

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

FINAL - Orig. Nom.

STATE: Includes HABS No. IND-49, 50, 51, 55
COUNTY: Indiana
Marion
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER DATE
FEB 23 1973

1. NAME
COMMON: Lockerbie Square Historic District
AND/OR HISTORIC: Lockerbie Street Neighborhood

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Indianapolis
STATE: Indiana CODE: 18 COUNTY: Marion CODE: 097

3. CLASSIFICATION

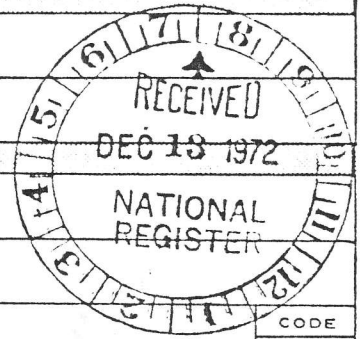
| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both | Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Comments |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME: Various: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, Riley Memorial Ass'n, & Private Owners.
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Indianapolis STATE: Indiana CODE: 18

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: City-County Building
STREET AND NUMBER: 202 East Washington Street
CITY OR TOWN: Indianapolis STATE: Indiana CODE: 18

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey - Indianapolis
DATE OF SURVEY: Summers 1970-1971 ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☒ Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: D.C. CODE: 11 97

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Indiana
COUNTY: Marion
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER DATE

DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Lockerbie Square is a relatively small neighborhood, primarily residential, about one fifth of a mile on each of its four sides, which extends eastward from the eastern boundary of Alexander Ralston's 1821 plan of Indianapolis. (c. 1 1/8 acre)

The following homes in the neighborhood have been recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey project in 1970 and 1971:

1. Joseph Staub House, 342 North College, built 1859 for an early merchant tailor and his family. A brick house with Victorian decorative elements, it is now owned by the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, which hopes to restore it from its present state of disrepair. HABS No. IND-50.
2. William and Netty Holler House, 324 North Park Ave., built ca. 1864, a small wood-frame working-class house presently being restored by the local chapter of the Women-In-Construction. HABS No. IND-49.
3. James Whitcomb Riley House, 528 Lockerbie Street, the most imposing house in the neighborhood, was built in 1872 for John Nickum, an early commercial baker. The poet lived there as a guest. The house is of brick and is maintained by the Riley Memorial Association almost exactly as it was when Riley lived there, including complete furnishings. The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Place: and is open to the public. HABS No. IND-51
4. Despa House, 538 Lockerbie, a small brick working-class house probably built ca. 1870 and now owned by the Indianapolis Day Nursery Association. HABS No. IND-55
5. 621 Lockerbie, similar to the Holler House, probably built ca. 1870. HABS No. IND-54 (Webber House)

Most of the other eighty or so houses in the Lockerbie Square Historic District were built in the latter part of the nineteenth century and some possibly in the early twentieth. A few are of individual significance, but most are small frame houses on narrow lots and are characteristic of the period.

Despite its proximity to what is now the heart of the downtown business center of a community of 750,000 people, this small area has been bypassed by urban development and retains its residential atmosphere. The primary area is bounded by four busy traffic arteries, and only on the north side has there been some encroachment by business establishments. In addition, a secondary area, consisting of a half-block deep protective zone has been established as a part of the Lockerbie Square Historic District in which zoning restrictions apply.



(Continued on Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

7. Description

(Continuation Sheet)

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| STATE | |
| Indiana | |
| COUNTY | |
| Marion | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | FEB 23 1973 |

(Number all entries)

(Continued)

The primary area of the Lockerbie Square Historic District is bounded on the north by East Michigan Street; on the east by North College Avenue; on the south by East New York Street; on the west by North East Street. It is bisected from south to north by the 300 and 400 blocks of North Park Avenue. It is interested from west to east by the 500 and 600 blocks of Lockerbie Street and East Vermont Street. A secondary, or peripheral area, in which certain zoning restrictions apply, extends one half block in each direction beyond the boundaries of the primary area.

With the passing of the years, a once popular residential community has been allowed to deteriorate very badly. A few of the original homes has been condemned and demolished. Others now provide very low cost rental housing. A few are still owner-occupied and remain in reasonably good condition. Local preservation architects have prepared an inventory indicating that some fifty or more might be worthy of restoration.

One north-south and two east-west streets intersect the primary area. They are very narrow, and the original cobblestone paving has been covered with asphalt. The herring-bone pattern brick sidewalks remain in use.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☒ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1859, 1864, 1870, 1872

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric☐ Historic☐ Agriculture☒ Architecture☐ Art☐ Commerce☐ Communications☐ Conservation☐ Education☐ Engineering☐ Industry☐ Invention☐ Landscape☐ Architecture☐ Literature☐ Military☐ Music☐ Political☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science☐ Sculpture☐ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater☐ Transportation☒ Urban Planning☒ Other (Specify)Historical

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

With the completion of the now-under-construction Inner Loop of the Interstate Highway System in Indianapolis, Lockerbie Square lies unquestionably in the path of the next wave of redevelopment in the central city. National preservation authorities who have viewed the site concur that here is a unique opportunity through adaptive use to recreate and preserve in this small area the flavor of life in a midwestern city at the turn of the century. Despite the ravages of time, it is believed that enough remains to provide historic integrity to a restoration and rehabilitation project.

Under authority of an act of the General Assembly of Indiana, the City of Indianapolis established the Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission which has the responsibility for developing Lockerbie Square. An initial Master Plan was prepared by James Associates, Architects and Engineers, and approved by the Metropolitan Development Department and the Marion County Council. Necessary zoning restrictions have been established, and the Commission has been given the power of eminent domain. The City administration is now considering possible sources of funding.

The first restoration project is in progress, the Holler House mentioned in No. 7.

The Commission views the entire Lockerbie Square project as an opportunity to create for the city a much-needed downtown attraction. It plans to build or move in compatible structures for distinctive museums and other centers of public interest, and through adaptive use to have attractive restaurants, shops, offices, apartments and homes that will make the area viable economically as well as a center of historic interest.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

HABS Historical Data for the five houses specifically listed.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | OR | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|----|---|-----------|---------|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds |
| NW | 39 ° 46 ' 26 " | 86 ° 08 ' 56 " | | ° | ' | " |
| NE | 39 ° 46 ' 26 " | 86 ° 08 ' 45 " | | | | |
| SE | 39 ° 46 ' 11 " | 86 ° 08 ' 45 " | | | | |
| SW | 39 ° 46 ' 11 " | 86 ° 08 ' 56 " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: c. 1 1/8 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: E. Havens Kahlo, Mgr. and Wesley I. Shank

ORGANIZATION: Indpls. Historic Preservation Cmn. Hist. Amer. Bldg. Survey

DATE: 3 Aug. 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: 9131 Spring Hollow Drive 3402 Boulevard Place

CITY OR TOWN: Indianapolis STATE: Indiana CODE: 18

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name: [Signature]

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: 12-6-72

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

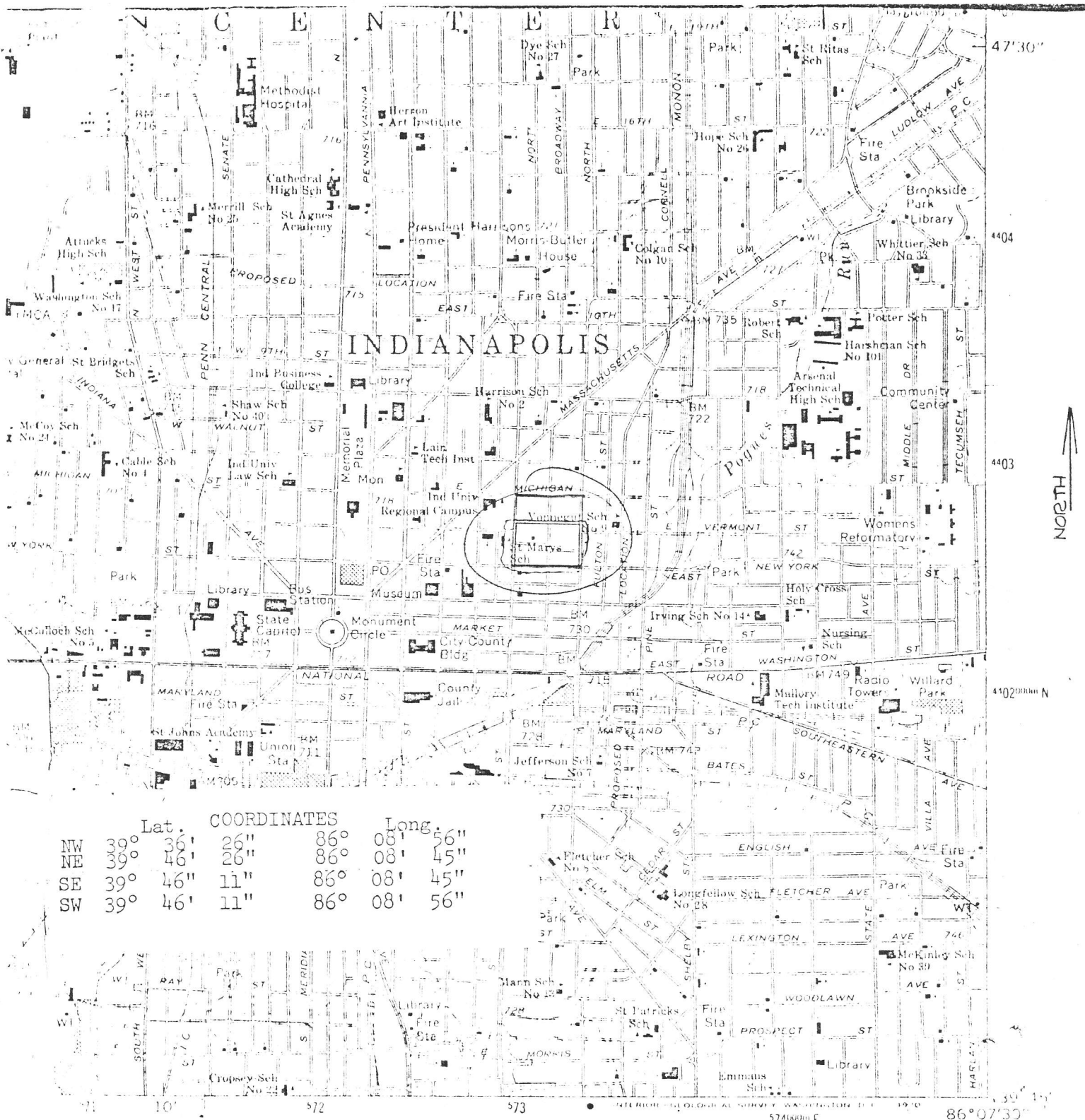
[Signature]
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 2/23/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 2/22/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface Light duty road, all weather improved surface

Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

State Route U. S. Route State Route

INDIANAPOLIS, WEST, IND.
N. 1945 W. 8607 5 7.5