

FINAL

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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received

date entered

1. Name

historic

West Central Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Brown-Delaware Street, 10th Street
John Street and 13th Street

N/A not for publication

city, town

Anderson

N/A vicinity of

state

Indiana

code 018

county

Madison

code 095

3. Classification

Category

☒ district
☐ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☐ public
☒ private
☐ both

Public Acquisition

☐ in process
☐ being considered
N/A

Status

☒ occupied
☒ unoccupied
☒ work in progress
Accessible
☐ yes: restricted
☒ yes: unrestricted
☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☒ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military
☐ museum
☐ park
☒ private residence
☒ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ 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. Madison County Recorder's Office, Government Center

street & number

16 East Ninth Street

city, town

Anderson

state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title The Indiana Historic Sites
and Structures Inventoryhas this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1983

☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Indiana Department of Natural Resources

city, town

Indianapolis

state Indiana

7. Description

Condition

☒ excellent
☒ good
☒ fair

☒ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The West Central Historic District is approximately a ten block area located immediately west of the original plat of Anderson (town). The district is primarily residential in character with some nonresidential uses centered primarily along 11th Street.

The area consists of ten small additions that were platted between 1854 and 1890. The large number of subdivisions in this relatively small area probably accounts for the disjointed pattern of the north-south streets.

As a result of the disjointed north-south streets (some of which are not through streets) the majority retain their brick pavements. Lincoln and Chase Streets have small sections that were repaired or widened with little regard to the brick paving blocks. However, Morton Street retains all of its original brick pavement, along with its early concrete sidewalks and curbs with iron hitching rings still intact. (Photo 67)

In 1974, the City widened and connected two of the smaller north-south streets, Brown and Delaware, to facilitate movement of traffic around the Central Business District. The widening of Brown-Delaware destroyed some houses in the district, along with encroaching on some yards.

The majority of the houses in the district were built between 1885 and 1910, coinciding, in part, with the gas boom in Anderson which began in 1887. The largest portion of the houses in the area are of frame construction and are either in the Queen Anne style or are Carpenter-Builder houses. Other styles represented in the area include Italianate, Stick, Colonial Revival, Classical Revival, American Foursquare and Bungalow. The area has a single example of the Shingle style.

In addition to the single-family dwellings, a number of small apartment buildings were built in the early part of the 20th century and are in scale with many of the larger houses in the area. Two apartment buildings of a much larger scale were built in the district in 1927.

The district also includes three churches, one in the Romanesque Revival style, one in the English Gothic Revival style, and the other in a Baroque style.

The neighborhood began to decline in the 1930's as a result of the Great Depression. At this time, a number of the larger houses were divided into smaller units. This practice continued throughout World War II and continues up to the present day. However, recently some houses have been reconverted to single-family dwellings. Many houses were torn down in the 1960's and 70's as a result of urban renewal. However, the majority of housing stock has remained intact and many units have undergone rehabilitation since the mid-1970's.

Within the neighborhood is a small neighborhood park, located at the southeast corner of Lincoln and 12th Streets. The park was created in May, 1984, using Community Development funds. The only improvements to the park at present are the sidewalks and benches.

The district has approximately 165 major structures. Of these, 14 were rated "outstanding" in an architectural/historical survey that was conducted in 1983. The few non-contributing structures in the district are either recently constructed, or substantially remodeled.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1880-1934 Builder/Architect Various

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The significance of the proposed West Central Historic District is basically two-fold: (1) the area is closely associated with many of Anderson's most prominent business, professional, and political figures, and (2) it contains some of the finest late 19th and early 20th century residential architecture extant in the city. The area flourished between 1890 and 1930, but entered into a steady economic decline as a result of the Great Depression. This decline continued until the mid-1970's, when community interest was revived. Today, many of the homes are being revitalized and renovated.

The proposed district lies directly west of Anderson's original plat, which was laid out in 1823 by the town's founder, John Berry. Much of the area within the district was platted between 1854 and 1874, yet little development occurred until the discovery of natural gas in Madison County in 1887.

Up until that time, the region was predominantly rural in character and given over to agriculture, although a few early schoolhouses and churches were located there as well. One of the earliest schools to be built in Anderson Township, c. 1835, was located near the northwest corner of Brown-Delaware and 11th Streets. This frame building was used as a schoolhouse for several years, but was later remodeled and converted into a residence. The house was subsequently destroyed and the area it once occupied is now a parking lot. Another early school was located on the west side of Brown-Delaware Street between 11th and 12th Streets. This structure was built by one of Anderson's first teachers, Joseph Franklin, in 1868. Unfortunately it, too, has disappeared.

In 1839, Collins Tharp, an early settler, donated a tract of ground immediately west of Brown-Delaware Street, between 11th and 12th Streets, to the Methodist Episcopal Church of Anderson for a church site and cemetery. The church was never fully completed, but services were still held there for several years. According to church legend, Elder John Leach, on one of his visits to Anderson, refused to hold services in the structure; he said it was "cold and disagreeable, besides being out in the woods." The property was later sold and the building used as a carpenter shop until it was destroyed by fire. The site was used as a cemetery until 1863, and continued to be referred to as the "Old Cemetery" long after that. Even today the legal descriptions of individual properties situated in that locality refer to cemetery lots.

In 1886, natural gas was first discovered in east central Indiana, and on January 25, 1887, a joint stock company was organized at Anderson to explore for gas in and around Madison County. Two major stockholders of that company were Lafe J. Burr (126 West 10th Street—now demolished) and Harrison Canaday (311 West 11th Street). In March, 1887, this company sank its first successful well.

Anderson soon became an integral part of the gas boom—the "Queen City of the Gas Belt." In a matter of only a few years the small, agriculturally-oriented city was transformed into one of Indiana's major industrial centers. By the turn of the century more than 40 new factories had become established in the city.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Anderson City Directories, various years and publishers.

Carson, Will B. Who is Who in Anderson. Anderson: 1908.

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 30 acres

Quadrangle name Anderson South

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	6	1	1	9	1	0	4	4	4	0	2	2	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

B

1	6	6	1	0	4	6	0	4	4	4	0	2	3	0
Zone	Easting			Northing										

C

1	6	6	1	0	4	8	0	4	4	3	9	7	7	0

D

1	6	6	1	1	9	3	0	4	4	3	9	7	6	0

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please see continuation sheet

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

state	N / A	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Joyceann Moreland	Elizabeth A. Straw
	C. Samuel Mudd	J. Randal Wallar

organization Anderson City Planning Department date June, 1984

street & number 120 E. Eighth Street telephone 317/646-9690

city or town Anderson state Indiana 46015

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ 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 10-19-84

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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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National Park Service

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Below are descriptions of 29 individual structures that are representative of architectural styles found in the area.

- Photo # 1 The cornerstone of the Central Christian Church, 923 Jackson Street, was placed November, 1899. The building was designed and built by two Cincinnati firms—J. W. Brown, architect, and Fletcher Brothers, contractors. The two-story, Spanish Baroque, Colonial Revival style building has an irregular floor plan. The entire building has a rock-faced stone exterior with a date and inscription block in the southeast corner of the structure. The wall design has decorative panels and elaborate entrances. There exists a geometric roof design with two domes. The original domes were removed in the fall of 1977 and replaced with fiberglass replicas. There are also decorative gabled pediments over the main entrances. The eaves are a plain frieze. The window-structure openings are varied in shape and the window surrounds are of plain moulding and constructed from stone. All of the windows have multi-lights. The main door structural opening is round-arched and the head surround is arched with alternating, radiating voussoirs. The side surrounds are pilasters. There is a decorated reveal around the door. The main door is a paneled, double-leaf type with an arched transom panel. The church received national recognition in 1905 for its 52-day revival led by Dr. Charles Scoville.
- 2 The Delaware Court Apartments, 120 West 10th Street, were built in 1927. The three-and-one-half story, Colonial Revival building was designed by E. F. Miller, a local architect. The brick apartments were built in a U-plan with a center court. The entrances are flanked by engaged Ionic columns. Classical elements of Colonial architecture are also found in the dentiled cornice line and the treatment of the second and third floor windows above the entrances. Originally, there were six three-room apartments, 30 four-room apartments, and three six-room apartments. The first residents included store owners, professional men, bank cashiers, store clerks and others with white collar jobs.
- 3 Built in 1875, this large, two-story, brick Italianate house, 212 West 10th Street, has shaped limestone window lintels and a two-story projecting bay on the east facade. Early alterations included a classical columned front porch and porte cochere. The front door is flanked by sidelights, another early alteration. An early owner of the house was Charles L. Henry, a Congressman, who owned other property in the West Central District. Fredrick J. Urban, a candy wholesaler and sales manager for the Remy Electric Company, lived here in the early 20th century.
- 10 This two-story brick Colonial Revival house, 424 West 10th Street, was built by Neel M. McCullough, president of both the Citizens Bank of Anderson and the Pierce-Govonor Company. The house has a classical style porch on the main facade, along with a cameo window located near the entrance on the first floor and two bay windows on the second floor. The dormer on the main facade once contained a Palladian window. Shed roof dormers project from the hipped slate roof on the east and west facades. The house has been well maintained and is currently in excellent condition.

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|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|---|------|---|
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|---|------|---|
- 12 This American Foursquare, 1014 Morton Street, was built in 1918 by Patrick and Maggie McLaughlin as rental property. The two-story frame house has a hipped roof with a hipped roof dormer with a tripartite window on the main (east) facade. Rafter ends are visible under roof, dormer roof and porch roof. The full front porch has brick piers with concrete caps. Tripartite and paired windows predominate on the first floor; all window sash are 3/1. A belt molding separates the first and second floors. The house is in very good condition and remains unaltered. (This house was identical to 1016 Morton Street, which has been altered.)
- 13 This two-story clapboard house, 429 West 10th Street, is identical to its neighbor at 431 West 10th Street (except for modern alterations). Built in 1912 by Patrick and Maggie McLaughlin, the house appears to have been a rental property. The house is an excellent example of an early 20th century Carpenter Builder house. The house has a gable roof and a full front porch with a shed roof. A shed roof is placed over a tripartite window on the second floor and is supported by knee braces. Knee braces are also located under the eaves. The house has been well maintained over the years.
- 18 On August 16, 1894, the Hope Congregational Church laid the cornerstone of this Romanesque Revival Church located at 231 West 10th Street. Construction was completed in September, 1895. The church was sold in 1913 to the Society of Friends who remained in the building until the mid-1970's. The current occupants, Central Community Chapel, purchased the building in 1976. The church is constructed of red brick with limestone trim. A large square tower is located in the northwest corner of the building. Double arched windows in the tower are surmounted with a larger, single arch; both arches are of limestone. The first floor windows have flat, rock-faced limestone lintels, while the second floor windows have header brick, round arches. A sunburst motif is located in the north gable and over the west entrance. The only apparent alterations are the main entrance steps and the removal of the cornerstone.
- 19 Built in 1895, the Harriet and Thomas N. Stillwell House, 221 West 10th Street, is the only Shingle style house in the district. The two-and-one-half story house has a partial brick first floor and wood shingles. Two hipped roof dormers project from the gambrel roof on the main (north) facade and each contains a leaded glass Palladian window. Centered between the dormers is an eyebrow window. The main entrance of the porch is a wide arch. A large oriel window is located on the east facade and a bay window is located on the west facade. Thomas N. Stillwell was president of the Indiana Brick Company (this may account for the large amount of brick on this Shingle style house), president of Stillwell Real Estate Company, and president of the Alexandria Improvement Company. The 1906-1907 city directory lists his occupation as capitalist.
- 20 Portions of the house located at 203 West 10th Street were built around 1870; however, the house was remodeled between 1890 and 1895 when it was enlarged to its present size. The house is a frame, two-story traditional Queen Anne and

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Colonial Revival. A wrap-around porch with a collonaded arcade faces both 10th and Brown-Delaware Streets. The east and north gables are decorated with fish scale shingles. A stained glass window is located on the first floor of the east elevation, and an eyebrow window is located on the roof of the east elevation. The house was originally owned by Alfred Makepeace, a merchant, and by his son, Captain Alonzo Makepeace. It was during Alonzo and Margaret Makepeace's ownership that the house was enlarged. Alonzo P. Makepeace was part owner of Nichol, Makepeace and Company, a hardware store.

- 21 Dr. Jonas and Mahala B. Stewart built this Free Classic house located at 1015 Brown-Delaware in 1908. Dr. Stewart was vice-president of the Medical Society, and in 1904, when it was reorganized into the Indiana State Medical Association, he became its first president. Along with being a prominent physician, Dr. Stewart was also vice-president of the Anderson Loan Association from 1910 to 1913. The two-story, yellow brick house has a boxed cornice with dentils. The exterior wall in the southwest quadrant bows out and the full front porch follows the wall lines. A balcony with paired Ionic colonettes is on the second floor of the main (east) facade over the porch entrance. The first floor windows have limestone lintels with keystones and the second floor windows have quoins. A large frame carriage house stands behind the residence.
- 24 In 1910, Miron G. Reynolds built this Arts and Crafts period house, 1019 Brown-Delaware, on a lot from which an earlier house was moved. The house was said to have been "in (a) point of architectural design and conveniences considered one of the finest in Anderson." The two-and-one-half story house sits on a raised basement. The multi-gabled house is of red Roman brick on the first floor, and stucco and half timbering on the second floor and attic levels. There is a three-fourths front porch supported by brick piers. Large concrete urns flank the porch entrance. A single urn is located near a bowed bay window on the south facade. Leaded, beveled glass sidelights flank the front entrance, and leaded glass windows are located on the stairwall on the north facade. Miron G. Reynolds was the inventor of a gas regulator and the proprietor and manager of the Reynolds Gas Regulator Company. Reynolds was also president of the Central Heating Company and vice-president of the Indiana Silo Company.
- 30 This Queen Anne house, located at 420 West 11th Street, was built c. 1891. The two-story house has aluminum siding on the first floor, but other architectural features remain intact. The second story has fishscale shingle siding. A curved, leaded-glass bay window lights the second story of the main (south) facade, which is surmounted by a pedimented gable. A two-story bay window is located in the east facade. The center front window (south facade) top sash is of stained glass. Hugh Hill, resident and owner between 1926 and 1943, was this house's most prominent resident. Founder of the Hill Tool Company, he invented and improved several lathe tools. During this time, he invented the Irish Mail, a popular child's vehicle. The Standard Company was established to produce the Irish Mail. A merger of the Hill Tool Company and the Standard Company formed the Hill-Standard Company, a major producer of playground equipment.

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- 31 Built in 1898, this Queen Anne house, 435 West 11th Street, is a good example of a simple interpretation of the style. An Eastlake corner porch is located in the northeast quadrant and has turned posts with a spindled balustrade. An oriel window is located on the first floor of the east facade and is surmounted by a tripartite window on the second floor. The window hood of the main window on the first floor of the north facade has a dentiled cornice. Residents of this house included James O. Van Osdol, a general attorney for the Union Traction Company. Van Osdol was a member and chairman of the first City Plan Commission of Anderson.
- 32 This two-and-one-half story Stick style/Queen Anne house, 415 West 11th Street, has shiplap siding. The gables contain fishscale shingles above a vertically sided frieze. There are simple corner brackets and decorative barge boards. The wrap-around front porch has classical columns and balustrade. Residents of this 1890 house have kncluded Abraham Weslow, a proprietor of the White House, a dry goods store.
- 35 In 1928, William Surbaugh, a real estate and insurance agent, built this two-story, gable roof apartment building, 1106 Lincoln Street. The frame building's most dominant feature is the two-story porch supported by brick piers with wooden railings. Other decorative features include the lunette window in the front (west) gable and raking, boxed cornice. Window sash are 6/1. The windows on the front facade (west) are in a tripartite arrangement, while some windows on the north and south facades are paired.
- 37 The J. J. Netterville house was constructed in 1892 and located at 321 West 11th Street. Built in the Queen Anne style, this two-and-one-half story house has several gables. Two small gables on the main (north) facade contain lunette windows while the larger gable on the main facade has a three part arched window surrounded by Stick work. Gables in the east and west facades also contain three part arched windows. The large wrap-around porch has a pedimented corner entrance; the pediment contains a sunburst motif. A large carriage stepstone remains in the front yard. The house is currently undergoing restoration. J.J. Netterville was the author of Centennial History of Madison County (1925) and was involved in several Anderson businesses including groceries, insurance and real estate, gas and banking. He was county clerk, and a state legislator. In 1895, he was appointed Federal tax collector and served until the law was declared unconstitutional. He was instrumental in the establishment of the penal farm in Indiana.
- 38 This two-story brick Italianate house, 311 West 11th Street, has a truncated hip roof and a stone foundation, wide, overhanging eaves and a bracketed frieze. The entrance has been altered. Built around 1875, this house was owned by Charles T. Doxey, a prominent Anderson resident who built the Doxey Opera House, served in the State Senate, and was a U.S. Congressman. The house was also owned by and a residence for Harrison Canaday, an owner of several farms. Canaday also owned a larger portion of the Anderson Dressed Beef Company and the Anderson Banking Company.

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- 40 Built in 1925 by Edward E. and Josephine Lyst, this one-story bungalow, 301 West 11th Street, is a fine example of the style built in the 1920's and shows the influence of the Prairie Style. The exterior is of stucco with a brick foundation, porch and window sills. The exterior walls are battered and tripartite windows are located on the north and east facades. The front porch extends halfway across the main (north) facade, and half of the porch is an enclosed sunroom. Edward E. Lyst was a partner in the firm of Daniels-Lyst Company, a contracting firm that built several residences and commercial buildings along with paving many roads in Madison County.
- 42 This two-and-one-half story Free Classic house, 219 West 11th Street, has pedimented gable ends with decorative shingles and corner brackets. A bracketed wrap-around porch with fluted Ionic columns is located on the east and north facades. There are several stained glass windows throughout the house. The house was built in 1901 by Charles L. Henry, a U.S. Congressman in 1894 and 1896, and also a large shareholder in the Anderson Street Railway Company. Henry built the house and sold it to his daughter, Edith Lindstrom. The present owner has carefully restored the house with the use of old photographs. The house is in excellent condition.
- 44 The Stephen Markt House, 129 West 11th Street, was built in 1875. The two-story frame Italianate house has clapboard siding and a truncated hipped roof with a bracketed cornice line. A large, wrap-around porch has simple-cut, decorative porch posts and railings. There is a stained glass window on the first floor of the east facade. All windows are surmounted by highly decorated window hoods. Stephen Markt was an early cabinet maker and undertaker in Anderson, and later was director of the Peoples State National Bank. The house is presently owned and occupied by Stephen Markt's grandson and retains its original character both interior and exterior.
- 45 The Langell Apartments, 126 West 12th Street, were built in 1913 by Grace Storer Langell and contain four apartments. The two-story brick building has little decoration with the exception of the two-story classical portico on the main facade. The two-story porch has a wide entablature, dentiled cornice and fluted columns with balustrade. The classical entrance is flanked by sidelights and Ionic pilasters. The transoms above the first and second floor windows on the main (south) facade are of leaded beveled glass. The apartment building, though isolated by parking lots, is in excellent condition.
- 47 Built c. 1903 by Herbert and Martha Berg, this Free Classic house, 322 West 12th Street, is in excellent condition with only minor alterations. The two-and-one-half story house has boxed cornice returns and clapboard siding. Gable ends project from the hipped roof on the south and east facades. A gable dormer is on the west facade and a barrel dormer on the south elevation. A pediment is over the entry-way and a full front porch with fluted columns. The interior retains its original woodwork and chandeliers, including a Tiffany. Residents of this house have included Herbert Berg, a reporter for the Anderson Daily Bulletin, Frances A. Walker, an attorney, and Walter Werking, office manager for the Nicholson File Company.

Destroyed
by fire
1984

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- 48 The Bonser Apartments, 330 West 12th Street, were built in 1927 in the Tudor Revival style. The four-story brick apartments were built by Foster and Company contractors, and contained 36 apartments. There were originally six apartments in the front (12th Street) containing four rooms, and the remaining units consisted of three rooms. Three business rooms faced Lincoln Street. The apartment building is now known as the Lincolnshire Apartments.
- 49 Built c. 1895, this house, 408 West 12th Street, was remodeled c. 1925 to its present form of an American Foursquare. The house has extremely wide, overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends. The front porch has brick piers and stuccoed gable ends. There is also a brick porte cochere with a stuccoed gable end on the east facade. Residents of this house included Harry Hugh, 1902-1926, superintendent and later secretary of the National Tile Company; Jesse H. Mellet, mayor of Anderson during his residence between 1930-1931; and Bernard J. Lavelle, 1935-1937, president of the Lavelle Gray Iron Foundry.
- 51 In 1903, Harry B. and Carrie E. Canaday built this two-story Free Classic house, 321 West 12th Street. Harry Canaday was president of the W. W. Read and Company, wholesale grocers, and later the Read-Canaday Company. Carrie Canaday was secretary of the Read-Canaday Company through 1931-34, and their son, Reed, is listed as treasurer of the company until 1951. The Canaday family resided here from 1903 until 1952. The house has clapboard siding and boxed cornice returns. A pedimented dormer on the north facade contains a sunburst pattern, a pattern that is found on several other structures in the district. An oculus window is located in the gable on the main (north) elevation of the house. The wrap-around front porch has fluted Ionic columns and a square balustrade. The main entrance has classical detailing and is flanked by sidelights. This is one of the largest houses in the area.
- 58 Built in 1918, this two-story gable roof house, 1218 Brown Street, is an excellent example of the Craftsman-inspired houses built during the early part of the 20th century. The house has a full front porch with gable roof. Rafter ends are visible under the eaves. Tripartite windows are located in the west gable and on the first floor's southeast corner. The house has had an exterior wooden staircase added for a second floor apartment. However, this appears to be the only exterior alteration and the house has been well maintained.
- 62 This American Foursquare, located at 300 West 13th Street, was built in 1912. The two-story brick house has a tile hipped roof with projecting dormers. The dormers are stucco with half-timbering and have casement windows with diamond panes. A full front porch has brick piers supporting wooden posts. Beveled glass sidelights flank the front entrance. There are bay windows on the east and west sides, and a tripartite window surrounded by brick corbeling is located in the center of the main (south) facade on the second floor. A separate garage sits behind the house and is built in the same style. The house has been well maintained. From 1912 to 1934, James M. Larmore resided here. Larmore was an insurance agent for Jackson-Burr Company until 1913, when it merged with Farmers Trust Company. Larmore became vice-president and manager of the insurance department.

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- 64 Built in 1900, this one-story frame shop, 1314 Lincoln Street, is the only building of its type in the West Central District. The narrow gable roof structure has a stepped false front and two large windows flanking the entrance. Although the building has been neglected for years, it appears to be in good condition with no apparent alterations. Frank P. Brown, a resident of the neighborhood, operated a grocery business here for well over 20 years.
- 65 Built c. 1983 by Amanda K. Whippo, this two-and-one-half story house, 305 West 13th Street, in the Queen Anne style has a wrap-around porch with turned posts and open frieze work. There is a small balcony over the front porch. The gables on north, east and west elevations contain three-part arched windows. A lunette window is in a smaller gable on the front facade. The dormer windows have stained glass arches. The house is sheathed in clapboard and has an irregular floor plan. There exists a plain boxed cornice with a molded frieze. On the roof is a finial. The main doors are glazed with single panels. The house has recently been renovated and is well maintained.

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By 1890, the area within the boundaries of the proposed West Central Historic District had been completely platted, and development had begun in earnest. Between 1890 and 1930, many of Anderson's leading industrialists, businessmen, professionals, and political figures located here. Among the most prominent of these were Hugh Hill, Miron G. Reynolds, Charles L. Henry, Dale J. Crittenberger, and James J. Netterville.

Hugh Hill, President of Hill-Standard Manufacturing Company, resided at 420 West 11th Street (photo #30) between 1926 and 1943. His company was one of Anderson's earliest gas boom industries. Originally organized in 1889 to manufacture steam power pumps, wagons, and wheels, by 1900 it had achieved an international reputation for the manufacture of children's vehicles. The most famous of these, the Irish Mail (a four-wheel scooter cart), was invented by Hill himself.

Another industrialist closely associated with the gas boom was Miron J. Reynolds, 1019 Brown-Delaware Street (photo #24). In 1890, he invented the first gas regulator and was able to parlay that invention into the Reynolds Gas Regulator Company. Later, he also served as president of the Central Heating Company and as vice-president of the Indiana Silo Company, at one time the largest operation of its kind in the United States.

The house at 219 West 11th Street (photo #42) was built in 1900 by Charles L. Henry, U.S. Congressman (1894-1898) and one of Indiana's pioneers in the field of public transportation. In 1893, Henry first conceived a plan to link Anderson with Indianapolis, Muncie, and Marion by rail. In 1897, this idea was manifested in the Union Traction Company. A few years later this firm consolidated with the Muncie, Anderson, and Indianapolis Street Railroad Company, and became known as the Union Traction Company of Indiana. At its peak, it operated 370 miles of interurban railway, connecting the leading cities of the gas belt with Indianapolis, and an additional 50 miles of city railway in the various cities where the company operated.

One of the area's longest term residents was Dale J. Crittenberger, who lived at 231 West 12th Street (photo #54) from 1903 until 1937. He is best remembered as a newspaperman and publisher, but was deeply involved in politics as well. Between 1889 and 1908, he was owner and editor of the Daily News, the city's Democratic paper. Later, he became a principal stockholder and editor of the Anderson Daily Bulletin. In 1893 he was appointed postmaster of Anderson; and in 1914 he was elected Auditor of the State, serving one term in that office. By the 1920's Crittenberger was one of the State's leading Democrats. In 1924 he aspired to the governorship, but failed.

Another of Anderson's leading citizens, James J. Netterville—businessman, politician, and author—resided at 321 West 11th Street (photo #51). He was the principal organizer of the Netterville Insurance Agency and the Anderson Fuel Company, which owned and operated 25 natural gas wells in Madison County; he also served as president of the Farmers' Trust Company, one of the city's leading banking institutions during the early 20th century. Among the political and public offices Netterville held were County Clerk (1885-1893), Federal tax collector (1895), Chairman of the city's Board of Public Works (1902-1906), State Senator (1910-1914), and City Controller (1935-1938). While serving in the Indiana Legislature, he served as Chairman of the Penal Reform Commission, which was responsible for establishing the first penal farm in the state, and chaired the joint committees on Ways and Means and Finances, as well. In 1925, he compiled and edited a two-volume history of Anderson and Madison County, entitled Centennial History of Madison County.

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Several other prominent political figures resided within the proposed West Central Historic District. These include Judge John McClure, John L. Forkner, Jesse H. Mellet, and William J. Black. Judge McClure was Mayor of Anderson during the early years of the gas boom (1896-1900). He also served as judge of the Circuit Court for several years. On the State level, he was a member of the Republican State Advisory Committee, a railroad commissioner, and one of the first men to be appointed to the newly created Public Service Commission in 1913. Unfortunately, his residence at 1125 Brown-Delaware Street has been demolished along with the 202 West 10th Street home of John L. Forkner, Madison County Auditor (1874-1882), Mayor (1902-1906), and author of two Madison County histories. Still extant, however, are the homes of Jesse H. Mellet, 408 West 12th Street (photo #49), and William J. Black, 504 West 10th Street (photo #11). Both were Mayors of Anderson during the early decades of this century.

Among the locally prominent businessmen of the area were George W. Wright, Bernard Lavelle, and Harry B. Canaday. Wright, who lived at 411 West 11th Street (photo #33), was an incorporator and officer of the Wright-Rich Cut Glass Company, manufacturer of high quality, decorative glassware. Today, Wright-Rich cut glass is nationally recognized by collectors for its quality, distinctive designs, and extraordinary craftsmanship. Bernard Lavelle, of 408 West 12th Street (photo #49), was a founder and later president of the Lavelle Foundry Company. During the 1920's this company was among the largest and most successful in Anderson, with branches in Indianapolis and Argos. Harry B. Canaday, 321 West 12th Street (photo #51), was president of the Reed-Canaday Company, Anderson's major food wholesaler throughout the early 20th century.

Many professional men, particularly bankers, doctors, and lawyers, made their homes in the area, as well. Neel M. McCullough, a leading financier and president of the Citizens Bank, resided at 424 West 10th Street (photo #10) between the years 1912 and 1928. Stephen Markt, of 129 West 11th Street (photo #44), was the director of the Peoples State National Bank; and Harrison Canaday, 311 West 11th Street (photo #38), was director of the Anderson Banking Company, one of the state's leading financial institutions around the turn of the century. The area's most prominent physician was Dr. Jonas Stewart, 1015 Brown-Delaware Street (photo #21), first president of the Indiana State Medical Association, while James A. Van Osdol, general attorney for the Union Traction Company and chairman of Anderson's first Planning Commission, lived at 435 West 11th Street (photo #31).

Two notable contemporaray figures, Norman L. Cook and Fred Mustard Stewart, also lived in the area at one time. Cook, a photographer and inventor of national renown, grew up at 412 West 11th Street (photo #29) and later operated a photographic studio at 504 West 11th Street. His inventions include the ID camera, used throughout the country for placing color photographs on drivers licenses, and the Northlite, used in most illustration studios. In 1973, he was awarded the Professional Photographers of Indiana Citation for service to the profession, and a year later he received the National Award from the Professional Photographers of America for his outstanding contributions to the field. Novelist Fred Mustard Stewart spent much of his youth at 329 West 12th Street (demolished). He has written a number of best-sellers, including The Mephisto Waltz, Ellis Island, and Century. The Mephisto Waltz was later made into a movie and Ellis Island will soon be brought to television as a mini-series.

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Architecturally, the West Central Historic District contains one of the finest collections of upper and middle-class residences in Anderson. Ranging in age from the mid-1870's to the early 20th century, these homes reflect the gamut of architectural styles employed in residential construction for the past century. Among the oldest structures in the neighborhood are the Italianate residences of the 1870's and 1880's, including 212 West 10th Street (photo #3), 129 West 11th Street (photo #44), and 144 West 13th Street (photo #59). More exemplary of the area, and certainly more numerous, are the Carpenter-Builder and Queen Anne styles of architecture, so popular around the turn of the century. The finest examples of the Carpenter-Builder style may be found at 429 West 10th Street (photo #31), 227 West 12th Street (photo #55), and at 229 and 304 West 13th Street photo #'s 63 and 66, respectively). The varieties of the Queen Anne style range from the relatively modest, 301 West 10th Street (photo #16) and 420 West 11th Street (photo #30) to the more elaborate at 203 West 10th Street (photo #20); 219, 337 and 407 West 11th Street (photo #'s 42, 36, and 34, respectively); and 305 West 13th Street (photo #65). All of these feature the irregular massing, elaborate trim, and diverse exterior surface treatments characteristic of the style. Another popular architectural style of the early 20th century, the Colonial Revival, is best represented in the district by 424 West 10th Street (photo #10), and 307 West 12th Street (photo #52). Closely associated with it is the Dutch Colonial Revival style with its distinctive gambrel roof. Notable examples of this style may be found at 218 West 10th Street (photo #4), 307 West 11th Street (photo #39), and 223 West 12th Street (photo #56). Several fine examples of the American Four-Square are located within the district, as well. These range from the plainest, 303 West 12th Street (photo #53) and 226 West 13th Street (photo #61), to the more detailed in 306 West 12th Street (photo #46) and 300 West 13th Street (photo #62). Other styles represented in the area include the Free Classic, 321 West 12th Street (photo #51) and 1015 Brown-Delaware Street (photo #21); the Bungalow, 334 West 10th Street (photo #9), and 301 West 11th Street (photo #40); the Shingle, 221 West 10th Street (photo #19); and the Prairie/Arts and Crafts style at 1019 Brown-Delaware Street (photo #24). The wide variety of styles and the predominantly fine craftsmanship of the residences combine to make this area one of the most visually attractive and interesting in Anderson.

This district also includes a number of early 20th century apartment buildings. Among the oldest of these is the Colonial Flats (photo #15) located at 309 West 10th Street. This Classical Revival structure, built during the first decade of the 20th century, displays a classic dumbbell plan. Its height (2 stories) and scale blend well with the residential structures along the block. Another Classical Revival style apartment, the Langell Apartment (photo #45), located at 126 West 12th Street, was built in 1913. Like the Colonial Flats, its height and scale are gauged to a residential rather than monumental scale. In 1927, two much larger apartment complexes were erected within the boundaries of the district. The Delaware Court Apartments (photo #2), 120 West 10th Street, covers nearly an entire block, but its relatively low height (3½ stories) and Colonial Revival styling harmonize well with the other structures of the neighborhood. The Tudor Revival style Lincolnshire Apartments, originally known as the Bonser Apartments (photo #48) are located at 330 West 12th Street. The building contains 36 units (6 four-room units and 30 three-room units) as well as business/meeting rooms and a roof terrace. From the time they were built until the outbreak of World War II, these apartments generally catered to the upper-middle and middle-class professionals and other white collar workers. Their fine craftsmanship and architectural styling, coupled with their role in the historical development of the community, make these structures an integral part of the district.

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Three churches remain in the district, as well. The Central Community Chapel, originally Hope Congregational Church (photo #18), is located at 231 West 10th Street. Built between 1894 and 1895, it is a fine example of Romanesque Revival design. Trinity Episcopal Church, 1030 Brown-Delaware Street (photo #23) was originally built in 1890. It offers a fine local example of the English Gothic Revival style of architecture. The Central Christian Church (photo #1), built in 1900, is a fine example of Colonial Revival/Spanish Baroque style of architecture.

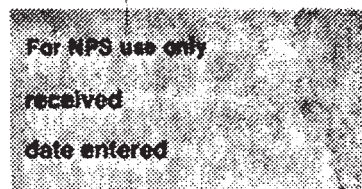
During the 1930's, this neighborhood slowly began to deteriorate. Much of the original population either moved to more affluent areas or passed away. Between 1940 and 1970 many of the area's larger houses were divided into apartments. It was also during this period that several structures were demolished and replaced by parking lots. Most buildings that were considered intrusions to the historical nature of the area were constructed during this period, as well.

The deterioration of this neighborhood has largely been halted over the past decade, and renovation efforts are well under way to improve the area. A significant amount of restoration work has already been accomplished, and with the help of the tax incentives available to historic properties under the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, this activity is expected to expand in the future.

¹ Since this application was first prepared, the Langell Apartment building has been destroyed by fire. The boundaries of the district have been redrawn to omit the site.

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Beginning at the intersection of the Jackson Street west curblin and the south right-of-way of the first east-west alley south of West Ninth Street; thence proceeding south to the north curblin of West Tenth Street; thence west to the first north-south alley; thence south along the west right-of-way of the alleyway to West 11th Street; thence continuing south along the eastern property line of the house located at 129 West 11th Street; thence west along the south property line of the house at 129 West 11th Street to the west curblin of Brown-Delaware; thence south along Brown-Delaware to the north curblin of West 13th Street; thence west along 13th Street to the west curblin of Brown Street; thence south along Brown Street to the cul-de-sac; thence west along the northern right-of-way of an east-west alley to its intersection with Lincoln Street; thence north along the east curblin of Lincoln Street to West 12th Street; thence west along the north curblin of West 12th Street to the first north-south alley; thence north along the eastern right-of-way of said north-south alley to 11th Street; thence east along the south curblin of West 11th Street to Morton Street; thence north along the east curblin of Morton Street to the first east-west alley; thence west along the northern right-of-way of said alley to the eastern right-of-way of a dedicated but unimproved alleyway that runs north and south between Morton and John Streets immediately west of 509 West 10th Street; thence north along said alley to the north curblin of West 10th Street; thence west along West 10th Street to the eastern right-of-way of the ConRail Tracks; thence north along the ConRail Tracks to the first east-west alley; thence east along the southern right-of-way of said alley to the place of beginning. Containing approximately 30 acres, more or less.

The boundaries of the West Central Historic District can be justified by reference to the general history of the area, the adjacent historic district, and the character of the surrounding built environment.

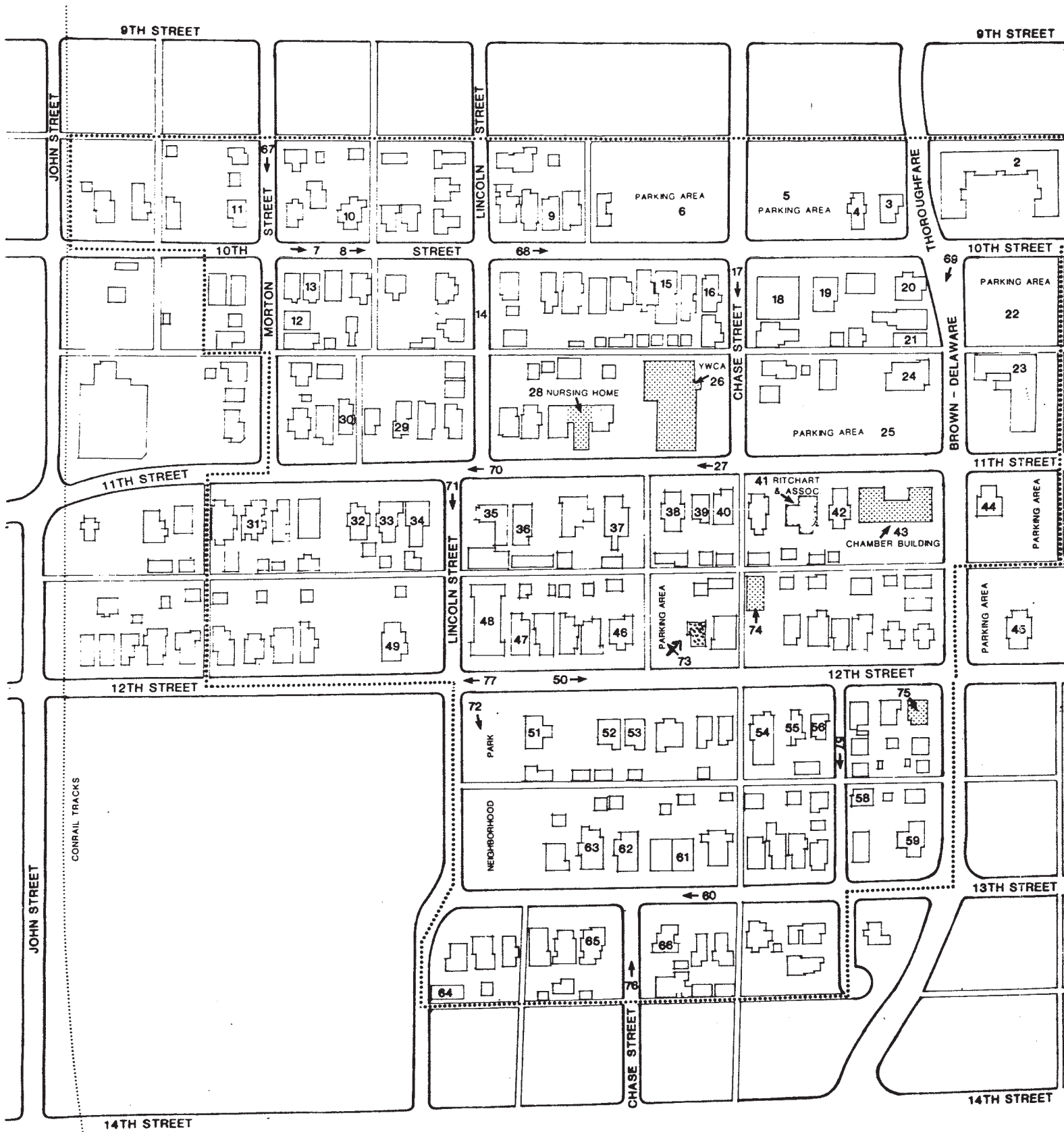
The beginning of the eastern boundary is the same as the eastern boundary of the adjacent West Eighth Street Historic Area to the north. The eastern boundary separates the Central Business District from the immediate downtown residential area. Also, the eastern boundary is a major thoroughfare traveling north (Jackson Street) and the major thoroughfare traveling south (Brown-Delaware) around the Central Business District.

The southern boundary is the dividing line between the relatively well-maintained residential area and an area which is interspersed with shabby business establishments. The area beyond 13th Street south of the alley is a major thoroughfare for truck traffic. Along 13th Street many of the homes have recently been renovated and are helping to preserve this area.

The western boundary is somewhat irregular as it flows along Lincoln Street to an alley towards the north. The western boundary excludes Anderson High School which, since its remodeling, has little historical or architectural significance. The west boundary then proceeds north, running between an area which is well-maintained and an area which is run-down. The boundary then proceeds along 10th Street to the ConRail Tracks, which is a natural boundary line.

WEST CENTRAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

REVISED 9/14/1984



District Boundary

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WEST CENTRAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

REVISED 9/14/1984



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