. After the partnership between Walters and Silver dissolved, Mr. Silver began production of the "Silver Knightstown," the funeral coach body being an elongated chassis made by one of the major automobile companies.¹⁶ The Sanborn maps indicate a company name-change to the "Knightstown Body Company," on the site sometime after 1916 and before 1928. American Funeral Cars and Ambulances, by Thomas McPherson, lists models produced by this company from 1926 to 1942.

The Knightstown Body Company, maker of funeral car bodies, occupied a complex of three buildings (#18) on the south side of East Third Street between South Jefferson and South Washington Street. The two-story building at Third and Jefferson was previously occupied by the Knightstown Buggy Company, and is no longer standing. The two-story brick industrial building at Third and Washington (#18) was occupied by the Knightstown Lumber Company in 1916 and the P. Watts Planing Mill earlier. The middle industrial structure with a sawtooth monitor roof was constructed between 1916 and 1928. The latter two buildings are still extant.

The Knightstown Funeral Car Company was located in the building at 221 West Main Street. This company produced the "Gallahad" with a locally made body assembled on a chassis from another manufacturer. American Funeral Cars and Ambulances dates this specific company

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as being in existence from 1928 to 1942. Sanborn maps reinforce the 1928 date by showing the company there at that time. National Body Manufacturing Company took over the Knightstown Funeral Carplant sometime after 1942. They also specialized in the custom funeral cars and ambulances.

The Knightstown Funeral Car Company also entered the extended frame type funeral coach market. The customer could select any General Motors chassis to be customized. The company produced a series of long wheelbase hearses and ambulances.

Knightstown had another automobile manufacturing plant which was just north of town (out of the district). The "Leader" was an internal combustion model made by Columbia Electric Company, based in McCordsville, Indiana.¹⁶ The company existed from 1906 to 1912. The Sanborn maps show the factory first in 1909 as "Columbia Electric Company" and by 1916 the map listed "Continental Auto Company Butler Manufacturing Company, Manufacturer of Auto Parts". By 1928 the Sanborn map shows the site as a branch of the Central Indiana Canning Company.

The Knightstown Concrete Company was an important local industry in the early decades of the 20th century. It first appears on the Sanborn maps in 1909. It occupied the buildings of the defunct Knightstown Electric Light Company at the southeast corner of North Harrison and West Carey Streets. Only a small portion of this brick and frame building remains. It appears that this manufacturer of concrete blocks was responsible for the concrete houses at 4 West Morgan Street, 38 East Morgan Street (#7), 405 North Adams Street, 333 North Franklin Street, 124 North Washington Street (#62), the former Telephone Exchange at 16-18 East Main Street, the former Dennis Furniture Factory at 124-136 West Carey Street (#47) and the former Funeral Car Company Factory at 221 West Main Street. The many pre-cast concrete porch columns found throughout the district may also have been products of the Knightstown Concrete Company.

The Knightstown Concrete Company was also responsible for the platting of its addition on North Jefferson between Penn and Morgan Streets in 1910. The president of the Concrete Company was Harry Watts, who also operated Harry Watts and Company, a local construction, painting and plumbing company. This company may have been responsible for the construction of the bungalows in that addition, as the seven bungalows at 405-455 North Jefferson are nearly identical (#42).

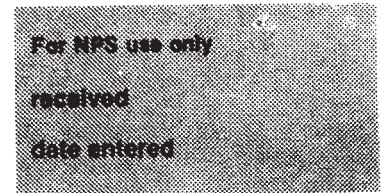
A carriage shop in the district was the Graf and Wallace Carriage shop at 2 East Brown Street (#56). This one-story brick building remains intact with a concrete block eastern addition built after 1928. In 1909 the shop was occupied by George O. Steiner, a blacksmith. The building appears on the 1885 Sanborn map with a number of frame additions extending to the alley.

COMMERCE

Knightstown is historically significant for its commerce, including retailing, banks and hotels. Because of its location on the National Road and rail lines, Knightstown became an important local commercial center. One of the first commercial buildings in Knightstown was Waitsell M. Carey's hotel at the corner of Main and Washington. This building burned c. 1855. Several hotel residents at the time of the fire were friends of businessman Harvey Bell, whose house was less than two blocks away at 25 South Adams (#20). C. D. Morgan, Soloman Hittle and Tillighman Fish took their belongings to Bell's house and were the first patrons of what was to become the Mansion House Hotel. Tillighman Fish later married a daughter of Harvey Bell, and one of their places of residence was the Gothic Revival house at 309 E. Main.

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The Valley House Hotel was built by Joseph Woods on the south side of town near the railroad. Of the number of hotels located near the railroads and on the National Road, only the Shipman House remains. The Shipman House (#55), later the Knightstown Hotel, was the only brick hotel in the town and has been a National Road landmark since it was built c. 1856 by David Shipman.¹⁸

Main Street has been the center of retail business and other commercial enterprises since the town's founding. The 1857 map documents Main Street businesses existing as far east as the southeast corner of Main and Adams, where Mr. Weaver had a jewelry store and residence. The highest concentration of retail shops on Main Street continues to be the area between Washington and Franklin (#80). The oldest known commercial building along here is 201 East Main (#27). This was built c. 1856 by Joel B. Low as a drygoods store. The 1857 map indicates his house was at 125 South Washington Street. Later, the store was a bakery owned by Soloman Hittle, who lived for a time above his business. The building also has been known as Midkiff's Corner. This building has been extensively remodeled.

Disasters were the cause of many of the changes in the buildings. A fire c. 1868 destroyed a major department store belonging to successful merchant Richard Probasco. This building was on the northwest corner of Main and Jefferson. Probasco then joined his brother in Cincinnati as a partner in the Shillito family enterprises, where he again made a name as a prominent businessman. Probasco's success in Knightstown as a merchant is evident in his grand Second Empire house at 130 North McCullum (#21).

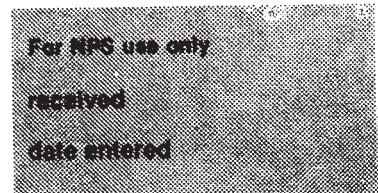
Another large department store, Addison's Big Store, was destroyed in the Masonic Hall fire in 1899 at the northwest corner of Main and Jefferson. Addison's relocated in the later Masonic Building (#33). A gas explosion in 1975 damaged the furniture store, part of the c. 1900 "Big Store" at 28 East Main. This resulted in the placement of metal panels over the facade. These panels obscure the turn-of-the-century character of the building. An election-night bonfire celebration of Benjamin Harrison's 1889 victory is blamed for the fire in the business block that begins at the northeast corner of Main and Franklin, 2-20 West Main.¹⁹ This business block was rebuilt over a period c. 1890-1895. The substantial buildings of this period replaced lesser frame shops.

Waitsell M. Carey donated the land for a public square when he founded Knightstown. The square has been a center of commerce since its early days as a marketplace. Commercial buildings continue to face the Square from the east and west sides (#5 & 6). The Sanborn maps from 1885 to 1898 indicate the buildings towards the northern end of the Square, both east and west sides, were carriage and harness shops, blacksmith and livery establishments. The southern portion, the east and west sides closest to Main Street, contained the retail shops such as a barbershop, grocery, and hardware store. The 1909 map shows the northwest side of the Square as the Knights of Pythias lodge hall, and printing shops. By 1916, an auto repair shop appeared at the northeast side. The commercial orientation of shops closest to the south end of the Square remains the same on the 1916 and 1928 maps: groceries, meatmarket, confectionary and other retail businesses.

In 1875 Knightstown represented about half the wealth and population of Wayne Township, the wealthiest township in Henry County.²⁰ In 1863, wealthy merchant Robert Woods organized what is thought to have been the first bank in Henry County. Mr. Woods founded the Robert Woods and Company Bank. Later it became the First National Bank.

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The Knightstown Public Library (#63) has played an important part in the education of its citizens. A popular loan library was established in the 1880s, in the second story of a downtown commercial building. Because of restricted access, poor lighting and ventilation, Knightstown Federated Women's Clubs began soliciting funds to purchase land for a new library in 1905. A library committee wrote to the Carnegie Library Foundation, seeking a grant for the purchase of a new building. The grant was to pay only for the building, not maintenance, books, or land. The library committee selected Indianapolis architect Charles H. Byfield and submitted the plans to the Carnegie Foundation. The Carnegie appropriation totaled \$10,000.²³ The library moved into the new building at 5 East Main Street in November, 1912.

GOVERNMENT

The Knightstown Historic District possesses two significant historical government buildings. Although Knightstown was not a county seat, it did have a significant population and public resources to construct the imposing Town Hall at 15-19 North Franklin Street (#50). This structure served as the town jail, police station, firehouse, offices, and meeting hall from its construction in 1892 until it was abandoned in the 1960s when the new building was constructed at 26 South Washington Street.

The Post Office at 27 North Jefferson Street (#37) is a typical P.W.A. post office built during the Great Depression. It exhibits the basic form of Modern architecture with little ornamentation and simple forms; however, the limestone pilasters and fenestration recall classical elements. The sculpted limestone badges symbolize the role of the airplane in transporting the mail. The building was dedicated with a ceremony on April 29, 1937, at which New Deal Postmaster General James A. Farley spoke.

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Woods' son-in-law, Charles D. Morgan, was the first cashier. Robert Woods was still listed as bank president in 1890.²¹ A chronology of past presidents includes Charles D. Morgan, residence at 238 East Brown (#26); his son, Erie Morgan, whose house was at 16 West Main (#24); Ralph Wagoner, residence at 209 North Washington; Louis A. Carrol, residence at 104 West Main (#61); Richard Steele, William Brown, and presently James Wilson. Original stockholders included members of early Knightstown families: Heatons, Furgasons, Hills, and Silver. The present bank building facade c. 1885 was added to the c. 1866 brick building at 120 East Main (#48). Woods had a general store in the building's first floor. A large hall for meetings was upstairs.

The other prominent Knightstown bank was founded as Citizens State Bank in 1888. The bank received its national bank charter in 1908 and built the c. 1905 Neo-classical bank at 104 East Main (#1). The first president was Elnathan Wilkinson, who built his house at 105 West Pine (#23). Attorney L. P. Newby was the second president.

Knightstown has had the influence of its own newspaper since 1832, when a Mr. Grant published the first paper in the county. The paper changes owners and titles many times. At times Knightstown has had more than one paper.

In 1885, The Sun was purchased by William Beard for his sons, Clarence and Charles A. Beard. They owned the paper until 1895.

The 1916 Sanborn map indicates The Banner being printed on the northwest side of the Public Square in the brick building at 36 North Washington, presently being used as a laundromat. The newspaper tradition is continued by Mayhill Publications, owners and publishers of the local weekly as well as other publications. Their main offices are at 27 North Jefferson.

EDUCATION

Knightstown's educational significance is exemplified strongly by the Knightstown Academy on East Carey Street (#9). Distinguished educator and politician John Irwin Morrison was the president of the school board at the time of the academy's construction. As a state legislator he supported the creation of state-supported public schools and encouraged the election of a state superintendent of schools. He urged that young women be given educational opportunities. His daughter, Sarah, was the first female graduate of Indiana University, where he was a professor from 1840-1843. Later, he was a trustee of that university. He was elected treasurer of the state in 1865 and moved to Indianapolis. After retirement in 1872 he moved to Knightstown and was appointed to the local school board.²² As president of the school board he may have been responsible for selection of John Hasecoster (1844-1925), the architect of the Knightstown Academy, according to the Richmond Telegram 9/8/1876.

Historian Charles A. Beard graduated from the Academy in 1891, according to Henry County Historian Richard P. Ratcliff. Beard and his brother, Clarence, then published a newspaper in Knightstown. Beard's schooling at the Spiceland and Knightstown Academies was the springboard to his studies at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, and Oxford University in England.

Another significant academy was located in the building at 37 North Adams Street (#12). The 1857 map shows this building and the name of the teacher, William Haughton. The house at 131 North Franklin Street is listed on the 1857 map as a public school.

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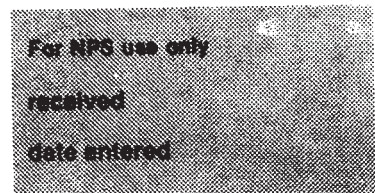
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The boundaries of the Knightstown Historic District are thus:

Beginning at the southeast corner of lot 5 of Block 80 in the Charles Block Addition as it meets the north edge of the right-of-way of the Pennsylvania Railroad, the boundary proceeds westward along this right-of-way line to a point 120 feet west of Madison Street; here the boundary proceeds northward to the alley which is 120 feet south of and parallel to West Pine Street. At this point the boundary proceeds westward along the northern edge of the alley to the east side of the Big Four right-of-way; then northeast along the Big Four right-of-way to the south edge of West Pine Street; then eastward 363 feet to the alley which is 120 feet west of and parallel to Madison Street;

then directly northward and parallel to Madison Street to the north side of the alley which is the southern edge of Roberts' Addition; then westward to the eastern edge of the Big Four Railroad;

then northeastward 33 feet on this right-of-way; then westward along the southern edge of lot 15 in Roberts' Addition to the eastern edge of South McCullum Street.

The line proceeds northward to the northeast corner of McCullum and Jackson Streets, then westward along the southern edge of lot 6 of Roberts' Addition.

Then it continues southward, crossing West Jackson and following the eastern edge of lot 11 southward approximately 75 feet; then proceeding westward to and crossing Hill Avenue, and continuing westward approximately 225 feet from the west side of Hill Avenue;

then northward to the southern edge of West Main Street; then eastward approximately 100 feet;

then northward, crossing Main Street and proceeding northward to the south side of the alley directly north of and parallel to Main Street; then eastward, crossing Pearl Street and proceeding eastward to the alley directly east of Pearl;

then northward to and crossing West Brown Street and proceeding northward 164 feet; then eastward approximately 100 feet, continuing eastward to and crossing North McCullum Street and proceeding along the southern edge of West Warrick Street to the alley east of and parallel to Monroe Street.

At this point the boundary proceeds northward to the south side of West Carey Street; then eastward to and crossing North Madison Street;

then northward along the east side of North Madison Street to the south side of Lincoln Street; then eastward to and crossing the Big Four Railroad;

then proceeding northward to and crossing West Morgan Street and proceeding 134 feet northward; then eastward following the alley, crossing Franklin and Jefferson Streets.

From the east side of Jefferson Street the boundary proceeds eastward approximately 150 feet, then northward to the south side of Silver Street;

then eastward crossing Washington and Adams Street, then eastward approximately 148 feet; then southward 141 feet;

then eastward approximately 650 feet; then southward 138 feet to the north side of East Morgan Street; then westward to the point in line with the west side of the Nazarene church lot,

then southward across East Morgan Street and proceeding southward approximately 125 feet; then westward to a point 150 feet east of the east side of North Adams Street;

then southward crossing Locust Lane and Carey Street to the alley south of Carey; then eastward approximately 450 feet to a point east of the alley east of Front Street;

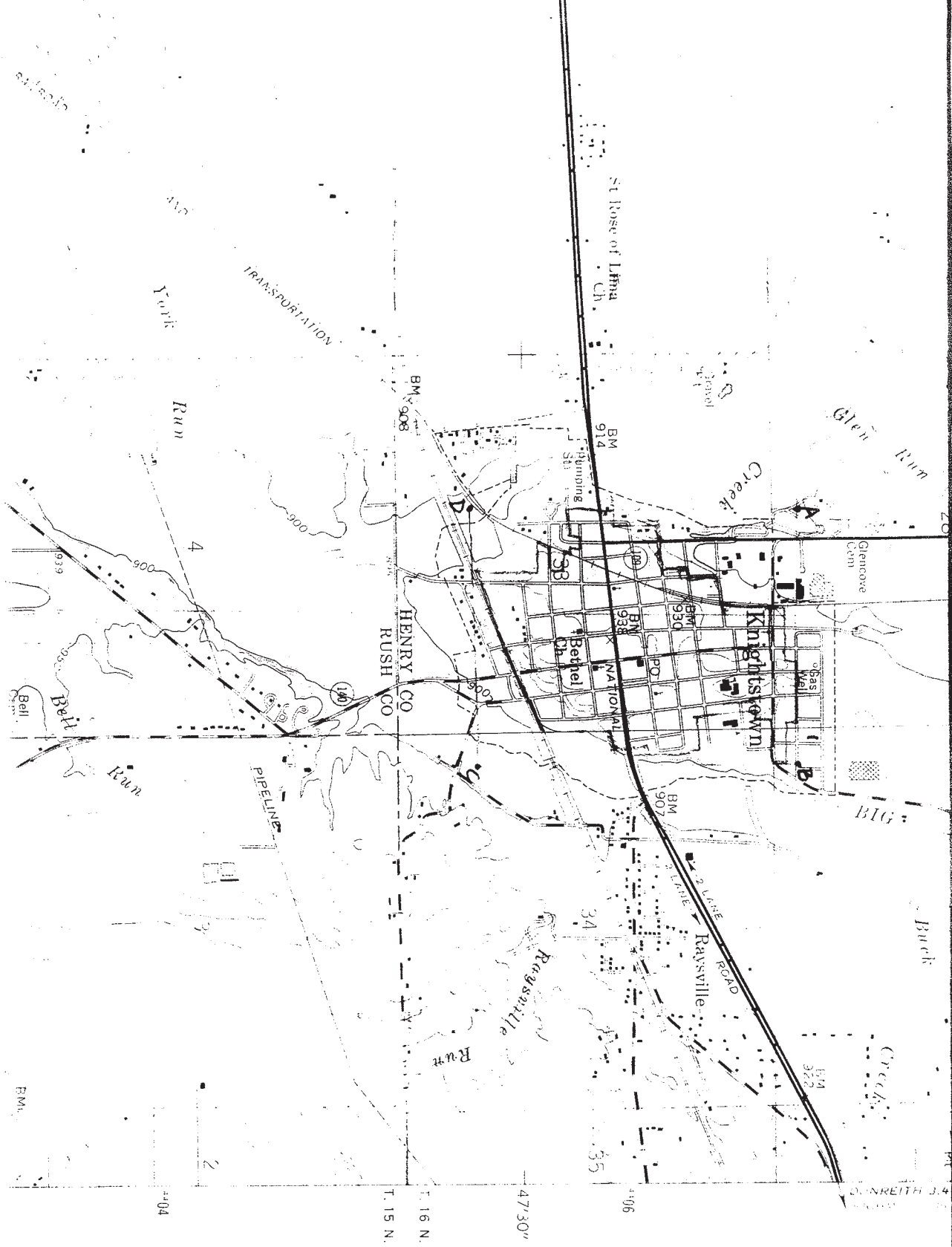
**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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then southward following the eastern lot lines to and crossing Brown Street and continuing along the eastern side of lot 1 of Block 8 in the original plat; then westward to the eastern end of lots 40 and 5;
then southward, crossing East Main Street; then proceeding south along the eastern side of lot 1 of Block 1;
then westward to the alley east of and parallel to South Adams Street; then down to the Pennsylvania Railroad right-of-way.



Knightstown Historic District
 Knightstown, Indiana
 UTM References:
 A 16/625540/4406630
 B 16/626640/4406640
 C 16/626660/4405280
 D 16/625540/4405230

