

Final

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Plymouth Downtown Historic District
other names/site number _____ 099-516-21001-069

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Center, Washington, Water Streets and Yellow River N/A not for publication
city or town Plymouth N/A vicinity
state Indiana code IN county Marshall code 099 zip code 46563

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] _____ 10/6/98 _____
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
47	3	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
48	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Business

COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional

COMMERCE/TRADE: Financial Institution

COMMERCE/TRADE: Department Store

COMMERCE/TRADE: Restaurant

COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty Store

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Business

COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional

COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty Store

COMMERCE/TRADE: Department Store

COMMERCE/TRADE: Restaurant

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

RECREATION/CULTURE: Theater

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Classical Revival

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

STONE: Limestone

roof ASPHALT

other METAL: Cast Iron

METAL: Tin

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions of property significance.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A-G with checkboxes and descriptions of property characteristics.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1870-1940

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Ness, Jacob, Builder

O'Keefe, Alves, Architect

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Documentation checkboxes: preliminary determination, previously listed, determined eligible, designated landmark, recorded by survey.

Primary location of additional data:

- Location checkboxes: State Historic Preservation Office, Other State agency, Federal agency, Local government, University, Other.

Name of repository:

Marshall County Museum

Plymouth Downtown Historic District
Name of Property

Marshall IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 15 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6
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5	5	7	9	2	0
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4	5	7	6	7	8	0
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3

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5	5	7	6	8	0
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4	5	7	6	4	7	0
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2

1	6
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5	5	7	8	2	0
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4	5	7	6	4	2	0
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4

1	6
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5	5	7	6	5	0
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4	5	7	6	7	3	0
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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kurt West Garner, Plymouth National Register Committee

organization Marshall County Historical Society date 3-31-98

street & number 123 N. Michigan St. telephone 219/936-2306

city or town Plymouth state IN zip code 46563

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name

street & number telephone

city or town state zip code

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Plymouth Downtown Historic District
Marshall County, Indiana

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7. DESCRIPTION

Narrative Description

Summary

The Plymouth Downtown Commercial Historic District comprises of approximately four blocks of the original plat of Plymouth, laid out in 1834. The town is situated on the high north and west banks of the Yellow River, and along the north-south alignment of the Michigan Road. The district comprises of generally continuous facade lines of masonry constructed commercial structures built from about 1870 to 1960. With few exceptions, the buildings retain a high level of integrity to their original appearance.

Description

The district's relationship with the surrounding town is distinct, but continuous in its historical relationship as part of the original plat. Within a block to the north and south of the downtown district, along the Michigan Road, are distinct residential historic districts with large numbers of contributing and notable structures. Within about a three block radius of the downtown district are a number of other notable structures located in primarily residential settings. The cross street at the southern end of the district is the LaPorte Trail (now street), which is basically terminated on one end by the Pennsylvania Railroad Depot (O), and on the east end by the East LaPorte Street Foot Bridge (National Register) which crosses the Yellow River. The center crossing street is Garro Street, terminated on the east end (across the river) by Lincoln High School (N), with landscaping by noted landscape architect, Jens Jensen. The north crossing street, Washington Street, was once terminated on the east by a large flouring mill (extant) and led to the Washington School (extant) to the west. A number of other outstanding and notable structures lie within a two block area to the north and west of the district, including five churches and the Marshall County Courthouse (National Register).

The Yellow River creates another character defining attribute to the city. As it flows south, it bends toward the west from the north; forming the east and south boundaries of the original plat. As the river bends, its high bank moves from one side to the other and allows for a series of parks to be located in the lower bank flood plains. These parks include the historic Magnetic Park, ca. 1875, with its flowing well and magnetic quality associated with its water. It is also the location for the Conservation Clubhouse (N) built as a WPA project in 1937. Further up river is Centennial Park (N), constructed in 1916 in celebration of the State of Indiana's centennial. An amphitheater was later constructed in 1936 in this park for the city and county's centennial; however, it no longer exists.

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The Michigan Road, forming the center axis through the downtown, bends slightly northwesterly once it crosses the river and continues that course through the downtown. The Michigan Road right of way is 100 feet, and all buildings are built to that line as it passes through the district. Wide sidewalks and angled parking are provided for off the wide two lane Michigan Street. As the principal commercial corridor, about 90% of the buildings on Michigan Street are two story structures, about thirty to forty feet in height. The facade line is continuous with no gaps occurring in the blocks lining the road within the district. The other north-south roads forming the east and west boundaries have sixty-six foot right of ways. Water Street, on the east, has a continuous facade line as it passes through the district with sidewalks and angled parking. It is principally comprised of one story, twentieth century functional structures and is primarily commercial in nature. Center Street, on the west, has a loosely adhered to facade line because of its more civic nature. Churches, the post office, library, firestation, and county government buildings line this corridor as it passes through the district and continues northward, with sidewalks and parallel parking. The east-west crossing streets also have sixty-six foot rights of way with sidewalks and parallel parking. The facade lines are generally adhered to by the commercial structures that line them.

North-south alleys divide the blocks contained in the district, except those bounded by the river on their south sides. As the river passes through the district, becoming the southern boundary, its character is defined by a few mature trees along the riverbanks and a field stone retaining wall constructed about 1890 along the north bank, west of the Michigan Street bridge. Although a steel truss bridge once crossed the river, the existing bridge is non-historic. The Michigan Road (now street) is also known as Indiana State Highway 17 as it passes through the district. Highway 17 then turns on West LaPorte Street in the district, then turns south on South Center Street, as it leaves the district. Traffic is usually high on Michigan Street, especially in peak hours. The other district streets see a more moderate amount of traffic during peak hours.

With the period of significance ranging from 1870 to 1940, the building styles are principally Italianate and Neoclassical, with some other traditional midwestern styles of the period. All other resources listed as non-contributing date from about the 1950's. Fires played an important role in the development of the downtown. Construction of frame buildings downtown was outlawed in the early 1870's. The southern most blocks were developed originally, where most of the Italianate styling occurs. Fires claimed the original frame structures on West LaPorte Street, the existing buildings being constructed about 1874. As the secondary commercial artery, LaPorte Street once had ca. 1870's Italianate buildings line its southern edge between Michigan and Center Streets. Included in this block was the notable 1876 Hoham Centennial Opera House, now extant. Only two buildings remain on the south side of West LaPorte Street: the old Bank Block and part of the Hoham Block. The 100 blocks of North Michigan Street appear mostly as they did during the period of significance. A few interspersed frame buildings burned or were taken down and masonry buildings were constructed, all prior to 1910. The back sides of these

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blocks had residential and functional frame buildings lining Center and Water Streets. Although a few examples lie just outside the district, only one contributing frame structure, a residence, remains within the district at 108 North Center Street. Along with possibly being the oldest structure, it also has the only "historic" vegetation in the district in the form of a few mature deciduous trees located on its narrow lot. Another frame structure, formerly a Brethren church, is located behind 118 East Garro, but has been significantly altered. The masonry structures replacing the frame buildings were constructed from about 1910 through 1960, are stylistically functional in nature and retain much of their original appearance except for a few resources on West Garro Street.

Just after the turn of the century, the northern (200) blocks were more completely developed and are where the neoclassical styling principally occurs. Here the interspersed frame buildings were taken down and replaced with masonry structures, the last one being constructed in 1929. The Michigan Street corridor appears mostly as it did after the completion of the 1929 structure. The back half of the west block contains the old Plymouth Firestation, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the current 1935 Plymouth Post Office. The east half of the east block is not included in the district because its integrity is lacking due to some vacant lots and the altered condition of the structures currently located there.

Originally there were a series of lower level storefronts, now covered by sidewalks, and a series of underground tunnels connecting some of the buildings. As with most historic commercial structures, the second story facades are generally intact with a smaller number of storefronts retaining their historic appearance. Only a small number of first floor interiors have been preserved or restored; however most of the second floor spaces remain intact. Some downtown revitalization efforts beginning in the mid 1980's have resulted in restoration style lighting, street trees and benches, and brick planters and partial brick sidewalks along Michigan, LaPorte, and Garro Streets. This project also included some minor facade improvements, mostly painting in nature. Another more extensive restoration project was completed in 1997, with six major facade restorations, primarily along Michigan Street. These restorations were completed in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for restoring historic properties. The function or uses of the structures remain primarily commercial in nature, but retain approximately the same mix of uses as what once historically existed, resulting in an exceptionally thriving economy compared to most rural midwestern downtowns.

Two locally noteworthy architects participated in giving Plymouth its built appearance. Alves O'Keefe, architect, and his father, Arthur O'Keefe, builder, are most recognized for their work in the city of Plymouth which includes notable church buildings and schools. Although their work was extensive, only one structure in the commercial historic district owes its design to Alves O'Keefe, the Art Deco styled Rees Theater at 100 North Michigan Street. Alves practiced in Plymouth from the 1930's through the early 1960's. The other architect-builder, Jacob Ness, is not as well known, but is responsible for eleven known structures (roughly one quarter of the buildings) lining the Michigan Road. Jacob Ness

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studied architecture and building trades in Chicago during the early 1890's, locating in Plymouth in 1892 and advertising himself primarily as a builder. Mr. Ness is responsible for the high number of Neoclassical styled limestone buildings lining Michigan Street. These buildings show an acute attention to the classical order with, in some examples, a distinctive commercial adaptation. With no local limestone quarries, these buildings are extraordinary to this part of the midwest as the expense of construction shows a wealthy period of time during this small rural city's history. It is likely Jacob Ness was influenced by the early rise of neoclassicism which later came to dominate Chicago architecture during the World's Fair and Columbian Exposition. Mr. Ness was also responsible for other outstanding structures outside the district including the Pennsylvania Depot and St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Jacob Ness practiced from the mid-1890's through 1930.

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7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

LIST OF CONTRIBUTING AND NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES (Contributing = C, N, O; Non-contributing = NC)

Beginning east side and facing Michigan Street

1. 310 North Michigan (C) c. 1900 Photo No. 1- left
Boston Store. Jacob Ness, builder
Italianate - Single story brick building with metal cornice, existing storefront is mostly aluminum and glass with a shingled canopy just above the windows.
2. 308 North Michigan (C) c. 1900 Photo No. 1- right
Italianate - Two story brick corner building. Original two-bay storefront now remodeled to single bay with corner entry and is mostly aluminum and glass. A shingled canopy extends across the facade just above the storefront. Second story with half-round arch 4/4 wood windows on both street sides. Metal cornice on main street side.
3. 218-224 North Michigan (N) 1907 Photo No. 2
Disher - Shakes - Williams Building. Jacob Ness, builder
Neoclassical - Two story corner brick building with limestone facade on main street side and divided into three storefront bays. The northern most bay has been restored to its original appearance in 1997, with recessed side entry at south end and single large display window with ribbed glass transoms above. The original ceramic mosaic tile floor, wood door, and beadboard in the entry all still exist. The interior tin ceiling and wood floor were also restored. The middle bay has aggregate composite paneling and aluminum windows and door. The southern most bay has non-historic wood paneling with aluminum and glass storefront. Stairwells occur in their original locations between the north and middle bay and at the southern end of the building.

Rusticated limestone pilasters on smooth face bases divide the three bays and are topped by simple smooth face capitals and smooth face stringcourse entablature, directly over bay openings. The pilasters continue through the second floor but become smooth faced. Second story facade is banded with smooth face limestone with deep reveals between the bands. The entablature begins with a rusticated architrave and is topped by a small cornice supported by modillions and is continuous across the facade. A rusticated parapet wall rises above the cornice and is broken by the continuous pilasters and name blocks in the center of each bay. Each bay consists of three 1/1 wood windows with a smooth face continuous lintel.

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4. 214 North Michigan (O) 1929 Photo No. 3
Montgomery Ward Building. Montgomery Ward & Company, designer; Jacob Ness, builder; Mr. and Mrs. P. Mango of Illinois, patrons.
Beaux Arts with hints of Art Deco influence - Three story brick building with glazed terra cotta facade. This building was previously listed as non-contributing in the architectural survey due to the aluminum facing which once covered the facade. During the 1997 restoration program the terra cotta facade was restored based on the original construction drawings. The facade is principally constructed of white glazed terra cotta tiles including all coping and cornice blocks. The original two entry storefront on black-gold terra cotta base no longer exists. The storefront now has a central entry with aluminum and glass display areas on a concrete base. An aluminum canopy took the place of the fabric awning. Just above and stretching the entire length of the storefront are a band of tall operable wood transom windows with ribbed glass. The storefront is flanked by terra cotta pilasters set on black-gold base tiles.
- The pilasters continue vertically on the entire facade, but have a recessed face above a tile stringcourse with cornice detail. Two more like-styled pilasters divide the upper facade into three equal bays, each with one large wood window composed of a large fixed middle window with divided operable transoms above and flanked by 1/1 windows with a fixed quarter-round transom above, creating the typical deco window styling of the 1920's and 1930's. The windows set on the tile stringcourse detail which sets above a recessed tile panel. Over each window in each bay is a framed panel of green glazed tiles set at forty-five degree angles and flanked by unglazed slag square rosettes. In the center bay the panel is substituted by a framed low-relief in light green terra cotta of the "Spirit of Progress", an early Montgomery Ward trademark found on their corporate building in statuary form in Chicago, Illinois. A flat faced coping tile band extends across the facade, broken only by the pilasters and following the projecting curves of the "Spirit of Progress" and the round slag rosettes in each flanking bay. The pilasters are topped by low chamfered caps and slag colored swag. The caps are bases for short white glazed tile obelisks. The plan of the building is virtually unaltered, including a grand central staircase. The mezzanine and second floor levels are basically intact.
5. 210-212 North Michigan Street (N) c. 1910 Photo No. 4
Metsker Block. Jacob Ness, builder; Clay Metsker, patron
Neoclassical - Two story brick two bay building with limestone facade and slightly off-center stair entry. The north bay storefront is covered in a metal paneling, the south bay has been greatly altered and consists of a brick veneer and aluminum and glass storefront construction. The recessed stairwell is located in its original location and has the ceramic mosaic tile floor.

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Above the storefronts is a continuous stringcourse entablature with dentil molding and cornice detail. This forms the window sills for six rectangular windows with flat arches and projecting keystones. The windows themselves are aluminum replacement products. The window openings are set into a recessed panel together, with pilasters flanking each side. Above the panel rests the entablature with modillion supported cornice and limestone balustrade. The balustrade is broken by the flanking pilasters and the center name block with pediment and flanking decorative scrolls and finial above.

6. 206 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1910
Reeve Block. James Reeve, patron
Twentieth Century Functional - Two story brick building with single storefront bay and recessed stairwell entry at south end. The storefront has new brick veneer and aluminum and glass construction. The second floor has three rectangular windows with limestone sills and plain face limestone lintels; the windows are 1/1 replacement products. The second story facade is flanked by brick pilasters supported with corbeled console. Like pilasters project just above the windows to break the parapet into three sections, each section containing a recessed brick panel. The parapet is crowned by limestone coping angled upward toward a center half-round top name block, flanked by the middle brick pilasters.
7. 204 North Michigan Street (N) 1910 Photo No. 5
Rentschler Building. Jacob Ness, builder; Jacob Rentschler, patron
Neoclassical - Two story brick single bay building with limestone facade. The storefront is historic in plan, but has aluminum and glass display set on a low brick base. The recessed entry and stairwell have the original ceramic mosaic tile floors and some historic beadboard paneling. The storefront is flanked by limestone pilasters with simple bases and capitals that carry a stringcourse entablature. The pilasters continue above the stringcourse cornice. The second story has three 1/1 wood windows, all historic, set on a continuous plain face sill and crowned with flat arches with massive projecting scroll-style keystones. The facade is banded by limestone blocks with deep reveals. The entablature begins with a plain face architrave with modillion supported cornice and topped by a limestone balustrade. The balustrade is interrupted by capital blocks over the pilasters with shell finials, and by a large center name block with pediment.
8. 202 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1885
Nineteenth Century Functional - Single story brick, single bay building. Storefront is non-historic aluminum and glass. Brick pilasters flank the storefront and continue vertically to the parapet wall.

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9. 200 North Michigan Street (C) 1884 Photo No. 6
Early Plymouth Post Office

Italianate - Two story brick corner building. A single storefront bay-originally with corner entry-faces Michigan Street; a storefront once faced Garro Street at the far east end of the building, but has since been bricked in. A partial opening with limestone arch exists in the original stairwell doorway on far east end, with original stairwell intact behind. The Michigan Street storefront is non-historic aluminum and glass, but retains an original stairwell entry at the north end. The storefront was remodeled once before in the 1920's, at which time the entry location was changed and the transom windows bricked in (behind existing canvas awning).

A series of circular windows occur high on the first floor Garro Street facade. In a band above these windows and below the second floor windows are decorative unglazed ceramic panels with a repeating circle motif. The second floor has high rectangular window openings with aluminum replacement windows. Decorative limestone hoods and framed panel sills support the openings. A highly ornate metal cornice wraps around the entire street facades of the building. The cornice is decorated with occasional long scroll brackets and regularly spaced modillions. The cornice fascia is interrupted by occasional lion head medallions. The building date is located within the frieze board location on the corner face of the building, angled toward the intersection.

10. 124 North Michigan Street (O) 1879 - 1916 Photo No. 7
First National Bank - Plymouth City Hall.

W. S. Matthews, architect; Marcus A. O. Packard, patron - 1879
Jacob Ness, builder; First National Bank, patron - 1916

Neoclassical - Originally constructed as part of the larger *Italianate* Packard Bank Block in 1879, this two story brick corner building had a new limestone facade constructed in 1916 on the Michigan Street facade and covered two of the three bays of the Packard building. The new facade is set on a low gray granite base and is composed of smooth face limestone block. Pilasters flank the facade and fluted Doric engaged columns with entasis frame the central entry. The pilasters and columns continue vertically on the facade and support a deep entablature and pediment. A deep frieze is located just below the pediment and contains triglyphs in equal pattern across the face of the building. Above the pediment, and continuous across the facade, rises a smooth faced naos-like structure with simple cornice and antefixes crowning its flat top roof. Original rectangular wood casement windows with no middle jamb are located between the pilasters and columns on the first floor. Transom windows are above each casement and have the neoclassical stylistic star pattern. The center entry has an aluminum door set into a decorative limestone framed opening. Above the entry and detached from the actual door opening is another set of "star" transoms. The casement windows are

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repeated in pattern on the second floor, with an identical window taking the place of the door in the central division.

The Garro Street facade was not greatly altered in 1916. The first floor windows match the casements of the front facade. However, the second floor windows are the original 1879 Italianate style, half round arch with projecting limestone hoods. The cornice and eaves of the building is supported by occasional long scroll brackets and regularly spaced short brackets. Another storefront was located at the east end of the Garro Street facade, but has since been bricked in.

The interior of the building's first floor has an open office plan, as it did originally; but few of the original interior finishes are intact. The second floor plan and most of its finishes are original to the 1879 structure.

11. 120 North Michigan Street (N) 1879 Photo No. 8
Packard Bank Block. W. S. Matthews, architect; Marcus A. O. Packard, patron Italianate - Two story brick building with cast iron facade. Originally a three bay corner building, the middle and northern bay were covered by a new facade in 1916 (see number 10). The remaining building has a highly ornamented cast iron facade and single storefront bay and stairwell entrance at the north side. The storefront bay has a wide arch spanning the entire width of the opening. Within that arch was originally located a double arch on colonettes, but these are no longer intact. Currently non-historic beadboard paneling and aluminum style storefront glass compose the store bay. The Packard name block is above the full-round arch transom over the stair entry, but is currently covered.

The second floor facade has short engaged Corinthian columns between the four half-round arch windows. The columns rest on a projecting continuous sill, which also forms the sill beneath the windows. The windows themselves are non-historic aluminum products. Above the windows is a continuous frieze with ornate triglyphi, above which is a tall cornice supported by scroll brackets. Originally the building parapet was lined by decorative metal finials. This is the only fully cast iron facade in the district.

12. 118 North Michigan Street (N) 1895 Photo No. 9
Simons Building. Mr. Simons, for his daughter Celestia, patron Romanesque Revival - Three story, brown brick single bay building. The storefront is mostly intact, although partially covered, with recessed entry at south end and large single window bay. The original ceramic mosaic tile entry floor is intact. Brick pilasters with limestone capitals and bases frame the storefront, but are partly covered with wood paneling. The pilaster capitals support a limestone stringcourse entablature

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with cornice and dentil detail that is continuous above the store bay. The brick pilasters begin again above the cornice, set on limestone block bases and crowned with simple limestone capitals at the top of the third floor. The second floor has a projecting three sided bay window with stamped copper sheathing and roof. Engaged Corinthian colonnettes are set into the bay corners and separate the three 1/1 wood windows with wood transoms. Short scroll brackets support the low-pitched bay roof. The third floor has four long narrow full-round arch windows separated by limestone Corinthian colonnettes. The window openings have a continuous limestone sill and individual arches with limestone voussoirs with projecting keystones. The windows themselves are 1/1 wood windows with full-round transoms. Resting on the brick pilaster capitals and immediately above the third floor window arches is a brick frieze with center terra cotta name block and flanking terra cotta panels with swag motif. Above the frieze is a metal cornice supported by scroll brackets surface mounted to a brick parapet rising approximately another four feet.

13. 116 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1885
Italianate - This is a two story brick single bay building. The storefront bay is aluminum and glass with some non-historic wood paneling just above the bay opening. A stairwell entry is located on the north side of the bay. The second story facade has three half-round arch windows with decorative metal hoods and limestone sills. The windows are historic 2/2 wood windows. Located above each window in the parapet is a recessed brick panel. Crowning the parapet is a metal cornice with a series of long and short scroll brackets.
14. 114 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1884
Italianate - also a two story brick, single bay building. The existing storefront was remodeled with the adjacent storefront to the south and has since been occupied by a single enterprise. The storefront is constructed of composite panels and aluminum and glass display windows. The second story facade has four half-round arch windows with simple limestone sills and hoods. The windows themselves are non-historic. Above each window is a recessed brick panel, carrying the design of the adjacent building to the north. Crowning the parapet is a metal cornice with small scroll brackets.
15. 110-112 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1884 (110); c. 1900 (112)
Nineteenth Century Functional - Two story, two bay, brick building with applied rough face block concrete veneer. The south bay was actually built as part of the adjacent building to the south, sharing a stairwell and once having the same styling as its neighbor to the south. The applied rough face veneer was probably added when the c. 1900 building was added to the north. The south bay retains its original angled recessed central entry with display windows on each side. However the wood paneling

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and aluminum display windows are not historic. The north bay was remodeled with the adjacent storefront to the north with composite panels and aluminum and glass storefront display. The second story facade has three low arching windows with limestone sills. The windows themselves are non-historic 1/1 wood products. The parapet is capped by a simple metal cornice with short brackets, continuous across the entire facade.

16. 108 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1884 Photo No. 10
Italianate - Two story single bay brick building. This building was probably built as the middle bay of a single building with the bay to the north being altered about 1900 and the bay to the south retaining much of the same styling as this building. The storefront bay was restored under the 1997 program using available documentation. The bay has a central recessed entry and narrow display windows on each side and is constructed of tongue and groove paneling and insulated glass set in wood stops. The entry is framed with wood box columns continuing through the four transom windows above the bay opening. The stairwell entry is located at the north end of the facade and is shared by the adjacent building to the north. The entry retains its original door and framing, and transom opening above. The second story facade has three 1/1 half-round arch windows with decorative limestone hoods and plain face sills. The windows are replacement wood sashes in the original wood jambs. The window directly over the stairwell entry is shared by both buildings but has the styling of this building's other window openings. The parapet has a corbeled brick cornice with corbeled brick brackets below.
17. 106 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1884
Italianate - Two story brick building with single storefront bay and stairwell entry at south end. Storefront is non-historic wood paneling and aluminum and glass display. The second story facade has three 1/1 half round arch windows with decorative limestone hoods and plain face sills. The windows are aluminum replacement products. The parapet has a corbeled brick cornice with corbeled brick brackets.
18. 104 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1865 Photo No. 11
Wheeler Block. Amzi Wheeler, patron
Nineteenth Century Functional - Originally a three and one half story brick corner building with three storefront bays divided by two stairwell entries. This building was extensively altered during the construction of the Rees Theater in the south two bays. The top one and one-half stories were removed and the two south bays gutted for the auditorium. The north bay was restored under the 1997 program using available documentation and intact historic evidence which had been previously covered by metal paneling. Uncovered during restoration were two fluted cast metal pilasters framing the storefront, a deep rusticated limestone lintel continuous across the facade, and stairwell

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entry transom and trim. A wood storefront was constructed to match the original with central recessed entry and single display windows on each side set on recessed wood panel bases. Ribbed glass transom windows were installed across the bay opening, just below the limestone lintel. A pair of wood doors was constructed to fit into the stairwell entry and match the original appearance. The original ceramic mosaic tile floor also exists in the stairwell entry.

The second story facade has three half-round arch windows with rusticated limestone hoods and sills. The windows are 4/1 wood replacement sashes that match the original appearance. The evidence of a third floor exists in the appearance of bricked in window openings that now form part of the parapet. Circular window openings with limestone surrounds and a wide projecting cornice once rose above the third floor. Currently tile coping caps the parapet.

19. 100 North Michigan Street (N) 1939 Photo No. 12

Rees Theater.

Alves O'Keefe, architect; Badgley Construction, builders; Stewart Rees, patron
Art Deco - This building was reconstructed from the south two bays of the three story brick corner building known as the Wheeler Block and later the VanVactor Building. The two bays of the building were gutted and the top story removed so that only the brick shell of the original building remained, as can be seen on the south (LaPorte Street) side of the current building. The upper portion of the facade was covered in an unglazed cream color ceramic tile. The lower portion was reconstructed to have two recessed entries on each side of a ticket booth, and was covered in porcelain enamel steel panels. This building was restored during the 1997 restoration program from the original blueprints. During restoration, the board and batten siding was removed where the porcelain panels were once located. Unglazed and glazed ceramic tiles were installed in a pattern to match the color and design of the original porcelain panels. A stucco product was used where tile could not be installed in a band just above the new tile and below the old tile, again in a pattern to match the color and design of the original porcelain panels. The original ticket booth glass and wood half circle doors are intact and were restored.

The upper portion of the facade is laid out in a symmetrical design, stepping upward and outward slightly toward the center. Each side has wide vertical burgundy porcelain bands that stretch up and curve over the coping tile on the parapet wall. Inside those bands, where the building steps out and up, are narrow vertical burgundy porcelain bands that terminate at the coping. Inside that are single industrial steel sash windows with operable casements in a multi-pane configuration with transoms. The middle plane steps out and up again and has four vertical burgundy porcelain "ribs" that curve up and over the parapet wall. Between these ribs are industrial sash multi-pane casement windows with transoms. All of the windows located on the facade have flat

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lintels, curved concrete sills and are openings for the third floor penthouse apartment. A burgundy tile coping follows the upward direction of the parapet wall. The theater marquee is triangular in plan with a three line attraction board on each side and is mostly porcelain enamel steel panels. The marquee is internally lit and externally lit with tracer bulbs and neon tube lighting. The Rees name appears on each side of the marquee in cut-out letters above the attraction board.

The lobby, mezzanine level, and penthouse with connecting curved concrete staircases are all still intact. The theater auditorium's art deco motifs have been covered over by a sound absorption fabric installed in the 1970's.

20. North bank of the Yellow River (C) c. 1890
Retaining Wall - object - built of split field stone with partial brick cap, follows the river approximately 100 ft.

West side of Michigan Street, facing east

21. 100-104 South Michigan Street (C) c. 1880 Photo No. 13

Bank Block (Marshall County Trust and Savings Building)

Italianate - Two story brick corner building with corner entry storefront and single storefront on each intersecting street. This building had been altered several times over its early history, until the last time in 1908 when the neoclassical facade (probably designed by Jacob Ness) was added to the first floor storefronts. During the 1997 restoration program the building was restored to its 1908 appearance based on photographic documentation and evidence uncovered during the project. No storefront material was intact except for the soft stone facade. The Michigan Street storefront at the far south end of the building was reconstructed as it appeared when the building was first constructed. It has an angled recessed entry with transom on the north side and single display bay with transom to the south. The opening is framed by an historic large metal cornice. The other two storefronts had the soft stone neoclassical facade added in 1908 and is characterized by pairs of Doric columns set on bases flanking the angled corner entry and the stairwell entry on LaPorte Street. Engaged Doric columns on bases frame the soft stone addition, which wraps around the corner to the end of the LaPorte Street facade. The corner storefront has rectangular windows set into the soft stone facade. The LaPorte Street storefront has a deep middle recessed entry angled toward the center. This had an early style revolving door during its time as a bank, the only such styled door used in the city. A stamped metal soffitt and terrazzo floor with "Peoples Drugs" stamped in a blue and cream pattern was uncovered in the entry. The storefront reconstruction and interior tin ceiling restoration was based on that evidence. On each side of the entry are single display bays with transoms and beadboard paneling below. The neoclassical facade is capped by an entablature with "TRUST CO. BANK - MARSHALL COUNTY TRUST AND SAVINGS BUILDING" carved into the

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frieze. The cornice continues with the pediments over the corner and stairwell entries and blocks with engraved shell motifs set on the engaged columns framing the facade.

The second story facade has nineteen previously bricked in tall half round arch windows wrapping around the facade. The brick hoods and limestone sills are original, but the wood 1/1 windows were installed during restoration to match the original appearance. The high parapet has a corbeled brick cornice with long brick brackets. The river (south) side of the building once had similar windows and several larger utilitarian openings, the few which remain are mostly bricked in. Storefronts were also located below the sidewalk on the Michigan Street facade at one time but were covered over some time ago. The second floor remains entirely intact.

22. 101 - 103 North Michigan Street & 110 West LaPorte Street (C) 1895

Seen in Photo No. 34 at left side

Corbin Block - Richard Block. Horace Corbin, patron
Neoclassical - Two story red brick corner building, originally with two bay storefront facing Michigan Street and two bay storefront facing LaPorte Street at far west end. The Michigan Street bays had a central recessed entry with a free standing square glass kiosk display. The LaPorte Street storefronts are mostly intact with adjacent recessed entries with transoms and large display bays to each side with transoms overhead and brick bases below. In the center of the LaPorte Street facade are adjacent stairwell entries with transoms, probably in a non-historic configuration. The existing Michigan Street storefront is non-historic and is constructed of aluminum and glass set on a brick base. An original stairwell entry exists at the far north end of the Michigan Street facade.

A plain face limestone stringcourse generally divides the first and second story facades. The second story has a composition of three sided projecting window bays with brick framed, rectangular multi-window compositions between. The windows are 1/1 aluminum replacements with the exception of the wood transom windows with diamond pattern leaded glass in the window bays. Above each window grouping is a decorative angled brick panel, except where name blocks exist. A square turret projects out over the stair entry on Michigan Street, however the pyramidal roof no longer exists. Another rounded turret once projected from the street corner of the building with a conical roof and gave the building its nickname the "beehive building". This no longer exists. A metal cornice with scroll brackets wraps around the street facades and has a high brick parapet with some decorative brick work rising above.

23. 105-107 North Michigan Street (C) 1895

Kuhn Building. J. C. and Fred Kuhn, patrons

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Queen Anne - Two story red brick two bay building. First floor facade has central stairwell entry and storefronts on each side. Except in plan, storefronts are non-historic, with brick veneer and aluminum and glass. The second story facade has a three sided projecting window bay over each storefront bay and single 1/1 window over stair entry. The window bays and single window are set into recessed brick panels with a continuous limestone band. A metal cornice with dentil molding and central half round sunburst is located at the base of the parapet wall. Simple brick vertical detailing characterizes the parapet.

24. 109 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1874

Italianate - This two story brick building is actually part of a larger three bay building that includes the adjacent building to the north with shared stairwell entry between the north and middle bays. The two storefront bays of this building were altered about 1910 to include red granite bases and steel and glass display bays flanking each recessed central entry. Original cast metal pilasters with recessed faces and projecting feather capitals frame the two bays together. A metal cornice and name board stretches across the face of the building, just above the bay openings and an historic roll-out awning. The second story facade has full round arch window openings with simple limestone arches with keystones and plain face limestone sills. The windows themselves are non-historic 1/1 wood windows. Each window opening is set into a recessed panel in the facade. The original corbeled brick cornice has been removed.

25. 111 North Michigan Street (N) c. 1874

Italianate - Two story brick building, north bay of a larger three bay building adjacent to the south. Storefront is non-historic wood paneling and aluminum and glass display with central recessed entry. A shared stairwell entry is located on the south end and has the historic transom and wood panelized jamb surround still intact. An historic metal cornice frames the top of the storefront opening. The second story facade carries the same detailing of building number 24, with the exception of containing the original three wood, round arch windows with circle over double arch mullion style transoms. This building has the original corbeled brick parapet partially intact.

26. 113-115 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1874

Photo No. 14 - left

Balcony Block

Italianate - Two story brick two bay building with central stairwell entry. This building originally was three stories high and received its name from a large iron balcony that was located on the third floor facade. The third floor burned in a fire after the turn of the century. The storefront bays are mostly covered in non-historic wood paneling, but maintain the central entry plan of the original building. The bays are also flanked by cast metal columns, partially visible beneath the wood paneling. The second floor

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facade has brick pilasters flanking the building facade and contains full round arch window openings with decorative metal hoods and limestone sills. The windows contain the original wood sashes composed of a circle over double arch mullion style top sash and single lite sash below, except over the stairwell which contains a four lite bottom sash. The parapet was built after the fire to step up toward the center and have a brick rowlock coping line. A large brick framed panel was incorporated into the facade just below the parapet at this time.

27. 119 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1896 Photo No. 14 - right
Romanesque Revival - Three story brick single bay building with brick and limestone facade. Existing storefront constructed of non-historic aluminum and glass display windows and aggregate composite panels. The second floor facade has a large middle opening divided into three 1/1 wood windows with short transoms. Similar windows flank the middle bay, separated by brick pilasters. A heavy continuous plain stone lintel stretches across the entire facade. Above the lintel are recessed engraved stone panels, above which is the limestone sills for the third floor windows. The third floor facade has a large center opening spanned by a full Romanesque arch of brick soldier course corbelling. The opening is composed of three 1/1 windows with single transom over the center. The center arch is flanked by 1/1 windows with transoms identical to those of the second floor, except with flat brick arches. All window openings have original wood windows intact. A simple metal cornice with decorative frieze board of garland swags is positioned between the pilasters and a brick patterned parapet rises above this.
28. 121 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1900
Twentieth Century Functional - Two story brick building with applied rough face concrete block veneer to single bay facade. Storefront is non-historic aggregate panel and aluminum and glass construction. Second story facade has original 1/1 wood windows with transoms. Two center larger windows are flanked by narrower windows and all have a continuous plain face limestone sill and lintel. A simple metal cornice with supporting modillions cap the parapet.
29. 123 North Michigan Street (N) 1910 Photo No. 15
Lauer Building. Jacob Ness, builder; Lucius and Leopold Lauer, patrons
Neoclassical - Two story corner tan brick building with altered storefronts. Originally a large storefront bay faced Michigan Street and two bays faced Garro Street. The bays were altered to form a single corner entry at the intersecting streets; the bays being infilled with aluminum and glass display windows on aggregate panel bases. Some board and batten siding also covers the transom areas over the bays. The Michigan Street facade has a stairwell entry at the far south end and at one time had a heavy bracketed limestone pediment over the doorway. The Garro Street side has a grand

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entry just slightly off-center on the facade which led to a large staircase to the second floor offices. The recessed entry is flanked by limestone pilasters and Doric columns with entasis set on high limestone bases and continue to the parapet wall. The bases have Lauer - Building engraved on the faces. A heavy limestone pediment on scroll brackets sets above the doorway. In the two locations where storefront bays do not occupy the building facade on Garro Street, large recessed corbeled brick panels occur.

The Michigan Street second floor facade is divided into three equal bays with two windows in each. The windows have a continuous plain face limestone sill under both windows and no lintel. The windows are original 9/1 wood windows. The bays are divided by brick pilasters continuing from below on each end and set on console blocks in the center. The Garro Street second story facade is detailed in the same manner with the exception of three-window, window bays and a pair of windows recessed into the grand entry area. A limestone architrave rests on the pilasters and grand entry columns, and has a projecting cornice supported by periodic modillions. This is continuous around the street facades of the building. A short brick parapet rises above the cornice and has a plain face limestone coping band on top. Over the Garro Street grand entry is a limestone pediment rising above the parapet with 1910 engraved in its face.

30. 201-203 North Michigan Street (N) 1901 Photo No. 16
Bank Block - Masonic Temple. Jacob Ness, builder
 Neoclassical - Two story limestone corner building with angled corner entry, single Michigan Street storefront bay, and three storefront bays on Garro Street facade. Michigan Street storefront is non-historic aluminum and glass display on brick base. The Masonic Lodge stairwell entry and transom is located to the south side of the bay opening. The Garro Street bays are partially intact with the western most bay being covered over in aggregate paneling. The middle bay has a recessed side entry with transoms over a single display window. The eastern most bay has a central entry, currently covered with plywood, and display bays to each side with transoms. A second recessed stairwell entry is located just east of the three bays and has a full round segmented arch. The corner (bank) entry is angled toward the intersecting roads and has flanking black granite ionic columns with entasis, set on low limestone bases with recessed panels each side. The columns support a limestone pediment with dentil trim detail above the frieze which has "STATE BANK" engraved. The recessed doorway has an historic sunburst pattern leaded glass transom in a full round arch opening and is entirely trimmed with tongue and dart molding. The lower portion of the corner bank facade is composed of large rusticated limestone blocks with a banding of smooth face limestone that becomes the sills for the rectangular 1/1 wood windows on the first floor. Smaller rusticated blocks begin above the smooth banding and continue to a stringcourse entablature with cornice, continuous around the entire facade, above which the second floor facade begins.

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The second story facade is composed of large bands of smooth face limestone blocks with narrow bands of rusticated limestone blocks between. Rectangular 1/1 windows align with the window pattern from the first floor facade and over the storefront bays. The original wood windows exist over the storefronts but are aluminum replacement products over the bank facade. The window openings over the stairwells are smaller in proportion and have simple pediments over their tops. A continuous deep smooth face band of limestone forms the architrave, with another deep band above. A cornice with supporting modillions is continuous around the facade with a rusticated parapet rising above. The entablature is interrupted only at the corner where the smooth limestone facade continues above the parapet and is crowned by a pediment supported by massive scroll brackets at each side and flanked by scrolls on each end. Within the smooth stone face and between the scroll brackets, is a circular clock face which is currently covered by plywood. A large metal finial once topped the pediment.

31. 205 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1858 - 1914 Photo No. 17 - left
Wheeler Bank - Bergman Building.
Amzi Wheeler, original patron; John Bergman, patron, 1914
Italianate - Two story single bay brick building. This building was originally constructed very early and was about five feet back from its current location. The building facade was dismantled and reconstructed aligning with the adjacent buildings in 1914 by Bergman. The storefront is non-historic aluminum and glass construction. A stone stringcourse with cornice detail is located just below the second story windows and acts as their sill. The three full round arch 2/2 wood windows and heavy stone hoods that terminate at a projecting stone band seem to be original to the earlier structure. The center hood has a projecting keystone. The Bergman name is in raised letters above the windows and below the metal cornice. The cornice is terminated by large flanking brackets and is supported by smaller modillions.
32. 207 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1880 Photo No. 17 - right
Italianate - Narrow ten foot wide single bay, two story brick building. The first floor opening is filled with an aluminum and glass display window. The second floor facade has a wide single half round arch opening and non-historic wood grille infill. The opening has a limestone sill and rusticated brick arch, which continues as a band across the facade. The building is capped by a simple metal cornice with large end brackets.
33. 209-211 North Michigan Street (C) 1917 Photo No. 18
Rialto Theater. Jacob Ness, builder; Clay Metsker, patron
Twentieth Century Functional - Three story brown brick building with current two bay storefront. The original storefront comprised of a small shop on the north end which is intact in plan, but currently covered with non-historic brick veneer and wood paneling. A central recessed opening to the theater now exists as an entry to another bay to the

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south end of the building. The existing construction of the storefront is non-historic aluminum and glass. A limestone band forms a continuous stringcourse across the facade between the first and second stories. Four pairs of 1/1 wood windows with brick rowlock sills and soldier course lintels framed by projecting bricks are in the second story facade. Three recessed brick panels are located between the window pairs where marquee anchors were once located. Another recessed brick panel extends across the whole facade on the third story facade and has the Rialto name block centered within it. Above this was once a wide projecting metal cornice, but has since been removed and covered with aluminum paneling. The parapet is capped by plain face limestone coping stones. The marquee, although now completely missing, was curved in plan with glass block and aluminum bands forming the face. This was probably not the original theater marquee.

34. 213-215 North Michigan Street (N) c. 1904 Photo No. 19
T & B Block. Jacob Ness, builder; Thompson & Burkett, patrons
Neoclassical - Two story brick building with limestone facade and two bay storefront. The storefronts are non-historic brick veneer or wood paneling and aluminum and glass construction. A curved limestone base and window is located just inside the north bay entry - once a recessed vestibule. The curved base detail mirroring the existing one no longer is intact. Rusticated pilasters with egg and dart detailing by their simple capitals set on smooth face bases. The pilasters are on each end of the building and also divide the two bays. An engaged Doric column on a smooth limestone base frames the entry of the north bay storefront with the end pilaster.

The second story facade begins above a stringcourse entablature with cornice detail resting above the storefront openings. The facade is generally divided into three bays with two rectangular windows in each. The pilasters continue from the lower facade on each end and two more pilasters begin mid-way up the second story facade, set on stone brackets. The limestone facade of the second story is comprised of large smooth face blocks with narrow rusticated bands between. The windows are aluminum replacement products. A continuous plain face limestone band creates the lintel for the windows. Above the lintel is a band of rusticated limestone, over which is another band of smooth face stone creating the architrave for the entablature forming the parapet. A limestone cornice supported by modillions stretches across the facade, above which is a smooth face parapet wall with the pilasters continuing from the second story. The parapet is raised in the center with an additional set of small pilasters on brackets framing the center name block. The name block is flanked by limestone scrolls and capping each pilaster are large chamfered blocks.

35. 217 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1900

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Italianate - Two story, single bay, brick building with stairwell entry at south end. The stairwell entry is recessed with full round brick arch opening. The storefront is non-historic aluminum and glass construction. The three second floor windows are also aluminum replacement products, set in original flat lintel openings with limestone sills. The windows are recessed together into a single brick panel, above which is three rows of brick set at angles into the facade. A metal cornice with scrolled brackets sits atop the parapet wall.

36. 219 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1900 Seen in Photo No. 37, second from right
Nineteenth Century Functional - Two story brick two bay building. Existing storefront is single bay with central entry and has a non-historic composition of aluminum and glass on brick bases. The second story facade has a round turret to its south end and a square turret to its north end. They are covered with an historic stamped metal finish with a rough face stone profile. The round turret has three equal 1/1 wood windows with transoms and once had a crenalated cap approximately eight feet taller than the currently existing condition. The square turret has a single large 1/1 wood window with transom on its main face and two narrow 1/1 wood windows with transoms on each side. The pyramidal roof raised on short posts no longer exists. A pair of 1/1 wood windows are located between the turrets on the facade and have a continuous limestone sill beneath them. A metal corbeled bracketed cornice crowns the parapet and continues across the facade, following the face of the two turrets.

37. 225 North Michigan Street (C) c. 1900 Seen in Photo No. 37 - far right
Nineteenth Century Functional - Two story corner brick building with single wrap around bay and recessed stairwell entry at south end of building. The existing storefront is covered with non-historic wood paneling. The recessed stair entry opening has a pointed gothic arch with keystone. A single original entry remains at the west end of the Washington Street facade. The second floor windows are non-historic replacement products set into original angled brick framed openings with limestone sills. Two windows per opening on Michigan Street facade and one window per opening on Washington Street facade occur. A simple metal cornice with wide plain frieze board and single center bracket is applied to the parapet on each street side, but does not extend across the entire length of the facade.

North Center Street, facing west

38. 220 North Center Street (O) 1875 Photo No. 20
Plymouth Fire Station - National Register of Historic Places.
Robert McCance and William P. Beaton, designers

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Italianate - Two story brick building with two engine bays and engaged hose and bell tower. The only structure listed on the National Register in the downtown district, this building was fully restored in 1995. The building has two bay door openings with full round brick arches centrally located on the facade with panelized wood doors and sunburst glass transoms. A stairwell entry is located on the north end with wood door and full round arch transom. Another entry is located in the front of the hose tower with rectangular transom with slightly curved upper corners. The second story facade has three rectangular 4/4 wood windows with the slight curve in the upper corners, centered in the main facade. Another like window is in the front of the hose tower on this level. All window openings have limestone sills and brick lintels. Similar windows are located around the other three sides of the building, mostly on the second floor. The parapet steps up slightly toward the center on the front facade with a stone marker with name and date of construction engraved, just below the coping. Tile coping is continuous around the whole parapet.

The hose and bell tower continues above the building approximately another thirty feet with a single circular window opening at a half way point on the front side. The brick portion of the tower is terminated with a wood cornice. An open wood frame cupola, which once housed the fire alarm bell, continues above. The cupola has eight square columns with some minor detailing, supporting a low pyramidal roof with beadboard soffitt. The original engraved fire alarm bell is located in a near duplicate version of the tower cupola set on a brick base at the plaza level. The brick base contains a dedication plaque from the fire station restoration.

The interior of the building was also restored. Freestanding offices are located in the lower portion of the building where the engine bays are located. An open meeting room is located in the original city hall meeting room on the second floor. The original fire pole is also intact.

39. 108 North Center Street (N) c. 1870 Photo No. 21

Residence

Gothic Revival - Gable front two and one half story frame residence on brick foundation and wood clapboard siding. This is the only frame building in the downtown district and may also be the oldest structure as well. Another residence originally stood just to the north side of this structure and was a duplicate of this home's design. The structure is generally raised on an earthen berm above the sidewalk elevation. Three openings are located on the front facade of the first floor, the one to the south end being the front entry door, the other two being 2/2 wood windows with simple surround trim. The second story facade repeats the first with all three openings being windows and with wood pediment hoods. A wood grille is located in the center of the gable with the same trim treatment as the second story windows. A wide barge board is located just below the eave soffitt and fascia boards. In the apex of the gable is an inverted finial with simple detailing.

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Regularly spaced 2/2 wood windows are located down each long side of the residence and are repeated on the second story facade. A wood frame porch extends across the first floor of the front facade. Four chamfered post columns with simple detailing and ornate scroll brackets support the roof. A frieze board with dentil molding is located just below the porch roof fascia.

40. 104 North Center Street (C) c. 1930
Twentieth Century Functional - Single story, single bay block building. Building is currently covered with metal paneling. Storefront has a center entry with display windows on each side.

West LaPorte Street, facing south

41. 118 West LaPorte Street (C) c. 1920 Photo No. 22 - left
American Legion Hall (former Works Building)
Twentieth Century Functional - Single story orange brick building. Non-historic aluminum and glass storefront on brick base and recessed entries on each end. Three equal brick framed panels are located just above the storefront opening. The parapet steps up in the center and has limestone plain face coping. A bronze marker is located in the raised center parapet.
42. 116 West LaPorte Street (C) c. 1925 Photo No. 22 - right
Hammes Building
Twentieth Century Functional - Two story brick building with single story brick addition on east end. Storefront has non-historic wood paneling and brick infill with west end entry. A stairwell entry is located at the far west end, next to the storefront entry. Two pairs of short 1/1 windows are located on the second story facade, flanking the center. A granite name block is centered in the flat topped brick parapet.

West LaPorte Street, facing north

43. 105 West LaPorte Street (C) c. 1875 Photo No. 23
Hoham Block. John Hoham, patron
Italianate - Two story single bay orange brick building. This building was originally listed as non-contributing because of the aluminum siding which once covered the facade. During the 1997 restoration program the siding was removed and facade restored. This building was part of a larger block of buildings built during the same time on LaPorte Street by John Hoham. The building facade was altered about 1890 to have a single display bay on the east end and recessed entries for the store bay and

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stairwell to the west end. It was to that appearance the facade was restored, as much of the historic material was intact in the recessed area including some trim, door, and plaster. The storefront is constructed of a single bay with three-four pane wood windows with two pane transoms above. The windows are set on a wood recessed panel base. Large wood doors with wood transoms are located in the recessed entries. The historic tin ceiling in the store bay was partially restored.

The second story facade has three full round arch window openings with projecting brick arches and keys and limestone sills. The wood jambs and decorative wood rope trim was uncovered and restored, however the wood 4/4 round arch windows are replacements to match the original appearance. The large brick cornice was entirely missing from the building, except for a few brick keys. An agreement was reached with historic preservation regarding the installation of a metal cornice salvaged from the Hoham Centennial Opera House, located on this block, constructed in 1876. The piece has modillions supporting a wide cornice with large brackets flanking the ends. A semi-circle projects above the top of the cornice and has the date of construction in its recessed face.

East LaPorte Street, facing south

West Garro Street, facing south

44. 124 West Garro Street (C) 1935 Photo No. 26
Plymouth Post Office. Joe H. Wildermuth, architect
 Colonial Revival - Single story red brick building raised on a low limestone base, set back from the general street facade line approximately twelve feet. The building has been enlarged and remodeled to its present appearance. The building has an off center entry with non-historic aluminum and glass construction. The west third of the building steps back approximately a foot from the remaining facade. Six steel multi-awning windows with flat brick arches with limestone keystones and limestone sills are located along the front facade. A metal cornice with wide frieze continues across the front facade of the building only. The interior public areas are mostly intact.

West Garro Street, facing north

45. 123 West Garro Street (C) 1909 Seen in Photo No. 38 - far right
Knott Building, Dr. D.C. Knott, patron
 Twentieth Century Functional - Two story corner red brick building with single storefront bay that wraps around the west side of the building. Aluminum and glass

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storefront with some wood paneling is non-historic. Brick pilasters at each end of the building have simple limestone bases and capitals terminating at the parapet wall above the second story facade. The second story front facade of the building has two rectangular window openings with limestone hood molds. This is repeated on the west side of the building, but with two bays divided by a brick pilaster. The brick parapet has plain face limestone banding and limestone coping that steps upward in the center and over each of the two bays on the west side.

46. 121 West Garro Street (NC) 1921
Indeterminate - Single story brick building with stucco veneer and wood shake mansard.
47. 119 West Garro Street (NC) c. 1920
Indeterminate - Single story brick building with applied brick veneer in colonial revival composition, c. 1970
48. 115-113 West Garro Street (NC) 1908
Parks / Pilot News Building, John W. Parks, patron
Twentieth Century Functional - Two story brick building with limestone detailing. Currently covered with new brick veneer over first floor facade and applied stucco to second story facade.

East Garro Street, facing north

49. NA East Garro Street (C) c. 1880
Nineteenth Century Functional - Two story brick building. This building originally had a large full round arch opening in the first floor facade and was partially open on the second story facade. None of the historic openings remain. A non-historic wood entry and metal mansard canopy were added. A simple metal cornice is located on the parapet.

West Washington Street, facing north

50. 109 West Washington Street (C) c. 1905
Livery
Nineteenth Century Functional - Two story brick building with wide street facade. The large central opening was enlarged for a steel garage door. Other non-historic openings were also created in the first floor facade. Two small half round window openings with brick arches and brick rowlock sills are located on the second story

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facade. The original 2/2 wood windows are still intact. A simple metal cornice crowns the parapet wall.

East Washington Street, facing south

51. 113 East Washington Street (C) 1909 Photo No. 28 - left

Lemerts Sale Barn

Nineteenth Century Functional - Two story brick structure with large center half round brick arch opening. The first floor street facade has non-historic wood paneling across the face and partially covering the main opening. The second story facade has two half round arch window openings with brick arches and sills. The 2/2 wood windows are intact. The original stamped metal cornice with Lemert name and date of construction is also intact.

52. 123 East Washington Street (C) 1929 Photo No. 28 - right

Plymouth Motor Sales

Twentieth Century Functional - Single story brick corner building with evenly divided large window bays on brick bases. The window bays have replacement aluminum and glass infill. The bays are divided by brick pilasters set on concrete bases and chamfered concrete capitals. Water Street (east) side has broader pilasters with corbeled bracket detail and regular pattern of multi-pane industrial sash windows. A high brick parapet with concrete coping is located on the front facade.

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

The Plymouth Downtown Historic District derives its historic significance primarily from its association with the Michigan Road. As the first north/south intrastate route surveyed in Indiana, Plymouth was a point in the frontier of a developing state. The district's continued use as the commercial center of the city and county also validates its significance to its surrounding community. Fine examples of 19th and early 20th century architecture are also an important part of the character of the historic district. Together with the aforementioned reasons, a cumulative integrity is developed as a good representation of a small midwestern downtown during the designated period of significance, from 1870 through 1940.

Statement of Significance

The city of Plymouth lies in the approximate center of Marshall County, Indiana, along the Michigan Road where it intersects with the Yellow River. The town was first platted in 1834 by James Blair, John Sering, and William Polke; the latter being the primary surveyor of the Michigan Road for the State of Indiana. The north bank of the Yellow River, where the Michigan Road and Yellow River Road, later the LaPorte Trail, intersected was chosen as an ideal location for a settlement. The three laid out a plat of 63 lots with certain lots designated for a courthouse square, cemetery, school house, market house, and seminary. The town developed along the Michigan Road, mostly north from the river, being the high bank. In 1851 the village was organized as a town, and in 1873 it was incorporated as a city. Various additions were made to the town, principally after the Civil War. These areas were mostly located on opposite banks of the Yellow River, and on the west side of the railroad grounds.

The district comprises only about four blocks of the south end of the original town plat, and those parcels located between the original plat southern boundary and the Yellow River. Historically, these blocks were primarily commercial in nature, with only a very few residences located within the district. The district retains the commercial status, with only a single residence located on Center Street. Originally, commercial development radiated from the intersection of Michigan and LaPorte Streets (these lots being the first sold), mainly northward on Michigan and westward on LaPorte. Michigan Road was the primary route, with LaPorte being the secondary route. The LaPorte Trail led to the city of LaPorte where the primary land office for northern Indiana was located. The street also led

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to the rail yard, with two of the city's principal railroad depots being located on the west edge of the original plat. Later, the primary intersecting street became Jefferson Street, two blocks north of the historic district and forming the south boundary of the courthouse square. During the late 1920's the Lincoln Highway, the first east/west coast highway, was rerouted from South Bend to a southern route, entering Plymouth and becoming Jefferson Street as it passed through town. The intersection of the Lincoln Highway (old U.S. 30) and the Michigan Road (old U.S. 31) has been referred to as the crossroads of America. The first commercial growth to occur outside of the downtown district located along the Lincoln Highway and it is still recognized as the city's second commercial corridor. Because of this and the decline of the railroad, development along the old LaPorte Trail fell off rapidly. Other development occurred during the 1920's through the 1950's within the district, mostly locating on the back streets and side streets off the Michigan Road.

The Michigan Road

This road's importance to the State of Indiana is unquestionable. As the first north-south road developed through the state during the early and mid 1830's, the road created developing communities as it progressed northward from the Ohio River to Lake Michigan. An article from the Marshall County Historical Society Quarterly publication on the Michigan Road states that in an 1826 treaty with the Potawatomi Indians, Indiana's governor, James Ray, who was also one of the United States treaty commissioners, managed to procure concessions from the Indians for creating the road. The grant included a strip of land 100 feet wide for the road itself and one section of land for each mile of the road for its full length. The exact location of the road was not stated in the treaty except that it was to go from the Ohio River through the new state capital of Indianapolis, to Lake Michigan. After years of wrangling, the legislature finally picked Madison as the Ohio River destination and determined that from Indianapolis the road would go through Logansport and what was to become Rochester, Plymouth, and South Bend. From the south bend of the St. Joseph River the road went west at right angles to the lake. This indirect route in northern Indiana was selected in order to avoid the Kankakee swamps in the northwestern region of the state. The sections of land conceded by the Indians became known as the Michigan Road Lands; only 45 of the 267 sections actually line the road.

In Marshall County are located sections four through 24 of the Michigan Road lands, laid out in a general north-south corridor along the Michigan Road. Contracts were let for building the road in Marshall County in 1832. In the town plat of 1834, the street grid was laid out in right angles to the road, which bent slightly (five degrees) west with the Yellow River. The Michigan Road gives the city of Plymouth much of its character with its 100 ft. right of way, and in the residential districts an old tree-lined streetscape with historic lighting in deep front yard setbacks. The right of way provides a fine sense of proportion

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and enclosure to the mostly two story buildings that line each side of the route as it passes through the downtown district.

The County Seat

Marshall County began to open up for settlement with the building of the Michigan Road. In 1836 Marshall County was formed from the southern part of St. Joseph County. Land was rich for agricultural purposes, large stands of timber and a number of inland lakes also made the area commercially viable. A number of Potawatomi Indians were still located on reservations in the southwest and south central regions of the county, and traded frequently with the early pioneers of Plymouth. In 1838, under duress, the Potawatomies were forced from their reservations and began a trek west which later became known as the Trail of Death. Unlike many situations where towns would vie for the location of the county seat, Plymouth was recognized early as the obvious location of the seat of government. It was chosen as the county seat in 1836, upon the formation of the county. The courthouse square occupies the highest site in the original plat, located four blocks north and one block west of the river. The city continues to be the commercial center for the county.

Events and Citizens

Two tragic fires affected the town's development. One in 1857 destroyed every structure between Garro and LaPorte Streets on the west side of the Michigan Road. In 1866 another fire destroyed every building on LaPorte Street between Michigan and Center Streets. Floods have been and remain a constant threat to sections of the city surrounding the downtown district. This may have been responsible for keeping the commercial sector contained. The railroads connected Plymouth to the rest of the country and provided further commercial boon. The first railroad, the Indianapolis-Peru-Chicago Line located in town in 1856. The other railroads included the Pittsburg-Ft. Wayne-Chicago Line, the Nickel Plate Line, the Vandalia Line, and the Pennsylvania Line followed and provided for a wave of commercial growth.

The early citizens of Plymouth were fiercely political, this reflected in the newspapers produced during the 19th and early 20th century. The variety of newspapers, produced primarily for political posturing, was excessive and almost always divided along party lines. A high number of Plymouth citizens went on to hold state legislative offices. Many of these were patrons of downtown buildings. Included in these are the Packard Block, Metsker Building, Corbin Block, Parks Building, and Wheeler Block. As in most other small midwestern towns, the more affluent business and professional people constructed the structures lining the main street, in this case, the Michigan Road. Many of these people also built their stately homes along North and South Michigan Street, just outside the downtown historic district.

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Architecture

The architecture of the district is varied in styles, with a near full range of those styles typical to midwestern towns during the period of significance from 1870 -1940. This with the high level of detail and workmanship, the amount of detail yet intact, and the restoration efforts being undertaken by the city have combined to yield a downtown commercial district with notable integrity. The high concentration of contributing buildings within the commercial portion of the original town plat provides the character which defines the city as a typical Michigan Road town; typical in its growth pattern and reliance on the route as its main commercial artery.

Some of the earliest buildings with a high level of distinction attributed to the Italianate style are the old Plymouth Fire Station, the Packard Block, and the early Plymouth Post Office. During the turn of the century and leading into the early teens, Plymouth experienced a new building boon with a Neoclassical design attributed to one man, Jacob Ness. The level of detail in the classical ordering of his facades is unusual for a rural farm community, especially in the adaptation of commercial use. The more austere buildings include the First National Bank Building, the Lauer Building, and the State Bank Block; forming three corners of a major downtown intersection. Another four less ambitious commercial buildings also line the Michigan Road. Three contributing buildings mark the advancement of the modern era: the Art Deco styled Rees Theater, an early automobile garage, and the Montgomery Ward Co. Store, notable for its unusual glazed terra cotta facade. The only non-contributing buildings, located on West Garro Street, are 1920's era commercial structures which have had their facades altered so as to cover or destroy the architectural integrity beneath.

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

INDIVIDUAL HISTORICAL DATA ON BUILDINGS

Beginning east side and facing Michigan Street

1. 310 N. Michigan c. 1900
Boston Store. Jacob Ness, builder.
The Boston Store had a long history in Plymouth and was a favorite shopping destination for visitors to the downtown.
2. 308 N. Michigan c. 1900
Original location of the Parker House Hotel ca. 1880
3. 218-224 N. Michigan 1907
Disher - Shakes - Williams Building. Jacob Ness, builder
The south bay of this building probably housed Plymouth's first movie house, the Orpheum, complete with accompanying orchestra pit; silent movies would have been shown during its time as a theater from 1905-1920.
The middle bay was occupied by the Skinner Pharmacy from the 1930's-1970's.
The north bay housed one of Plymouth's fondest cafe/gathering holes. The Harry Bachaka Candy Kitchen and later the Good and Plenty Cafe, were favorite after school destinations for kids, from the 1940's through the 1960's.
4. 214 N. Michigan 1929
Montgomery Ward Building
Montgomery Ward & Company, designer; Jacob Ness, builder; Mr. and Mrs. P. Mango of Illinois, patrons.
Montgomery Wards has a historical significance in Plymouth due to the location of its first "off the shelf" retail store being located here (see building no. 13). The company opened this store at this location shortly after realizing the retail success of its original location, holding its grand opening three days before the stock market crash on October 27, 1929. The design became a standard design for chain stores throughout the country. The Tanner music store, a frame building which was the original Platt McDonald house, stood on this site prior to Montgomery Wards construction. Platt McDonald was a member of a prominent family whose members went on to hold local and state offices and publish newspapers and later books on the history of the county.
5. 210-212 N. Michigan Street c. 1910
Metsker Block. Jacob Ness, builder; Clay W. Metsker, patron
The building was built by Clay Metsker, publisher of the *Plymouth Democrat* and later the *Plymouth Daily-News*, which he purchased in 1902 and later operated out of this building. Clay came to Plymouth in 1896 and began in the newspaper business by

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purchasing the *Marshall County Independant* until he purchased the *Democrat*. from the McDonald family. Metsker was prominent in the state Democratic Party, being elected representative from Marshall County in 1900, and campaigning with two presidential nominees across the state in 1908 and 1920. Later Swearingens Shoe Store operated out of one of the bays and was a long-time fixture in Plymouth.

6. 206 North Michigan Street c. 1910
Reeve Block. James Reeve, patron
The building was constructed by James S. Reeve, publisher of the *Plymouth Republican*, and was used as its printing offices. Ironically this building was constructed next to the "democratically controlled" newspaper building. The newspaper business in Plymouth was fiercely political; at times rival papers would not print the obituaries of opposite minded political figures of the city.
7. 204 North Michigan Street 1910
Rentschler Building. Jacob Ness, builder; Jacob Rentschler, patron
Jacob Rentschler, a saloon keeper, instructed his widow to build this building in his will, to replace the frame building from which he operated his establishment.
8. 202 North Michigan Street c. 1885
9. 200 North Michigan Street 1884
Early Plymouth Post Office
Used as the Plymouth Post Office during the latter part of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth, this building also housed a second story bowling alley and had a newspaper operating from the far east side.
10. 124 North Michigan Street 1879 - 1916
First National Bank - Plymouth City Hall
W.S. Matthews, architect; Marcus A. O. Packard, patron - 1879
Jacob Ness, designer-builder; First National Bank, patron - 1916
This building was donated to the city of Plymouth by First Source Bank in 1975, and has served as city offices since that time.
11. 120 North Michigan Street 1879
Packard Bank Block. W.S. Matthews, architect; Marcus A. O. Packard, patron
Marcus A. O. Packard, the patron of this building, was an early attorney in Plymouth and became the founder of the First National Bank. Mr. Packard came to this county in 1837 with his father, left to receive his education in Michigan and returned to Plymouth in 1858. He was twice elected to the State House of Representatives in 1861 and 1863. The building has housed a number of important establishments to the city including Tanners Drugstore from about 1900 to 1956, the current Plymouth Chamber of Commerce since 1975 (first floor); Packard law offices, the city mayor's office in 1908, and the first telephone long distance office (second floor).

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12. 118 North Michigan Street 1895
Simons Building
This building was built for Celestia Simons, who remained single, by her father, a grocer. She became the president of the Saturday Club, which met for a period of time in the building's third floor meeting hall. It has been known for many years now as the City News Agency.
13. 116 North Michigan Street c. 1885
This building's importance lies in its use as a Montgomery Ward catalog store from 1926 to 1929. It is this location that is recognized as the birthplace of Montgomery Ward's "off the shelf" retail sales endeavor. This occurred because of the result of a customer demanding the purchase of display merchandise. When the clerk conceded to the sale, the idea caught on and other customers demanded the same. Montgomery Ward & Co. capitalized on the idea as they built chain stores across the Midwest-Plymouth being the recipient of one of the finest in 1929 (see No. 4). Later the Ball Company men's clothing store operated from this location. Alpha Ball, proprietor, became mayor for the city of Plymouth.
14. 114 North Michigan Street c. 1884
This was the original Plymouth location for J.C. Penny's, which operated from this spot from the late 1920's through 1989.
15. 110-112 North Michigan Street c. 1884 (110); c. 1900 (112)
Early businesses operating from these locations were Albert Chipman's attorney's office at 110 N. Michigan in 1939 and in the early 1900's Fuller's Candies and News and Bunnell's Furniture at 112 N. Michigan.
16. 108 North Michigan Street c. 1884
This storefront has had a restaurant operating from it during most of its entire history. Price's Steak House is probably its best known enterprise, operating for nearly forty years. Currently it is home to the Woodduck Cafe.
17. 106 North Michigan Street c. 1884
This building has generally been known as a cigar store during its early history, from about 1900 to 1920, with the GAR Post on the second floor in 1886 and later a pool hall about the turn of the century.
18. 104 North Michigan Street c. 1865
Wheeler Block Amzi L. Wheeler, patron
Amzi L. Wheeler came to Plymouth in 1836 and purchased a license to sell merchandise in that same year, becoming one of the city's first merchants. He erected a large frame building from which to operate his establishment on Lot 1 of the town plat. Later he built a brick building to replace the frame one about 1865. This large three

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story, three bay building has had a number of businesses come and go during its history. The third floor was home to the I.O.O.F. Hall during the late 1800's. A number of professional offices were located on its second floor including the old Cressner and Co. abstract and title office, still in operation today. The Johnson brothers operated a furniture and undertaking business on the first floor during the early 1900's.

Amzi Wheeler was involved in the banking industry very early (see No. 31) operating his second bank from this location during the 1870's. He also served as the second State Representative from his district in 1839, and elected again in 1842 and 1855.

19. 100 North Michigan Street 1939
Rees Theater (formerly the Wheeler Block)
Stewart Rees' father began in the theater business in Plymouth with the Gem Theater, formerly located on East Garro Street. Stewart took over his father's business in 1926 and later began construction of the Rees Theater in 1939. "Remember the Night" was the feature for the grand opening in February of 1940. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Rees resided in the third floor apartment and entertained guests in their "state of the art" living quarters.

20. North bank of the Yellow River c. 1890
Retaining Wall - uncertain of origin, appears to have been constructed about 1890.

West side of Michigan Street, facing east

21. 100-104 South Michigan Street c. 1880
Bank Block (Marshall County Trust and Savings Building)
This building has had an array of important Plymouth establishments operate from its location. The *Chronicle* operated from the building's lower level, published by S. E. Boys. Maybe most notable is the "Peoples Drugs" store, begun in the LaPorte St. bay about 1880 and still in operation in the city today, two blocks north of its first location.

22. 101 - 103 North Michigan Street & 110 West Laporte Street 1895
Corbin Block - Richard Block
This building was originally named the Corbin Block by Horace Corbin, who had his law offices on the second floor. Horace Corbin was elected to the State Senate in 1862 and became the city's first mayor in 1873. Later he was appointed Judge of the Forty-First Judicial District by Gov. Hendricks and is no doubt one of Plymouth's most prominent historical figures. The building's nickname, "the Beehive Building" was derived from its dominant round corner turret which once greeted visitors to the downtown. The Bee Hive Dry Goods store operated from the corner location from about 1900 to 1920. Ward Rittenhouse operated the city clerk treasurer's office from his furniture store also located in the Bee Hive Building. The lower (below grade) level of this building housed a variety of other businesses including a barber shop.

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23. 105-107 North Michigan Street 1895
Kuhn Building
Built by John C. Kuhn, a German immigrant, he and his son operated a clothing business from one bay and his other son, Fred Kuhn, operated a meat market from the other. Fred Kuhn was a city fire chief around the turn of the century.
24. 109 North Michigan Street c. 1874
25. 111 North Michigan Street c. 1874
Original location of M. Lauer and Son clothiers.
26. 113-115 North Michigan Street c. 1874
Balcony Block
This building once housed the Moose Lodge on its third story during the late 1800's and was named the balcony block for its cast iron balcony once located on the third floor. This floor burned after the turn of the century. The Hill bakery and restaurant was another long established business operating from the first floor during the late 1800 and early 1900's, by W.W. Hill and his son Fred.
27. 119 North Michigan Street c. 1896
28. 121 North Michigan Street c. 1900
29. 123 North Michigan Street 1910
Lauer Building. Jacob Ness, builder; Lucius and Leopald Lauer, patrons
A frame drug store called Shadell's once occupied the Lauer site, when it burned shortly after 1900, Lucius and Leopold Lauer built this building and gave their already old establishment of clothing apparel a new home. Mr. Lauer had his law offices in the second floor along with many other professionals. The Lauer family were Jewish immigrants to Plymouth, arriving in the mid 1800's. When the business closed in the early 1980's, it was the oldest establishment in town, having been in operation for over 125 years. A generous gift was made by their descendants in making the building available as the new home of the Marshall County Historical Society and Museum in 1993.
30. 201-203 North Michigan Street 1901
Bank Block - Masonic Temple. Jacob Ness, builder
The F.W. Bosworth Co. operated from the Michigan Street store bay of this building. Bosworth's began in Plymouth in 1891 when Frank Bosworth opened his drygoods shop on LaPorte Street. Eventually the business expanded into the two store bays to the north at the Michigan Street location. It remained in operation by the family until third generation Bill and Betty Laramore sold the store in 1982 and retired. In 1990 the new owners moved the business out of the downtown and it eventually went out of business. It was the second oldest establishment in town at the time of its closing.

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31. 205 North Michigan Street 1858 - 1914
Wheeler Bank - Bergman Building
Amzi Wheeler constructed the original brick building as the first bank building in Plymouth, which operated until 1865. John Bergman, a German immigrant, began a tailoring and dry-cleaning business here in 1901 and remodeled the building in 1914 to its present appearance.
32. 207 North Michigan Street c. 1880
This unusually narrow store front bay is only ten feet wide and has been a restaurant and jewelry store.
33. 209-211 North Michigan Street 1917
Rialto Theater. Jacob Ness, designer-builder; Clay Metsker, patron
Clay Metsker built the Rialto Theater at a construction cost of \$87,000. He operated the theater from 1918 through 1932. This building took the place of the earlier Crystal Theater. The Kewpie hamburger stand, operating from the small north bay of the building, became a favorite destination for Plymouth residents through the mid 1900's.
34. 213-215 North Michigan Street c. 1904
T & B Block (Thompson & Burkett). Jacob Ness, builder
Ball & Company, an old Plymouth drygoods establishment operated from the first and second floors of this building during the early 1900's having been located in Plymouth since 1875. Established by Phillip Ball, his sons Alpha, Jerome, and Prosper Ball continued the drygoods operation while at this location. Alpha Ball was elected mayor of Plymouth in 1921. The Republican Headquarters for the county operated from this building's second floor.
35. 217 North Michigan Street c. 1900
This building has had a long history as a dry cleaning establishment since the 1930's. During that time the owner, Mearl Strombeck, operated the city clerk's office from this location. Currently, Xavers Dry Cleaners operates from the building.
36. 219 North Michigan Street c. 1900
Since this building's construction, it has served primarily in the food industry through various establishments including the Red Top Candy Kitchen in the 1920's and F&F Coffee shop in the 1960's.
37. 225 North Michigan Street c.1900
This location has served primarily as a restaurant/bar during its recent history including the Robin Hood Restaurant during the 1950's through 70's and currently as the Brass Rail since the late 1980's. A grocery store was located here during the 1920's and 30's.

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North Center Street, facing west

38. 220 North Center Street 1875
Plymouth Fire Station. Robert McCance & William P. Beaton, designers
The building was constructed at a cost of \$4,200 and restored for \$412,000.
It was home to the Hook and Ladder Company #1 and Wide Awake Hose Company #2. The second floor was also first used as the city council meeting room. Currently the building houses the Marshall County Convention and Tourism Commission and office for the Marshall County Blueberry Festival.
39. 108 North Center Street c. 1870
The only frame building and only residence in the downtown district, and probably the oldest structure, predating most of Plymouth's tragic fires.

40. 104 North Center Street c. 1930

West Laporte Street, facing south

41. 118 West Laporte Street c. 1920
American Legion Hall (formerly The Works building)
This was the location of the American Legion Hall after REMC, Rural Electric of Marshall County moved from here after the 1930's. It was a grocery prior to that.
42. 116 West Laporte Street c. 1925
Hammes Building
Originally the home of Hammes Hatchery.

West Laporte Street, facing north

43. 105 West Laporte Street c. 1875
Hoham Block. John Hoham, patron
John Hoham, a local brewery owner, built this block of buildings during the early 1870's and used this particular building as a tavern. Mr. Hoham constructed the Centennial Opera House next door in celebration of the nation's centennial. The Opera House saw noted suffragist Susan B. Anthony, presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan, and other important individuals speak during its early years. The Opera House's metal cornice is now installed on this building.

West Garro Street, facing south

44. 124 West Garro Street 1935
Plymouth Post Office. Joe H. Wildermuth, architect

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West Garro Street, facing north

45. 123 West Garro Street 1909
Knott Building. Dr. D.C. Knott, patron
46. 121 West Garro Street 1921
47. 119 West Garro Street c. 1920
48. 115-113 West Garro Street 1908
Parks / Pilot-News Building. John W. Parks, patron
Named for John W. Parks, a Plymouth Attorney whose father served as a state representative; John also served in state office being elected to the state senate in 1900 and 1904. The building later became home to the only remaining Plymouth newspaper, the Pilot-News, which began in Plymouth in 1851. The paper was politically Republican in view and managed to purchase the *News*, which was primarily Democratic. The paper currently operates from a building one block away from this building.

East Garro Street, facing north

49. NA East Garro Street c.1880
Current Plymouth City Mayor's office and City Council Chamber.
This building had a photography studio on its second floor during its early history.

West Washington Street, facing north

50. 109 West Washington Street c. 1905
Livery
This was used as the city police station during the mid-1900's and also had public restrooms located within. This is the former site of the frame Jacox home and livery complex, corner lot.

East Washington Street, facing south

51. 113 East Washington Street 1909
Lemerts Sale Barn
Later called the Lemert and Filson Sale Barn, the Village Blacksmith shop was located on this site in 1905. Later it became a part of Plymouth Moter Sales.
52. 123 East Washington Street 1929
Plymouth Moter Sales
This building operated as a Chevrolet garage under several owners.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bibliography

1. McDonald, Daniel. *History of Marshall County 1836 - 1881*, Kingman Bros., Chicago, IL 1881.
2. Marshall County Historical Society. *History of Marshall County Sesquicentennial 1836 - 1986*, Taylor Publishing Co. U.S.A., 1986.
3. Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. *Marshall County Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Survey*, 1990.
4. *Headlight: Sights and Scenes along the Pennsylvania Railway*, Vol. IV, No. 3, c. 1898. Headlight Engraving and Publishing Co., Chicago, IL.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the northwest corner of the property at 310 N. Michigan Street and continuing easterly along the north line to the west side of North Water Street, then following a south line to the north side of East Washington Street. Turn west on East Washington Street to the north/south alley, mid-way between North Water Street and North Michigan Street and continue two blocks south in a line with the alley to the north side of East LaPorte Street. Turn west and follow a line to the west side of Michigan Street, turn south on South Michigan Street to the north bank of the Yellow River, including the retaining wall. Follow the north bank in a west by southwest direction to a point in line with the north/south alley mid-way between North Center Street and North Michigan Street. Follow a line north with the alley to the north side of West LaPorte Street, turn west and follow a line to the east side of North Center Street. From this point, follow a line north two blocks to the south side of West Washington Street, turn east and follow a line to the northwest corner of the property line of the building at 310 North Michigan Street.

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (continued)

Boundary Justification

The district boundary essentially encompasses the commercial section of the original plat of the town, now city, of Plymouth. Following the Michigan Road, the center line of the district, one block to each side of the road is encompassed in the district with the earlier structures lining the Michigan Road and later structures on the rear side facing cross and parrallel streets. Street facades are almost nearly all continuous in the district, with only a very few empty lots. Within the district are the highest concentration of contributing commercial resources within the township and county.

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11. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

Photographic Documentation

The following information is the same for all photographs, unless noted otherwise.

2. Plymouth, Marshall County, Indiana
3. K. West Garner, Plymouth National Register Committee
4. February, 1998
5. 123 North Michigan Street, Plymouth, IN 46563

PDHD = Plymouth Downtown Historic District

1. 300-318 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View northeast to main buildings.
7. Photo 1 of 39

1. 218-224 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View east to main facade.
7. Photo 2 of 39

1. 214 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View east to main facade.
7. Photo 3 of 39

1. 210-212 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View east to main facade.
7. Photo 4 of 39

1. 204 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View east to main facade.
7. Photo 5 of 39

1. 200 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View northeast of Michigan and Garro St. facades.
7. Photo 6 of 39

1. 124 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View east to main facade.
7. Photo 7 of 39

1. 120 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View east to main facade.

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7. Photo 8 of 39

1. 118 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View east to main facade.
7. Photo 9 of 39

1. 108 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View east to main facade.
7. Photo 10 of 39

1. 104 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View east to main facade.
7. Photo 11 of 39

1. 100 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View east to main facade.
7. Photo 12 of 39

1. 100-104 S. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View southwest to S. Michigan St. (left) and W. LaPorte St. (right), with main building street facades in foreground and 105 W. Laporte St. building in background, right side.
7. Photo 13 of 39

1. 111-121 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View west to main building facades.
7. Photo 14 of 39

1. 123 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View southwest to N. Michigan St. (left) and W. Garro St. (right), with main building street facades.
7. Photo 15 of 39

1. 201-203 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View northwest to W. Garro St. (left) and N. Michigan St. (right), with main building street facades.
7. Photo 16 of 39

1. 205-207 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View west to main building facades.
7. Photo 17 of 39

1. 209-211 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View west to main building facade.

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7. Photo 18 of 39

1. 213-215 N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View west to main building facade.
7. Photo 19 of 39

1. 220 N. Center St. PDHD
6. View southeast of north (left) and west (right-main) building facades.
7. Photo 20 of 39

1. 108 N. Center St. PDHD
6. View east to main building facade.
7. Photo 21 of 39

1. 116-118 W. LaPorte St. PDHD
6. View northeast, east on W. LaPorte St., of building main facades.
7. Photo 22 of 39

1. 105 W. LaPorte St. PDHD
6. View south to main building facade.
7. Photo 23 of 39

1. 113-121 E. LaPorte St. PDHD
6. View northwest of E. LaPorte St. (left) and N. Water St. (right) of main building street facades.
7. Photo 24 of 39

1. 109-111 N. Water St. PDHD
6. View southwest on N. Water St., of main building facades.
7. Photo 25 of 39

1. 124 W. Garro St. PDHD
6. View northeast on W. Garro St., main building in foreground, and 201 N. Michigan St. in background.
7. Photo 26 of 39

1. 118 E. Garro St. & building behind same PDHD
6. View southwest of N. Water St. (left) and E. Garro St. (right) with main building street facades in foreground.
7. Photo 27 of 39

1. N/A E. Washington St. PDHD
6. View northwest of E. Washington St. (left) and N. Water St. (right) with main building facades in foreground.

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7. Photo 28 of 39

1. East side 200 block of N. Michigan St. PDHD
6. View southeast, south on N. Michigan St. east side.
7. Photo 29 of 39

1. East side 200 block, N. Michigan St., north. PDHD
6. View northeast, north on N. Michigan St., east side.
7. Photo 30 of 39

1. East side 100 block, N. Michigan St., south. PDHD
6. View southeast, south on N. Michigan St., east side.
7. Photo 31 of 39

1. East side 100 block, N. Michigan St., north. PDHD
6. View northeast, north on N. Michigan St., east side.
7. Photo 32 of 39

1. S. Michigan St., north. PDHD
6. View north on S. Michigan St. from south bank of Yellow River.
7. Photo 33 of 39

1. West side 100 block, N. Michigan St., north. PDHD
6. View northwest, north on N. Michigan St., west side.
7. Photo 34 of 39

1. West side 100 block, N. Michigan St., south. PDHD
6. View southwest, south on N. Michigan St., west side.
7. Photo 35 of 39

1. West side 200 block, N. Michigan St., north. PDHD
6. View northwest, north on N. Michigan St., west side.
7. Photo 36 of 39

1. West side of 100 block, N. Michigan St., south. PDHD
6. View southwest, south on N. Michigan St., west side.
7. Photo 37 of 39

1. South side of 100 block, W. Garro St., east. PDHD
6. View southeast of W. Garro St. (left) and N. Center St. (right),
main building facades facing north.
7. Photo 38 of 39

1. South side of 100 block, W. LaPorte St., east. PDHD

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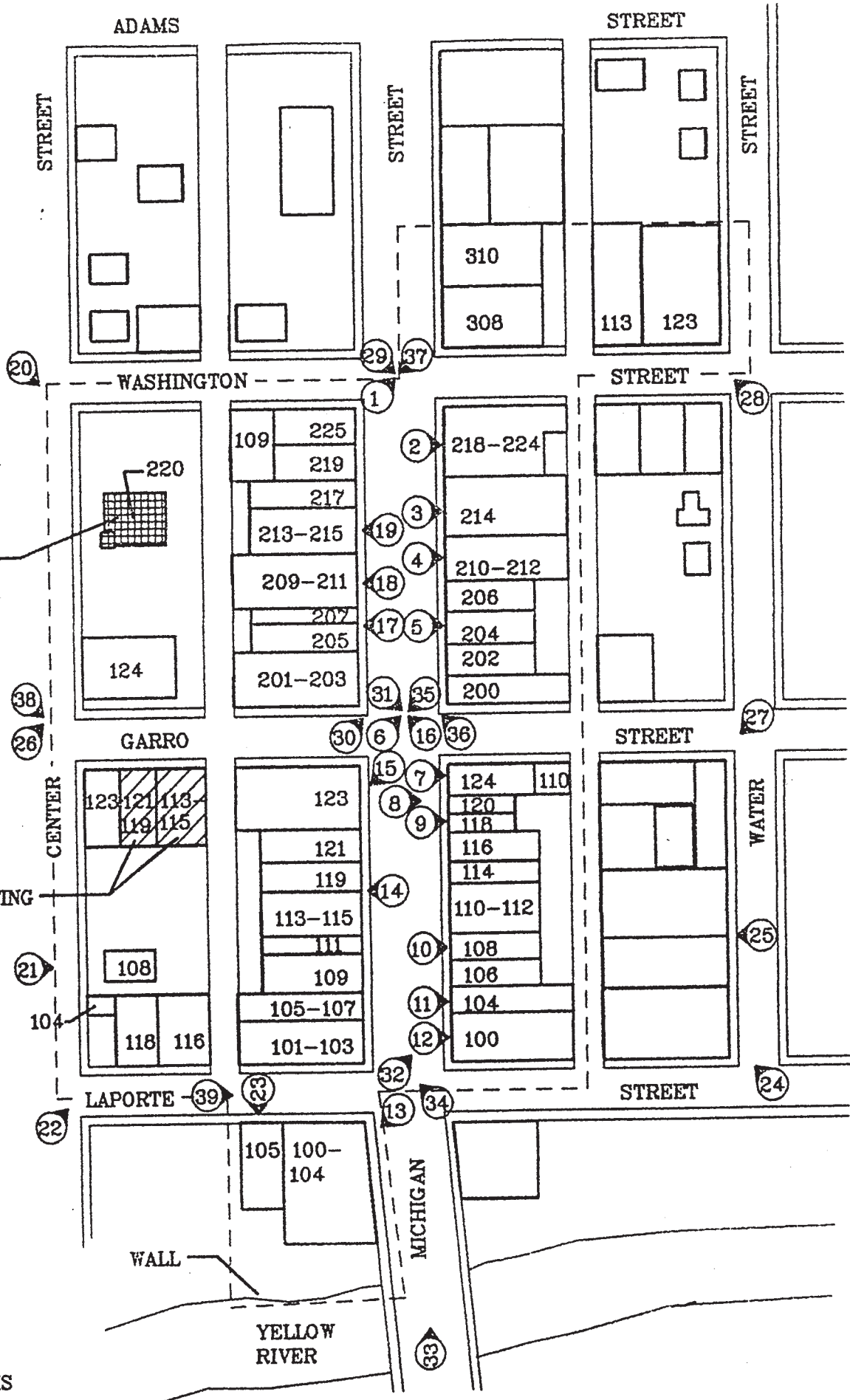
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6. View east on W. LaPorte St. to S. Michigan St., north side of 100 block of W. LaPorte St., foreground, main building facades. East side of 100 block of South Michigan St., main building street facades, background.
7. Photo 39 of 39

PLYMOUTH
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PLYMOUTH, INDIANA



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38 = PHOTOGRAPHS

