

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 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

other names/site number _____ 109-386-61001(-77)

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Pike, Mulberry, Jackson, and Sycamore Sts. N/A not for publication

city or town Martinsville N/A vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Morgan code 109 zip code 46151

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]
Signature of certifying official/Title

2/11/75
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 | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 75 | 6 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 0 | 0 | structures |
| 1 | 0 | objects |
| 76 | 6 | 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

2

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional

COMMERCE/TRADE: Financial Institution

COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty Store

COMMERCE/TRADE: Department Store

GOVERNMENT: City Hall

GOVERNMENT: Courthouse

HEALTH CARE: Medical Business/Office

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional

COMMERCE/TRADE: Financial Institution

COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty Store

GOVERNMENT: City Hall

GOVERNMENT: Courthouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Classical Revival

19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Tudor Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: Sandstone

walls BRICK

STONE: Limestone

roof SYNTHETICS: Rubber

other TERRA COTTA

METAL: Cast Iron

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.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION
HEALTH/MEDICINE
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

c.1847-1947

Significant Dates

1857

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hodgson, Isaac

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):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 11 AC

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 549460 4364400
Zone Easting Northing

3 16 549030 4363900
Zone Easting Northing

2 16 549430 4363920

4 16 549030 4364400

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 Joanne Raetz Stuttgen, President
organization Morgan Co. Historic Preservation Society date 2-18-97
street & number P.O. Box 1377 telephone (765) 349-1537
city or town Martinsville state IN zip code 46151

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.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 5 Page 1 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Morgan County Courthouse Square [61029]

Blackstone House/Cure and Hensley Mortuary and Martinsville Telephone Company [64156],
127 South Main Street

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Martinsville, the county seat of Morgan County, is located in central Indiana on the east bank of the West Fork of the White River. The south and east portions of the county are hilly and forested. Morgan-Monroe State Forest is located directly south of Martinsville. The city is roughly bounded on the south and east by State Highway 37, on the west by the Highway 39 Bypass and on the north by unglaciated hills.

Martinsville was platted in 1822. A total of 42 blocks were included in the first plat with block 18 reserved for the courthouse square. Town developers selected the Shelbyville square as the focus of the developing village, with the main arteries creating the boundaries of the courthouse square: Main Street to the west, Morgan Street to the north, Jefferson Street to the east and Washington Street to the south.

The Martinsville Commercial Historic District developed around the four sides of the courthouse square, its architecture evolving during the pioneer era until it stabilized in Italianate-style and commercial vernacular structures in the late nineteenth century. As the square filled up, the commercial district expanded approximately one block in all directions.

Along with the dominant Italianate and commercial vernacular styles, the Martinsville Historic District includes representations of the Gothic Revival, Colonial Revival, Chicago, Craftsman, Neoclassical, Renaissance Revival and Tudor Revival styles. A more detailed discussion of architecture is found in Section 8.

For the purpose of this nomination, counted resources in the district consist of 75 contributing buildings, six noncontributing buildings, and one contributing object, for a total of 82 resources.

Despite the 1969 demolition of a Standard filling station at the southeast corner of Main and Washington Street and the loss by fire in 1993 of the J. B. Blair and Company Block (1893) at the southwest corner of Washington and Jefferson Street, the general character of the district is much as it was during the period of significance, c.1847 to 1947. In the case of most properties, defining elements such as scale, original building materials, decorative elements and windows are intact and unaltered.

The most visible alterations include storefront remodeling and reduction and infill of upper story windows. Three historic properties have been altered to the extent that in their present

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

states, they no longer make strong contributions to the character of the district. The original facade of the property located at 166 East Morgan Street (photo #1) is obscured above street level, and its historic storefront has been lost through remodeling. The second story of the commercial unit at 28 North Main Street, part of the Mason House/Grand Hotel (photo #2) erected 1856-1866, has also been entirely obscured by synthetic brick siding. Lastly, the commercial building located at 50-60 North Main Street was dramatically altered with the removal of a 1935 glass facade and application of a stucco facade.

A property whose date of construction is not altogether certain is probably a third noncontributing property due to its age. The unit at 152 North Main Street (photo #3) seems to date between 1943-1950. It replaced a one-room frame building out of which Charlie Porter, who was confined to a wheelchair, sold sandwiches, popcorn and magazines. Porter left Martinsville just before World War II. His shop was torn down and in its place was erected the present building, the Maxwell Hardware Annex used as a display room for John Deere tractors.

One other property is identified as non-contributing in the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory, but research uncovers a history of this property which would seem to upgrade it to contributing. About 1895, the small, indeterminate one-story building (photo #4) attached to the north end of the I. O. O. F. Block at the northeast corner of Morgan and Jefferson Street was the location of Riley's Monuments.

Other properties that have undergone extensive alteration after 1947 include the former motion picture theater located at 59 East Washington Street (photo #5); it suffered a fire in the 1970s, with the subsequent repair resulting in an unsympathetic facade rendering. The non-contributing property at 36 East Morgan Street (photo #6) features a new brick facade which attempts to unify similar, original facades of two different buildings, as well as a redesigned storefront.

The Martinsville Commercial Historic District has a high degree of integrity. As a group, the historic properties have not been sensitively- or well-maintained; however, there are individual properties that are conscientiously cared for. At the time of this writing, the \$4 million Morgan Street reconstruction and downtown revitalization project, begun in 1996, is systematically replacing sewers, sidewalks and streets and installing decorative elements such as period street lamps, trees and benches. As the appearance of publicly-owned portions of Martinsville's historic downtown improves, and as the interest in historic preservation increases, it is hoped that greater efforts will be made to rehabilitate the district's privately-owned historic properties.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

DESCRIPTIONS OF REPRESENTATIVE RESOURCES

Blackstone House/Cure and Hensley Mortuary, 127 South Main Street, Central Passage/Gothic Revival/Queen Anne, 1860, and adjoining Martinsville Telephone Company, Tudor Revival, 1921. [64156] (Photo #7) This central passage brick house with Gothic, Italianate and Queen Anne influences is one and one-half stories in height. The foundation is hand-quarried sandstone. It has a rear ell and a bay addition on the north. The house features a lovely Queen Anne front veranda with turret, turned columns, scrollwork and spindles. The entrance consists of a panelled wood door with stained glass sidelights and fanlight. The windows are one-over-one double hung sash with painted limestone hoods. The roof is asphalt.

In the 1960s, the rear ell was connected with the Tudor Revival Martinsville Telephone Company building at 39 East Jackson Street. Constructed of oriental brick manufactured by the Martinsville Brick Company and ornamented with Bedford limestone, this building features fireproof steel door and window frames, a limestone water table and belt course and limestone trim on a crenated roof line.

Built by Dr. Benjamin D. Blackstone on the occasion of his second marriage to Mary Jane Worley Reynolds, the Blackstone House represents the first wave of permanent construction that replaced Martinsville's settlement-era structures. It was home to the Blackstone family--both father and children--until 1925. It was in this year that Jesse Cure and Herman Hensley leased the building for the Cure and Hensley Mortuary. In 1929, upon the death of Dr. Blackstone's son, Charles, the property was sold to Cure and Hensley. Their joint ownership continued until Hensley's death in 1946. Following Cure's own death in 1949, the business was operated by his widow, Hester. It was acquired by Kenny and Debbie Costin in 1985; today, the Cure and Hensley-Costin Funeral Chapel is one of Martinsville's oldest continually operating businesses.

By the time the Martinsville Telephone Company building was completed in July 1927, it had become known as the home of the bell Telephone Company. Designed by Walker J. Weesner, who served as architect and building engineer for the Indiana Bell Telephone Company from 1924-1933, it was considered to be "one of the most up-to-date telephone service buildings in Indiana." In 1950, with over 3,000 subscribers, the telephone offices were relocated elsewhere in Martinsville. The Martinsville Telephone Company building was sold to the First Christian Church in 1957 and to Hester Cure in 1963. Within a few years, it was connected to the Cure and Hensley Mortuary.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

The entire property, including the former Martinsville Telephone Company building, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Martinsville Public Library, 110 South Jefferson Street, Neoclassical, 1906/1990. [64127] (Photo #8) Martinsville's Carnegie Library is constructed of rusticated Bedford limestone. The T-plan building features an elevated, projecting gabled entrance pavilion supported by four Ionic columns. A rotunda emerges from the cross-gabled roof. Pilasters mark the outside corners. The windows consist of a single leaded glass fixed sash over two-over-two pane fixed sash. The roof is asphalt. Both the original library and the 1990 addition is one story over a full basement. The classical-influenced 1990 addition is faced with smooth Bedford limestone and is sympathetic to the original in material, scale and design.

Funded by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, who donated \$12,500, the Martinsville Public Library was designed by the Evansville architectural firm Harris and Shopbell. The contractor was Ora Storm. Carnegie's gift covered the expenses of a brick building, but city officials believed that a limestone building would be more suitable for the Artesian City, which annually received "thousands of visitors from the best and most intelligent families of the United States." City officials sold bonds to generate the additional \$2,500 necessary for the limestone building after Carnegie refused to contribute the difference. The institution was dedicated on September 1, 1908. The addition was completed in 1990.

Martinsville City Hall, 59 South Jefferson Street, Renaissance Revival, 1917. [61068] (Photo #9) This outstanding municipal building is made of brick supplied by the Martinsville Brick Company. Rectangular in plan, it features a hipped asphalt roof over a seven-bay front facade. Decorative brackets are found under the eaves. Windows on the second floor are arched, with an elliptical, multi-pane fixed sash over two six-over-six double hung sash. The first floor windows are rectangular six-over-one double hung sash. The central entrance features Doric columns and entablature framing a multi-pane, wood-frame door with rectangular, multi-pane transom. The building is banded by a limestone watertable. The foundation is limestone. A connected three-bay fire station is found on the north. The bunkhouse consists of two stories; the garage is one story. An early--if not original--siren is located on the roof of the bunkhouse.

The Martinsville City Hall was built in 1917 during a Democrat administration. On February 23, 1917, the *Martinsville Democrat* trumpeted "SOME BIG DOINGS AT THE

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

COUNCIL":

There were some big doings at the City Council Monday night and some plans started that will make a big change and big improvement in our municipal life --history in fact. Why, just think: we are going to have a City Hall--a stately building (not in harmony with the county capitol--the court house--but one in harmony with the city's better enterprises).

Plans for the new City Hall included a permanent home for the fire department, which had just purchased its first motorized fire truck. The building also contained the council chamber; mayor's office; offices for the clerk, treasurer and city engineer; and an assembly room on the second floor. The contract for the new building was let to W. W. Wilson. The total cost was estimated to be \$24,336.58.

The city Republicans opposed the construction of a new City Hall during wartime and complained bitterly about the Democrats' excessive and insensitive expenditure. Construction commenced and continued through 1917, and by January 1, 1918, the Democrats had been thrown out of office without ever taking up residence in the building they built. Today, the building continues to house the city offices and fire department. The building underwent remodelling in 1986.

Pitkin Building, 193-195 East Washington Street, Vernacular, c.1900. [No site number] (Photo #10) This two-story vernacular building is built of brick. It features a four-bay front facade with a recessed double entrance. Windows are vinyl replacements, each one-over-one double hung sash.

Erected as an apartment building about 1900, this brick vernacular structure has been used a combination residential and commercial property since 1933 when Dr. Edward Pitkin purchased it and established his medical office in the east first floor rooms. The building subsequently was known as the Pitkin Building. The west first floor rooms were used as an office by a local dentist. The building continues to be used for both residential and commercial purposes. Arthur and Betty Ann Brill are the current owners.

The nearly identical **Gray Building [no site number]** is located directly to the west at 171 East Washington Street. (Photo #10) In 1932, Dr. Leon Gray converted the east first floor rooms into his medical office. Dr. Hector Hickman, a dentist, utilized the west first floor rooms. Since 1952, the entire first floor has been the dental office of Dr. Gordon Gray, the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

son of Leon Gray. The upper rooms are residential units. The current owner is Dr. Gordon Gray.

Barskin's Department Store, 109 East Washington Street, Commercial Vernacular, 1922. [610038] (Photo #11) This large building is faced with brick from the Martinsville Brick Company. Two stories in height, the building is plain and practical in design. All original windows have either been filled or reduced; the most severely altered are the street-level display windows, now non-existent. The original doors have also been replaced.

When completed in 1922, Samuel Barskin's impressive new department store was the realization of his dream "to build a big store room, modern and convenient and have departments for different lines." Consisting of two floors and a basement (on the second floor was a large auditorium and four large apartments), "the splendid business block," extolled the *Martinsville Republican*, was the result of "Mr. Barskin's methods of courtesy and square dealing. . . ." In November 1940, needing a rest and unable to pass up the deal of a lifetime, Samuel Barskin leased the building sans merchandise to Sears, Roebuck and Company. Sears left the building and the city of Martinsville in February 1984. The property was then acquired by a local contractor and converted into apartments. It is owned today by Kent Richardson.

Morgan County Courthouse Square, Italianate, 1857-1859. [61029] (Photo #12) This cruciform plan Italianate courthouse is made of red brick and features projecting entrance pavilions on the north and south and a campanile at the south entrance. The foundation is hand-quarried sandstone. Windows are double-hung sash, carried on sandstone sills and anchored by limestone plinth blocks and a keystone. Archivolts are brick. At the building's outside corners are limestone quoins. A sheriff's residence annex is found on the west. A large rectangular addition dating from 1976 is found on the east.

Designed by Isaac Hodgson, the pre-Civil War era Morgan County Courthouse was built by Perry M. Blankenship. It has served as the governmental center of the county since that time and has undergone renovation, restoration and/or remodeling in c.1895, 1912, 1934, 1956 and 1976. At the time of this writing, a \$2 million renovation is underway; all administrative offices have been removed to a new building and the interior is being completely remodelled to accommodate an enlarged court system. The Morgan County Courthouse was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in January 1996.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 8 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

Switow's Dream Theater/Grace Theater/Indiana Theater, 59 East Washington Street, Commercial Vernacular, 1914/1927/1939. [61035] (Photo #5; see also xeroxed page A with historic photographs.) This two-story building is constructed of brick, coated with heavy stucco above and faced with yellow stone at street level. The recessed double doors feature semi-circular windows; when the doors are closed, the windows form a full circle. Windows in two second-story projecting bays are filled. Between the bays are found three 12-pane fixed sash windows. At street level are found six plate glass display windows.

Formerly a movie theater and since 1979 the home of Super Sports Supply, a sporting goods store, this building suffered a fire in 1978 which resulted in its unsympathetic remodeling. Today, only the characteristic theater entrance with its paired doors--each with one-half of the circular window--and interior ramped vestibule hints at the building's history. Where there was once (since 1937) slick Carrera glass, there is chocolate brown stucco; where there was once full-front plate glass display windows, there is yellow stone veneer.

First opened as Switow's Dream Theater in 1914 and believed to be the finest movie palace of its day, the "Dream Theater" featured a small balcony and stage used for live performances. Remodelled for the first time about 1927, the theater, by then known as the Grace, became "one of the prettiest picture play houses to be found anywhere." A fire in September 1939 severely damaged the theater, and it underwent extensive remodeling, including the removal of the balcony and the creation of an updated facade. Gone were the graceful arches and upper balustrade and the brick and limestone. Replacing them were cool Carrera glass, Art Deco windows, and a neon-lit, towering marquee. By the 1950s, the renamed Indiana Theater attracted a new generation of movie goers with its stream-lined, glass-filled storefront face and "air cooled" interior. As the Indiana Theater, the business exchanged hands many times. A fire in 1978 closed Martinsville's last downtown theater. A year later, after heavy remodeling, the building reopened as Super Sports Supply. The building's current owners are David DeMott, Anthony DeMott and Frank Pauley. It is noncontributing.

J & S Linoleum & Paint, 33 East Washington Street, Italianate, c. 1875. [61033] (Photo #13) Since 1958, this two-unit building has housed a single business. The west unit features a cast-iron cornice with decorative brackets and stubs of finials. The three one-over-one double hung sash windows on the second story have decorative tin hoods with

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

molded corner blocks and a keystone. The east unit is less adorned, with a corbelled brick cornice and brick archivolt above the one-over-one double hung sash windows. At street level, the two units are united with full-height plate glass windows. In the east unit is found a doorway leading upstairs. In the west unit is the recessed store entrance.

This two-unit building is the oldest commercial property on the south side of the square. The west unit was the location of James and Butler Grocery from about 1900-1934. The east unit was occupied by Cure & Sons Undertaking from 1903-1913, and by Morgan County Insurance during the 1930s and 1940s. From 1946-1958 the west room was used by Indiana Bank and Trust. In 1958, J & S Linoleum & Paint moved into the bank's rooms and proceeded to combine the two units into one. Today the building is still occupied by J & S Linoleum & Paint, which is owned and operated by Tom and Nick James, the sons of founder Austin James. The building is owned by Patricia Hardwick.

Stevens House/Building, 21-29 East Washington Street, I House/Italianate, c.1847 and Commercial Vernacular, c.1915. [61032] (Photo #14; see also xeroxed page B with historic photographs.) This vernacular brick commercial building consists of two individual commercial units separated by an enclosed staircase leading to the second story. The building's second story features seven windows; each is one-over one double hung sash with limestone sills and lintels. Each first floor unit has a recessed entrance flanked by plate glass display windows; the overhead transoms have been filled and/or obscured. The west and south elevations reveal that this commercial building originated as a dwelling. In fact, historic photographs reveal that the building was a brick I-house with rear ell with later Italianate influences. The west wall, now partially obscured by advertising signs, reveals several filled windows and decorative eave brackets. The south wall provides additional early details: windows, a door and eave brackets.

Pioneers of Martinsville, Dr. Hannibal R. Stevens and his wife Sarah Ann built the original I house about 1847. It replaced a log cabin--the original Stevens home--on the same site. The I house was home to Dr. and Mrs. Stevens and later their son John and his family. Following the death of John's wife, Lucinda Hite Stevens, in 1913, the structure was vacated as a residence. Within a short time, the house was remodelled into the present commercial building.

From approximately 1920-1965, a filling station was located on the vacant lot directly west of the Stevens House.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

The property is currently owned by Patricia Hardwick, a descendant of Dr. Hannibal R. Stevens.

41-43 South Main Street, Commercial Vernacular, c. 1900. [61058] (Photo #15) This small two-unit brick structure is one story in height. It is exceedingly simple, with two steel doors and two fixed single pane windows on the front facade. On the north wall is found a new mural advertising the Art Gallery, the business in the north unit.

This small building has been home to various commercial businesses throughout its history, including Conway and Cunningham paint and wallpaper store (1920s), the Artesian Lunch Room and later Watson's Grill (1930s-1950s) and Hans Nowa's real-estate company (1950s-1980s). The current owner is Nowa's stepdaughter, Patricia Hardwick.

First Christian Church, 89 South Main Street, Gothic Revival, 1891, and Annex, Tudor Revival, 1927. [61056 and 61057] (Photo #16) The brick Christian Church has a cross-gabled roof and a cruciform plan. It features a square belltower with pyramidal roof topped by a cross at the southwest corner. The lancet, or pointed arch, stained glass windows have brick lintel courses with stone keystones. Buttresses with stone caps are found at the building's outside corners. The elevated main entrance is in the tower; originally there were two entrances, but the west entrance has been filled. The oversize door is panelled wood. A Bennett pipe organ was installed in 1894-1895.

In 1927, the Tudor Revival style Annex was constructed on the lot north of the church. It is connected to the Church. Faced with Oriental brick, a product of the Martinsville Brick Company, the annex consists of two stories over a full basement. It has a limestone belt course above a concrete foundation, a limestone watertable below the cornice and stone caps on the north chimney. The main elevation faces west and features an entrance in a limestone pointed arch opening. Steel casement windows are four-over-eight double-hung sash, with the exception of a large window in the center of the front facade. This large ornamental window raises two stories, with two six-over-twenty-four windows (one on each story) separated by a limestone panel carved with four pointed arches.

The First Christian Church was erected in 1891, a year in which the congregation numbered 400 members, including some of the wealthiest persons in the city. The congregation prepared for its 100th anniversary in 1991 with the complete restoration of the pipe organ.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 11 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

Martinsville Post Office, 10 South Main Street, Colonial Revival, 1935/1974. [61040] (Photo #17) The Martinsville Post Office is a rectangular, gable-sided brick building with flat-roofed wings on the north and south walls. A larger, later and matching addition is found on the south wing. The front three-bay (east) facade consists of a central entrance flanked by 12-over-12 double hung sash windows with limestone keystones and corner blocks. Each window is set into a recessed and arched brick-filled panel, as is the entrance. Elevated slightly above ground level and accessed by a flight of stairs, the replacement double doors are each steel framed with a single pane of glass. The entrance is topped by a limestone broken ogee pediment and framed by pieced limestone blocks. The north and south wings have a limestone cornice band; on the main building are found cornice returns. In the south wing is a limestone block dated 1935. The foundation is brick. The roof is asphalt.

Prior to 1935, the Martinsville Post Office was located at 10 North Jefferson, later the home of Newberry Department Store (see final entry). At that time, the corner of Main and Washington Street was occupied by the former Mitchell Bank, which had become the Elks Lodge. Fred Finney, owner/editor of the *Martinsville Democrat* and city postmaster, campaigned for the construction of the current post office. Since 1937, the post office interior has featured a **WPA Mural**, "Arrival of the Mail" (Photo #18), depicting sorrowful and gleeful recipients of news. Painted by Indianapolis artist Alan Tompkins, the nationally significant mural was restored in 1974 by Martinsville artist Antonius Raemakers, a Netherlands-born and -educated muralist. The painting had been water-damaged by earlier attempts to clean it and not by a post office fire as has been reported. Also in 1974, the Martinsville Post Office underwent remodelling and received the large rectangular south addition.

Mason House/Grand Hotel, 10-20-28 North Main Street, Commercial Vernacular, 1856-1866/c.1885/1904. [61041-42] (Photo #2; see also xeroxed page C with historic photographs.) This two-story brick building consists of three street-level commercial units. It features a corbelled cornice below a hipped roof. Second story windows are six-over-six double hung sash. The second story windows on the unit at 28 North Main Street are obscured by an artificial brick facade. Streetfront windows are plate glass and are sheltered by a shingled, wood pent-roof canopy.

This large business block was begun in 1856 by James Cunningham and completed in 1866 by hosteler Samuel Tucker, proprietor of the **Mason House**. By 1895, just eight years after the discovery of mineral water made Martinsville a destination for the ill of health, the Mason House had become the **Grand Hotel** and sported a full third story under a multi-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 12 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

dormered Second Empire roof. The new name was more fitting with the new design; both attracted wealthy sanitarium visitors flocking to Martinsville for its restorative waters.

By 1904, the Grand Hotel had been converted into a series of drygoods, clothing and other stores, with a full glass storefront enticing customers with displays of goods for sale. A fire on February 24, 1904, destroyed the third floor, resulting in extensive repair and remodelling: the third floor was removed and replaced with a hipped standing-seam metal roof and a decorative corbelled cornice below.

The historic Mason House/Grand Hotel today consists of three individual units. Owners of 10-20 North Main Street are Jeffrey David and Cynthia Trout. Owners of 28 North Main Street are Bill and Maryann Cunningham.

38-40 North Main Street, Commercial Vernacular, c. 1855. [61043] (Photo #19) This two-unit building is divided by an interior stairway leading to the second floor rooms; a paneled wood door is found off the sidewalk. A corbelled cornice is found beneath the flat roof. All second-story windows are one-over-one double hung sash. The storefront of the unit at 38 North Main Street consists of plate glass and aluminum.

The unit at 40 North Main Street is known as the **Martinsville Candy Kitchen**. It retains its late nineteenth century cast iron posts and display windows and a tattered red and white striped canvas awning.

The **Martinsville Candy Kitchen**, owned and operated by James Zapapas from 1920-1973, was well-known for its ice cream specialties and handmade candies, especially candy canes (thus the red and white striped awning). The confectionery and eatery was a popular stop for sanitarium visitors and local residents alike. In 1978, owners Ken and Jeanne Addington relocated the confectionery portion of the business to 90 North Main Street; the Martinsville Kitchen, a typical small-town cafe, continues to operate at the original location. Charles and Phyllis Mason are the building's current owner.

Modern Woodmen of America Hall/Sisson Building, 50-60 North Main Street, Commercial Vernacular, c.1860/c.1950. [61045] (Photo #20; see also xeroxed pages D and G with historic photographs.) This brick building features a central, double recessed entrance surrounded by glass display windows and a center glass display island. A wood canopy with asphalt shingles shelters the storefront. The second story has two pair of

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 13 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

one-over-one double hung sash windows. The second story brick exterior is covered with stucco, now painted a pale green. A new, vertical neon sign is mounted to the center front.

Among the earliest brick commercial structures on the courthouse square, this building originally had three stories, the uppermost serving first as the Masonic Temple and then the lodge hall of the Modern Woodmen of America. A 1935 photograph in the *Martinsville Democrat* depicts the recently remodelled Sisson Drugstore, reduced to two stories and "the first modernistic building in Martinsville." In the 1950s, the building underwent yet another remodelling, making the property today noncontributing. From approximately 1920-1950, the building served as home to a pharmacy. It was subsequently home to Adler's Department Store and Alexander's Shoes. Sue A. Ruzek is the current owner; the property is vacant.

56 North Main Street, Commercial Vernacular, c.1847. [61046] (Photo #20) This two story brick building has recently undergone extensive renovation, receiving a new storefront of eight fixed sash, one-over-one windows and a complete interior updating. A wood pent roof serves as an awning. The glass-doored entrance is recessed. The second story features a corbelled cornice and wood panels covering five windows.

On the occasion of his 80th birthday in 1926, William Eslinger, an early Martinsville resident, reported that this building, built by Jonathan and Nathan Hunt, was the oldest brick building on the courthouse square. From about 1920-1930, James Zapapas operated the Martinsville Candy Kitchen at this location. In more recent decades it has been occupied by Elliott Bros. and Schmalz's menswear stores. It is currently owned by Ann Marvel, owner of Marvel Title and Escrow.

Hale Building, 96 North Main Street, Commercial Vernacular, c.1860/1917. [61048] (Photo #21) The second story of this corner building is faced with Oriental brick manufactured by the Martinsville Brick Company and punctuated with limestone blocks. Two pair of one-over-one double hung sash windows look out over Main Street; narrow, louvered wood shutters flank each pair. The cornice is corbelled. The first floor of the front facade consists of a recessed double entrance at the north corner, display windows and corner posts covered with metal panels. The north first floor wall is brick on the second story and glass and metal panels on the first. An entrance near the north-south alley leads to a rear business room. Hanging over the sidewalk on the building's corner is a large three-part advertising sign.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 14 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

An 1875 photograph of this building depicts a two-story brick commercial structure possibly housing Stevens drygoods store. During the period 1900-1917, Jacob Hart operated Hart's Bazaar, which sold "all sorts of fancy things", at this location. Following Hart's death, the

building was acquired by J. C. Hale, partner in the Martinsville Brick Company, and completely remodeled with a new facade, fixtures, vault and heating system. Occupants at that time were Capitol Finance Company and Peck and Gene's barber shop. In 1957, the building was sold to Indiana Bank and Trust Company. After the financial institution vacated the property, it was occupied by Habig's clothing store into the early 1990s. The Hale Building is currently owned by Kathleen French.

Martinsville Improved Order of Red Men Lodge, 55-65 West Morgan Street, Vernacular, 1908. [61022] (Photo #22) This two-story brick building hall consists of two street-level business rooms and a second story fraternal hall. A central paneled door with filled transom leads to the upstairs room. A steel header runs across the display windows of both business rooms, and cast iron posts anchor the wall ends and flank the door to the upstairs. Both business rooms have recessed entrances with transoms and large display windows; the windows in the east unit have been reduced slightly. The second story is pierced by four one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Above the windows, the front wall extends above roof level. Until quite recently, cast iron letters were mounted here that read 19 WIGWAM 08; shadows have made their presence evident. The letters were recently removed by the building's current occupant, a church.

The Martinsville Seminole Tribe #125 of the Improved Order of Red Men was instituted on November 17, 1892. This new lodge was constructed in 1908, with the fraternal order utilizing the second floor and various commercial businesses located at street level. Among the businesses located here were Galbreath's bicycle shop during the 1920s and 1930s and from about 1950-1980, Kent Dry Cleaning at 55 W. Morgan and Past Time Cigar Shop at 65 W. Morgan. The current owner is Gladys Quinton, who purchased the building in 1996 for use by Manna Mission.

Martinsville Auto Company, 77 West Morgan Street, Vernacular, c.1908. [61021] (Photo #22) This one-story brick building is filled at street level with large, three-part fixed display windows consisting of single panes topped by multi-light panes and a topmost single or double pane. One pedestrian double entrance is located in the north facade. Two automobile entrances are located in the west facade.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 15 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

The Martinsville Auto Company originated in 1904 when brickyard owner John Clark built an automobile repair shop for his son, William E. Clark, on the southeast corner of Morgan and Mulberry Street. Known as Clark's Garage, the business became an official Buick dealership in 1907, and its name was changed to Martinsville Auto Company. When Bill retired in 1944 after 37 years in the business, his was the oldest Buick dealership in Indiana and the fourth oldest in the United States. The Martinsville Auto Company ceased operations in 1975. It is now the location of Hometown Transmission and is owned by Samuel and Delores Neal.

T. H. Nutter Building, 60-66-70 West Morgan Street, Commercial Vernacular, 1891. [61003] (Photo #23) The ten-bay, two-story T. H. Nutter Building is made of brick. The second story features one-over-one double hung sash windows set in panels framed by brick pilasters. A corbelled cornice is set with a limestone block carved with the date of construction and the builder's name. The first story has been greatly altered with buff-colored brick facing and reduced windows. The easternmost business unit has a storefront of reddish brick, two one-over-one double hung sash windows and a recessed entrance. A non-contributing one-story buff-colored brick building is attached to the west wall, continuing the appearance of the modified storefront.

In 1891, entrepreneur Thomas H. Nutter erected this brick business block to house a hotel and restaurant, a buggy shop and the Nutter Brothers Jewelry Store operated by Albert F. and John C. Nutter, two of Thomas's many sons. Adjacent to it on the west was the Nutter Livery and Feed Stable, owned by Thomas and operated with another son, Job. The stable was destroyed by fire on January 14, 1912. The T. H. Nutter Building was spared, however, and is owned today by Mildred Hammons.

Moore/Kivett's Five and Ten Cent Store, 110 North Main Street, Italianate, 1860/c.1900. [61049] (Photo #24) This immense three-story brick building is painted red. It features a hipped roof, molded tin cornice with decorative brackets and numerous windows with limestone block lintels. All second and third story windows are one-over-one double hung sash; three pair are symmetrically placed on the second story front (east) wall. Twelve significantly smaller one-over-one double hung sash windows are found at the first floor level on the south wall. The storefront features a corner recessed double entrance and plate glass display windows. An overhanging, self-supporting metal awning canopy shelters the sidewalk; vertical freestanding letters advertise the business: 5-10 KIVETT'S 5-10.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 16 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

Following his 1852 move to Martinsville and his second marriage to Elizabeth Wampler, Dr. Robert H. Tarleton, a physician and druggist, built this landmark structure about 1860. Originally a two-story building, in 1900 the third floor was added as a Masonic Lodge. The building housed a drugstore until 1930, when it was installed with self-serve counters and opened as Moore's Five and Ten Cent Store. Sold to John S. Kivett in 1932, the building was home to Kivett's Five and Ten Cent Store until 1984.

The writer of a 1930 newspaper article recalls that "the old town pump", used by both men and animals, was located in front of the drugstore along Main Street.

The building is now occupied by The Emporium antiques and collectibles and owned by Jack and Katherine Hammack.

Rigrish-Siler's Drugstore, 142 North Main Street, Commercial Vernacular, c.1900. [No site number] (Photo #3) The four-bay second story of this brick commercial building features a corbelled cornice and four one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Four rectangular attic vents have been filled with plywood. The storefront of the north unit is completely altered with a painted wood covering, a full-plate recessed glass door and a three-sided display window. An aluminum awning is found over the sidewalk. A unique feature of this building is the advertising mural for Rigrish Drug Co., an early occupant, found on the north exterior wall.

Although a unified facade makes it appear that the units to the south at 136 and 138 North Main Street are in the same building as 142 North Main Street, a closer look reveals a seam in the brickwork indicating two separate buildings.

D. W. Rigrish came to Martinsville in 1908, owning two drugstores in Martinsville--one of them at 142 North Main Street--a third in Franklin, and a fourth in Indianapolis. Rigrish's daughter and son-in-law, Catherine and Earl Siler, operated Siler's Drugstore at this location from 1936-1961. Their daughter, Mary Kersting Moore, is the building's current owner.

Interurban Station, 154 North Main Street, Commercial Vernacular, 1902/c.1956. [61053] (Photo #25) Painted a buff color, this one-story building is actually two separate buildings joined together. It features a glass entrance door and three plate glass windows. The south portion of the building dates from 1902 and has a corbelled cornice. The north portion lacks a corbelled cornice and dates from the 1950s. A suspended metal canopy hangs

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 17 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

over the sidewalk.

In early 1902, this site was cleared to make room for the new Interurban station. The south portion of the current Watson and Son store was the original passenger waiting area. The north portion was built about 1956 utilizing space used as the Interurban line's turn-around. Since September 1956, the property has been home to Watson and Son. Dale and Sandra Coffey are the current owners.

Eslinger Building, 160-190 North Main Street, Commercial Vernacular, 1918. [61055] (Photo #26) This unassuming two-story brick building consists of residential units on the second floor and three commercial business rooms on the first. The second story features seven windows, all of which have been dramatically reduced. Five windows are one-over-one double hung sash; the other two are fixed octagons. The storefront appears original, with large display windows and wood frame doors. The north door has tri-pane sidelights. Between the south and middle shop doors is a door leading to the upstairs.

William H. Eslinger, one of the earliest residents of Martinsville, built this hotel. Through the 1920s it was operated by Charles Duckworth as the Duckworth Hotel, and after his retirement it became known as the Jarvis Hotel. From the late 1950s to the early 1980s it was the Main Street Hotel, operated by Robert and Rose Liese. Upstairs rooms were available for overnight guests, with the hotel office and various commercial establishments on the first floor. The Lieses operated the Greyhound Bus Station out of 190 N. Main and at various times also a newsstand and small cafe. The bus station closed in the early 1980s. The property's current owner is Rose Liese's brother, Walter E. Myers.

The Eslinger house was located across Main Street in what is now an empty lot. About 1930, the tile brick garage located at the rear of the hotel was erected on the former site of Eslinger's Livery owned and operated by William's son, Alonzo.

Wich Apartments, 59 West Pike Street, Vernacular, c.1910. [64067] (Photo #27) With a stepped back roof and corbelled front cornice, this two-story brick building features a full balcony on the second floor supported by brick columns, with a porch below. Windows are one-over-one double hung sash.

Owned by German immigrant Henry Wich, this apartment building was erected about 1910. The Wich family lived here and rented out rooms, with Henry also operating a small eatery

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 18 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

and tobacco shop in the 100 block of North Main Street. Today the property consists of several low-income residential units and is owned by Rose Liese.

Central/Preston Hotel, 189 North Mulberry Street, Vernacular, c. 1890. [64068]
(Photo #28) Simple and unadorned, this two-story, three-bay brick building features a first floor front (west) porch with a concrete block base and four supports. Windows are one-over-one double hung sash. There are two wood-framed entrances on the first floor. A third door is found on the second floor between two windows. The roof is stepped, and the cornice is corbelled.

Two blocks from the train depot and around the corner from the Interurban station on Main Street, the Preston Hotel was a popular overnight stop for salesman and others doing business in Martinsville. Today the property consists of several low-income residential units. It is owned by Walter E. Myers.

Sugar Creek Creamery Station, 159 South Mulberry Street, Commercial Vernacular, c.1900. [No site number] (Photo #29) This one-room, one-story brick building has a stepped roof, corbelled cornice and semi-circular attic vents on the front (west) facade. The storefront is completely filled, pierced by a door and two small double-hung windows. A chimney, window and door (both reduced) are original features on the north wall. A third window has been added.

During the 1920s, this small building housed M. J. Akers's barber shop. From about 1925-1959, his son, Paul, operated the Sugar Creek Creamery Station here. Since the early 1970s, it has been used as a residential property.

Hendrickson Motors and Marathon Filling Station, 215 North Main Street, Commercial Vernacular, c.1920. [No site number] (Photo #30) This rambling brick structure is the result of several buildings being connected over time. The exterior walls are covered with stucco and painted gray. Most windows have been reduced and are now single fixed sash. There is one auto bay on the south (another has been converted into a multi-pane window) and two on the west. A former Marathon filling station faced with white glazed brick is found at the southwest corner. The bottom portion of a sign ("THON") is found above the entrance. Awnings over the two windows are roofed with cast iron pantiles. Goose neck lamps are found in pairs over several auto bays.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 19 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

Three connected units were found on the northeast corner of Main and Pike Street as early as 1902, the year the J. T. Gurley Livery was located here. By 1916, the structure was being utilized by a feed and poultry business, and a separate auto garage was located on the west side of the alley east of Main Street. Preston Payne established an automobile dealership here about 1920. In 1922, the L. E. Black Motor Company was located in the east wing of this property. The filling station, later a Marathon franchise, was a later addition to the Black Motor Company. In 1936, Harry Hendrickson moved his Ford dealership, Hendrickson Motors, to this location, and about 1945 the north wing was added as a tractor display room. Hendrickson sold the dealership and the property to Don Bastin and John Daily in 1957. Their business, City Motors, closed in 1971. The property's current owner is Bob J. Daniel.

Union Block, northeast corner of Main and Morgan Street, Italianate, 1866. [61005-006 and 61059] and "MARTINSVILLE CITY OF MINERAL WATER" sign, c. 1930 [61004] (Photo #6, 31) Occupying nearly a quarter block, this anchor two-story brick building today consists of 6-7 units. The foundation is sandstone block. The front elevation faces south and is painted in four different colors demarcating the individually owned units. The vacant west unit at 10 East Morgan Street is painted tan with mustard yellow cast iron elements. The next unit to the east, 18 East Morgan Street, is painted white; its storefront has been recast using plate glass and glass block. The second story of the next unit at 28 East Morgan Street is buff; the first story has been completely remodeled using new brick. The next and easternmost unit, 36 East Morgan Street, has received a facing of new brick as well as a redesigned storefront of limestone and glass. This last unit actually is made up of one business room in the Union Block and the neighboring building to the east.

The entire second story front facade presents a unified face: 19 arched windows with limestone sills, plinth blocks and keystone are symmetrically placed below semi-circular attic vents. The windows in the first (tan) unit have been reduced and the vents filled. The windows and vents in the next unit (white) are filled. The windows in the third unit (buff) are double hung sash; the upper sash is arched. The attic vents are filled. The windows in the fourth unit (new brick) are double-hung sash with a semi-circular fixed pane above. The attic vents are filled. A limestone belt course is found below the windows.

The west facade reveals two separate but like-designed buildings; the rear portion of the Union Block is a somewhat later addition. Three business units are located in the rear portion; two are currently occupied. In the rear portion, nine arched double-hung windows are found on the second story. There are three decorative wood attic vents. There are two

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 20 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

entrances at ground level, each placed in a slightly recessed arched panel. These panels are painted chocolate brown. In the front portion of the west facade at the second story are eight arched double-hung windows identical to those on the front facade. Below them at street level are eight recessed arched panels; they do not appear to originally been windows. On the north wall, along the east-west alley, is the faded remnants of an advertising mural for Cremo Tobacco. About the turn of the century, the southwest corner was altered along with the storefront on East Morgan Street with cast iron posts. This alteration coupled with subsequent neglect has caused a major separation in the brickwork at this corner, critically loosening a keystone and seriously endangering the building.

On the building's roof at the southwest corner is located an unusual historic resource: a **neon sign** promoting "**MARTINSVILLE CITY OF MINERAL WATER**", c.1930. Advertising the healing properties of Martinsville's artesian wells, this sign, which was paid for by public donations, attracted visitors to the city's many sanitariums. It has long been inoperable.

In 1858, Norman T. Cunningham entered the general mercantile business with John Stevens. The business had flourished by 1866 so that Cunningham could erect this anchor commercial block on the northwest corner of the public square. A skilled and successful farmer and merchant, Cunningham owned over 800 acres in Morgan County, laid out two additions to the city of Martinsville and "invested much money in the building enterprise", according to Morgan County historian Charles Blanchard.

During its history, the Union Block was occupied by Cunningham's mercantile until 1888. A second floor room was the first location of the Home Building Association (now Home Bank), the only local financial institution to survive the Depression. With a total of five business rooms, the Union Block housed an early Kroger grocery store (and later an A & P store) and various other retail businesses. About 1910, the east half of the Union Block was converted into Blackstone's Theatre (which much later became the State Theater) and cigar shop and pool hall. The theater entrance was at the rear of an approximate 12-foot wide corridor cut out of the building's solid front.

The Union Block now consists of four individual units fronting Morgan Street. Rick Blankenship is the owner of 10 East Morgan Street. George L. Eaglin is the owner of 18 East Morgan Street, now the Northside Inn. Action Associates, owners of Action Title, own 28 East Morgan Street. Attorney Joseph Barker owns 36 East Morgan Street.

The rear extension of the Union Block faces North Main Street and includes commercial units at 135 and 145 North Main Street. A third unit is vacant. These are currently owned by

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 21 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

Rick Blankenship. Blankenship also is the apparent owner of the neon sign.

Citizens National Bank, 60 East Morgan Street, Craftsman, 1909. [61008] (Photo #32)
Two stories in height, this brick bank building features limestone accents: a capped cornice, decorative brackets, beltcourse, window keystones and sills and entrance surround. The foundation is also limestone block. Second story windows are one-over-one double hung sash; a bank of four windows is centrally located and flanked by single windows between pilasters. All west windows are drastically reduced. The first story is greatly modified. Originally, a central entrance consisted of wood-framed double doors, sidelights and transoms--all accented with limestone. Two fixed sash windows were located on either side of the entrance. Today the entrance is off-center, with a wood door, windows, overhead wood panel and brick infill. The original east window has been converted into a second front entrance.

Founded in 1894, Citizens National Bank erected this bank building in 1909. The imposing Craftsman style building was meant to last. The bank, however, didn't. A casualty of the depression, it merged with First National Bank in 1931 and the building was abandoned as a financial institution. The building later became home to Bailey and Staggs Drugstores. Since 1973, it has been occupied by the law offices of Foley, Foley and Peden. Current owners and occupants are Ralph Foley, Mark Peden and Robert St. Clair.

Phelps Drugstore, 78 East Morgan Street, Italianate, c.1870. [61011] (Photo #33)
Featuring a decorative molded tin cornice with rosettes, dentils and brackets, as well as window hoods and surrounds, the second story of this building is faced with tin resembling cut stone block. Three symmetrically placed wood windows are two-over-two double hung sash. An original cast iron cornice dividing the second and first stories, presumably like the one still found on the adjoining unit at 88 East Morgan Street, has been removed and replaced by a plain wood panel. The original storefront has also been altered, and now consists of a limestone base and recessed entrance flanked by two-sided shop windows. A door accessing stairs to the upper floor is located on the east front facade and separates the adjoining business room.

From 1926-1993, Phelps Drug Store, operated by Robert and Emmett Phelps, was located at 78 East Morgan Street. During the 1950s and early 1960s, Phelps's soda fountain and counter was a favorite local gathering place for students after school, as well as early morning basketball fans. The Phelps Drug Store is now owned by Rebecca Broyer. The unit at 88 East Morgan Street is owned by Charles Mason. The two-unit building was conceived

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 22 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

as a whole and built between c.1870 and 1874 by merchant Henry Sims, probably to house the Sims drygoods store. The east unit was sold separately in 1886.

Union Bakery, 96 East Morgan Street, Commercial Vernacular, c.1870. [61012] (Photo #33) Not as tall as its Italianate neighbors to the west, this two-story brick vernacular structure no longer looks like their contemporary. A corbelled cornice is its most decorative element. Three untrimmed second story windows are one-over-one double hung sash. The second story is painted white. The 1960s storefront is faced with unpainted brick and features plate glass windows, a slightly recessed glass door and a flat aluminum canopy.

Leb Matthews and his son George operated the Union Bakery at this location for almost 65 years before it closed in 1937. Established in 1856, the Bakery received its name because the elder Matthews was a staunch supporter of the Union during the Civil War. In May 1963, the storefront was remodelled to its current appearance. The building is now the home of Gateway Collectibles and is owned by Esther Bray.

Morgan County Auto Company/Farmer Hatchery and Supply Company, 161 North Jefferson Street, Commercial Vernacular, c. 1915. [61077] (Photo #34) This flat-roofed one-story auto dealership is constructed of Oriental brick manufactured by the Martinsville Brick Company. It has a raised false front with a low-pitched central gable and extensions with limestone-lined crenelations. Storefront display windows appear in pairs alongside the recessed central entrance.

The location of Martinsville's first Ford dealership, this building was erected by E. A. Bennett, owner of the Morgan County Auto Company. About 1940, it was converted into a poultry hatchery owned by Ed Kriner and several partners. It remained a hatchery until the late 1960s, becoming a Western Auto franchise in 1971. Its current owner is Walter E. Myers.

Martinsville I. O. O. F. Block, 110-128 East Morgan Street, Italianate, 1893. [61022] (Photo #35; see also xeroxed page E with historic photograph.) As depicted in an 1895 photograph, this imposing business block originally consisted of four first floor units, second floor offices and a third floor lodge hall. Today it consists of two individual units, each with a front elevation facing Morgan Street. The unit at 110 East Morgan Street is the largest. Three stories in height, this unit features a molded tin cornice (now freshly painted white), numerous one-over-one double hung sash windows with limestone hoods and sills, and a storefront of display windows and mint green and black Carrera glass. A limestone

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 23 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

datestone is located below the cornice. The building has been sandblasted and sealed. The southwest corner is cut away; it is here that the recessed first floor entrance is located. A second entrance is found on East Morgan Street near the east wall shared by the adjoining unit. This door leads to stairs accessing the upper floors. Above the door, which is sheltered by a small, flat canopy, is a tablet of black stone engraved with the letters I. O. O. F.

The unit at 128 East Morgan Street is two stories in height; the second story is painted pale yellow with steel blue accents. The decorative cornice is molded tin. Two round vent holes are found beneath the cornice, and beneath them, three four-over-four double hung sash windows. The storefront retains its cast iron posts and lintel beam, but the original windows have been reduced and the gaps filled with new red brick. A steel door is no longer public; the current owners have annexed the building to the east, in which the main entrance is now located.

Chartered in 1867, Martinsville Lodge #274 (also known as Callis Lodge) of the Independent Order of Oddfellows commissioned this large business block in 1893, reserving the third floor for their meeting room. In 1895, commercial occupants included, from west to east, the Lee Dove & Co. Dry Goods Store, T. C. Kennedy Groceries, Elliott & Wilhite Furniture & Undertaking and H. J. Hinson Furniture. The corner storefront is remembered by many people as the home of Public Service Indiana and Barskin's Menswear.

Today the I. O. O. F. Block is divided into two individually owned units. The unit at 110 East Morgan Street is owned by Community Service Center of Morgan County, Inc., which operates a thrift store on the first floor and a homeless shelter on the upper two floors. The unit at 128 East Morgan Street is occupied by Morgan County Abstract and is owned by Sue Jones.

A third unit, a one-story stuccoed brick addition (see photo #4) at the rear of 110 East Morgan Street, dates to approximately 1895. It was here, from about 1895-1925, that monument dealer E. E. Riley kept his workshop and storeroom. He displayed his monuments on a grassy median between the sidewalk and street. The building is currently owned by Ron Myers.

Artesian Cleaners, 165 East Morgan Street, Commercial Vernacular, c.1875. [No site number] (Photo #36) The Artesian Cleaners is a flat-roofed, two-story brick building with a corbelled cornice, four semi-circular decorative wood attic vents and one-over-one double sash windows on the second story. The second story is painted light brown. The storefront

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 24 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

is greatly modified, sporting a 1971 shingled mansard roof canopy, rough cedar vertical siding and two display windows. The original entrance has been filled and reduced to a single glass door. Located slightly off-center. Wood steps and a wrought iron balustrade leading to an upper floor apartment is found on the east wall.

Artesian Cleaners was founded about 1896 by Elmer Clark, who acquired this building in 1925 from Dr. Herschel C. Robinson. In 1940, a yellow and black Carrera glass front was installed; in 1971 it was obscured or removed. Current owners of the property are William and Opal Ham.

First National Bank of Martinsville, 89 North Jefferson Street, Neoclassical, 1915. [61075] (Photo #37) This notable two-story brick building is faced with fitted Bedford limestone blocks. The front elevation faces east and features six full-height, solid, fluted Ionic columns on square pedestals; the north elevation features five identical columns. At the outside north corner is a square pilaster with Doric capital. Banding the cornice on the north and east is a limestone balustrade and dentilated entablature. On the front, engraved in the upper wall, is the name of the original financial institution: FIRST NATIONAL BANK MARTINSVILLE. Applied over this name in three-dimensional block letters is the current institution's name: FIRST NATIONAL BANK. Located between columns, paired upper windows are double hung sash with patterned upper panes and blank lower panes. Full-height first floor windows have been filled with glass block. There originally were two entrances on the front of the building; the southern entrance has since been filled with glass block and fitted with a night deposit box. The remaining front entrance features a limestone pediment with brackets. The side entrance is similar but less adorned.

Partial demolition of an earlier two-story brick commercial building began in July 1915 to make way for the stately new First National Bank building. Limestone was hauled from Bedford, Indiana, and installed as a facade hiding brick walls. According to local folklore, one of the immense fluted columns slipped from the workmen's hands, broke and was buried under Morgan Street. (If this tale is true, the column will be excavated in 1997 as part of the Morgan Street reconstruction project.)

The First National Bank of Martinsville, established in 1860 by Permitter Parks and Milton Hite, crashed during the Depression, taking many area businessmen and women down with it. A second banking institution, the Martinsville Trust Company, shared the Neoclassical building with First National beginning in September 1916 and ending with its own demise during the early 1930s. A third tenant was Home Building Association, the only local

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 25 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

financial institution to survive the Depression. In May 1940, the National Bank of Martinsville, chartered in 1932, changed its name to First National Bank of Martinsville. In 1967, the building was purchased and remodelled for sole use by First National. Since 1993, the bank and the building has been owned by First National Bank-Kokomo.

Toner Store, 65 North Jefferson Street, Chicago, 1915. [61074] (Photo #38) Believed locally to be a design of Louis H. Sullivan, the Toner Store is a brick building faced with white glazed terra cotta block. Delicate floral blocks adorn the cornice and second story name plate spelling out TONER STORE. The three-bay second story features banks of three windows each, all consisting of a fixed pane over one-over-one double hung sash framed in steel. The altered storefront features full-width display windows flanking a glass double entrance. An overhead sign indicates the building's current function as the Morgan County Courthouse Annex.

The two-story, brick Parks & Hite Opera House, used as a commercial, professional and entertainment facility, was purchased by brothers Ott C. and Ed Toner on January 1, 1915, as the new location for the Toner Store, established in Martinsville in 1891. Advertised as the "handsomest store in this section of Indiana" upon completion of extensive remodeling in July 1915, Toner Store, thrived until 1926, when it was sold to the J. C. Penney Company. J. C. Penney remained at this location until moving to a highway strip mall in 1993. The Toner Store is now owned by Morgan County and utilized as the Courthouse Annex housing the Probation Department.

Singleton Building/Newberry Department Store, 15 North Jefferson Street, Italianate, c.1870 [61069] (Photo #39) Originally consisting of two business rooms separated by a staircase leading to the upper rooms--thus the interruption in second story windows on the front facade--the Singleton Building/Newberry Department Store has since 1935 comprised a single unit. The building has a corbelled cornice, and on the front facade six rectangular attic vents (infilled with brick), one round and two semi-circular vents now filled with metal grating and eight arched two-over-two double hung sash windows. A rear wing parallels Washington Street; all early openings are now filled or covered, with two first floor windows and three entrances dating to the last half of the 1930s or more recent periods of remodeling. The storefront, which wraps around the southeast corner, is plate glass with a black marble base. Above the display windows is a wood panel and aluminum awning framework. Two recessed double glass entrances are found on Jefferson Street.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 26 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

An early location of the Martinsville Post Office, the Singleton Building was built about 1870. Following the departure of the post office to its new building at Main and Washington Street in 1935, owner F. T. Singleton extensively remodelled the building and welcomed Bailey's Drugstore, which featured a handsome "up-to-date" soda fountain, as the new tenant. The structural glass front, basement and a few south entrances date from 1936. In 1948, Bailey's Drugstore moved to the north side of the square, and the J. J. Newberry Company department store acquired the Singleton Building. "Newberry's" closed its doors with a going-out-of-business sale in October 1985.

The Singleton Building/Newberry Department Store has recently undergone extensive interior remodelling to house several businesses. It is owned by Joseph and Kelly Geryak.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 27 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

The Martinsville Historic Commercial District is significant under Criterion A because of its associations with commerce and government in a small Indiana county seat. It is also significant under Criterion C as a fine and nearly intact collection of nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial architecture. The period of significance is c.1847 to 1947.

HISTORY

Morgan County was established in 1821. The following year, Martinsville was platted and named the county seat. The settlement may have been named for John Martin, the senior member of a board of commissioners appointed by the state legislature to lay out the town. As a county seat, the village had an advantage over other Morgan County settlements. The earliest county roads led to Martinsville, enabling residents to pay their taxes and perform other necessary business, as well as establishing it as a market center. Professional men such as attorneys and physicians started practices here to centrally serve the people of the county. Martinsville stores, restaurants, inns and other ventures prospered as the county was settled and the population increased.

Its position on the White River also contributed to Martinsville's growth as a center of shipping for agricultural and industrial products in the early years of its history. Railroad lines--some of which were constructed in the 1850s but were possibly not operational until after the Civil War--would eventually link Martinsville with the entire country through a nation-wide system, increasing the town's shipping capacities and encouraging the growth of local industries.

The supply of timber in the area encouraged the establishment of many wood-related businesses such as lumber yards, cooperages, sawmills, wagon shops and furniture factories. Among those which emerged as important employers in the early twentieth century were the Davis Woodenware factory, Hubbard Lumber Mill and the Old Hickory Furniture Company.

Also present in the area were the natural resources necessary for the manufacture of brick. As a result, several brick yards were started during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The first of these may have been the brick yard operated by J. B. Clark, probably begun between 1865 and 1870. In 1895, the Adams Clay Products Company was formed from three smaller brick yards. The most successful of the brick companies was the Martinsville Brick Company, started in 1909 by I. G. Poston.

Industry in Martinsville was further diversified by the establishment of other large companies

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 28 Martinsville Commercial Historic district

in the early twentieth century. The Van Camp Packing Company expanded a receiving station into a large tomato packing plant in 1903. Grassyfork Fisheries, started by Eugene and Max Shireman in 1899, grew rapidly and became the world's largest goldfish hatchery by World War II. Other important employers were the Martinsville Milling Company, incorporated in 1903 by William Schnaiter, Clifften Schnaiter and Walter Nutter; the Thornburgh Milling Company founded by Amos Thornburgh; and the Branch Grain and Seed Company, run by the Branch family.

From Martinsville's founding, political and governmental activity has always centered on the courthouse square. The first permanent courthouse was begun in 1857 and completed two years later. The Morgan County Courthouse (photo #17) exists yet today as one of eight pre-Civil War courthouses in Indiana; it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1996. The courthouse lawn, long the site of community festivals and activities, is punctuated with historic and commemorative monuments, including a Civil War cannon and mortar and stone tablets dedicated to some of the County's notable sons, among them two Indiana governors, Emmett Forest Branch and Paul Vories McNutt, and U. S. Senator William G. Bray. Currently, the courthouse is undergoing a \$2 million dollar remodelling to house all of the courts and related offices. Two blocks to the southwest, an administrative annex containing all of the non-court-related offices was completed in December 1996.

The city of Martinsville is governed by an elected mayor and seven-member council. The Martinsville City Hall (Photo #9) with attached fire station at 59 S. Jefferson Street has been the seat of city government since 1917. Prior to that year, the city offices were located in various second floor rooms in the commercial district.

The third government building located within the Martinsville Historic Commercial District is the U. S. Post Office (Photo #17) at 10 S. Washington Street. Constructed in 1935, this postal facility replaced an earlier post office in the Singleton/Newberry Building at the corner of Jefferson and Washington Street. In 1937, the Martinsville post office was the recipient of a WPA mural (Photo #18) painted by Alan Tompkins of Indianapolis; the mural, "Arrival of the Mail", was repaired and restored in 1974.

Since the founding of Martinsville, commercial activity has always centered on the courthouse square. Nineteenth century Martinsville businesses included those of the type commonly found in small county seats, including clothing and shoe stores, drygoods stores, jewelry stores, hardware stores, banks, restaurants, groceries, meat markets, bakeries, hotels and liverys.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 29 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

Many of these businesses thrived for decades on the patronage of wealthy visitors to Martinsville's many sanitariums. During the first half of the twentieth century, Martinsville was well-known as one of the nation's leading health resorts. The discovery of mineral water in 1887 led to the development of Martinsville's eleven¹ sanitariums, whose guests came from all parts of the world. Many of the sanitariums were located just outside the courthouse square. At the corner of Washington and Mulberry Street was the Cohn Barnard (II)/Colonial/Artesian Sanitarium. Between Morgan and Pike Street two to three blocks west of Main Street were clustered the Hill House/Hill-Cohn, Buis/Southern, National and Barnard/Cohn-Barnard (I) Sanitariums. The Whiting Sanitarium was located two blocks north of the courthouse on Main Street, with the Highland/New Highland Sanitarium two blocks further north. Adjacent to the train depot, only two blocks northwest of the square, was the Martinsville Sanitarium ("where rheumatism meets its Waterloo"). The finest of Martinsville's sanitariums was the Home Lawn in the 500 block of E. Washington Street.

Its large numbers of sanitariums makes Martinsville unique among Indiana cities noted for their sanitariums, including French Lick and West Baden. While none of Martinsville's sanitariums rivaled the size, luxury and breath-taking architecture and landscaping of the sanitariums in these smaller cities to the south, the Home Lawn Sanitarium was advertised as their rival and, only 30 miles south of Indianapolis, significantly more accessible from the area's major cities: Chicago, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Cleveland. The city of Martinsville itself was touted as "the third best watering hole in the country" and its sanitariums, particularly the elegant Home Lawn and its sister, the Martinsville--both owned by Walter Kennedy--boasted guests as prominent as U. S. presidents; entertainment celebrities; college coaches and their teams, most notably Knute Rockne and the Notre Dame football team; and the region's wealthiest businessmen and their families.

Martinsville's identification as a city of sanitariums is reflected in the large neon sign (c.1930) on the roof of the Union Block in the commercial district, which reads "MARTINSVILLE CITY OF MINERAL WATER" (photo #6). Another nickname, one that is still used for the city's high school athletic teams is "Artesians"--"Arties" for short. (The high school mascot is a wooden well.) Several longtime residents of Martinsville believe the

¹ In truth, there were twelve sanitariums once found in Martinsville. Clark's Sanitarium catered to an African-American clientele for a few short years around the turn of the century. It was located in the home of Willis Clark at 140 N. Main Street, a residential property later replaced by the existing brick business building. Clark's had no well of its own; Mr. Clark brought mineral water to his sanitarium from one of the other sanitariums.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 30 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

erection of the sign was related to the 1924 and 1927 state basketball championships brought home by the athletic Artesians. (The 1927 squad was captained by senior John R. Wooden, legendary UCLA coach.)

Because of the sanitariums, certain types of commercial businesses were particularly successful. Gift shops and clothing stores, especially for women and children, for example, were among those which prospered. Martinsville also had a surprising number of motion picture venues, especially in the first decade of the twentieth century when that form of entertainment was still a novelty. By the 1920s, two "motion picture palaces" reigned: Switow's Dream Theatre (photo #5) on the south side of the square and Blackstone's Theatre on the north side of the square. Other entertainment and recreation facilities in the commercial district included roller skating rinks and bowling alleys, pool halls and taverns. Seasonal festivities such as Fourth of July gatherings, carnivals and circuses, the county's centennial celebration in 1922, political rallies and a variety of commemorative activities have also traditionally taken place on the courthouse lawn and surrounding streets.

Locally-owned eateries--cafes, grills, confectioneries, bakeries, ice cream parlors²--also thrived on the patronage of sanitarium guests, who often visited with the locals and other guests while strolling, shopping and eating out. In this way, business owners successfully built up a loyal clientele. Such was the case with one of Martinsville's best-loved businesses, the Martinsville Candy Kitchen (photo #19), started by James Zapapas in 1920. Located on Main Street, the Candy Kitchen featured handmade candies, hand-dipped chocolates, ice cream treats, plate lunches and a unique specialty still made today: hand-twisted candy canes. It was very common for sanitarium guests to stop in for ice cream treats or their favorite candy and order several pounds of "Jimmy the Greek's" specialties to be shipped home to family and friends.

The seasonal influx of visitors to Martinsville demanded a large amount of temporary residential facilities. Boarding houses, private homes opened as guest houses and hotels were all quickly established to fill the need. Among those found in the Martinsville Commercial

² Ice cream parlors such as Shireman's, located on the north side of the square, and the soda fountains found in many of the city's drugstores, were dependent on the local creameries. Collier's Creamery at the corner of Sycamore and Washington Streets--now occupied by a drive-through bank--was the largest and produced a variety of milk products and ice cream. John Wooden worked here as a high school student; one of the perquisites of the job was eating as much ice cream as he wanted. See Wooden, *They Call Me Coach*.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 31 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

Historic District were the Mason House/Grand Hotel (photo #2) on the corner of Main and Washington Street, the Duckworth Hotel in the Eslinger Building (photo #26) on North Main Street and the Central/Preston Hotel (photo #28) on the corner of Pike and Mulberry Street. Occupying sites in the immediate proximity to these businesses were livery stables, which thrived by transporting sanitarium guests and their luggage to and from the sanitariums and depot, downtown commercial district, city churches and resort, picnic and fishing sites on the White River a few miles north. Eslinger's Livery at Pike and Main Streets, owned by Alonzo Eslinger, also supported a popular horse racing track located about a half-mile south of the courthouse.

Perhaps the best-represented profession in Martinsville during the sanitarium area (1887-1950) was that of physician, with many of the doctors being associated with the sanitariums. Among those represented in the Martinsville Commercial Historic District were Dr. Leon Gray, associated with the Highland, National and Colonial Sanitariums and Dr. Edward Pitkin, medical director of the Martinsville Sanitarium. Dr. Gray and Dr. Pitkin established their private practices in the commercial vernacular buildings at the corner of Sycamore and Washington Street (photo #10). Many other physicians had offices in second floor rooms scattered throughout the district.

A large number of pharmacies supplemented the physicians; among the notable were Tarleton Drugs, the original occupant of the Moore/Kivett's Five and Ten Cent Store located at 110 N. Main Street (photo #24); Rigrish Drugstore, later Siler's, at 142 N. Main Street (Photo #3); Phelps Drugstore at 78 E. Morgan Street (Photo #33); and Bailey's Drugstore, located first in the Singleton/Newberry Building at 15 N. Jefferson Street (photo #39) and later in the former Citizens National Bank building at 60 E. Morgan Street (photo #32).

The presence of the Morgan County Courthouse led to an abundance of professional offices in the commercial district. Among the attorneys who hung their shingle in Martinsville were Emmett Forest Branch, governor of Indiana from 1924-1925 (he completed the final term of Warren T. McCray, who resigned); Paul Vories McNutt, who served as Indiana governor from 1933-1937 and held many national political offices through the 1940s; William G. Bray, U. S. Senator from 1951-1975; and John E. Hurt, a leader in the Indiana Democratic party from 1932 to the mid-1970s.

Fraternal orders are also well-represented in the Martinsville Historic Commercial District, with the largest occupying upper floor rooms in buildings the organizations themselves erected. In 1893, the Independent Order of Oddfellows, instituted in Martinsville in 1867,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 32 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

built the impressive, three-story business block (Photo #35; see also xeroxed page E) at the northeast corner of Morgan and Jefferson Street. In the same year, 1893, the Knights of Pythias moved into their lodge hall on the third floor of the new J. M. Blair and Company Block at the southwest corner of Jefferson and Washington Street; it was destroyed by fire in 1993. The Modern Woodmen of America occupied the third floor of the building at 50 N. Main Street (Photo #20; see also xeroxed page D) from about 1900-1915. The Modern Woodmen of America replaced the Masons, who left the building in 1900 for their new lodge hall added as a third floor to the Moore's/Kivett's Five and Ten Cent Store (Photo #24) at 110 N. Main Street. The Improved Order of Redmen built their own lodge hall, the WIGWAM at 55-65 W. Morgan Street (Photo #22), in 1908. Last but not least, the Martinsville Eagles, instituted in 1907, established their aerie on the second floor of the commercial building at 171 N. Main Street after losing their first aerie, the elegant Samuel Mitchell mansion, to foreclosure during the Depression.

A list of members of these fraternal orders include the most prominent men in Martinsville--and their sons: sanitarium owners; brick yard owners and managers; the owners and managers of Old Hickory Furniture Company, Davis Woodenware Factory, Grassyfork Fisheries, Martinsville and Thornburgh Milling Companies. The professional class was also well-represented, with doctors, attorneys, bankers, real estate and insurance men all on the membership lists. The wealthiest farmers were also members, as were residents of more modest means and Christian spirit.

The growth of the fraternal lodges reflected the growth of the Martinsville population, which proceeded at a fairly rapid pace from the time the first railroad reached the town, nearly doubling each decade between 1850 and 1880, when it finally reached 1,942. After that point, the rate of increase of the population declined until the onset of the sanitarium era. By 1900, after seven sanitariums had been built, the population was 4,038. After 1900, the rate of increase again declined. In 1940, the Census recorded 5,900 residents. With the gradual close of the sanitariums throughout the 1940s--the last to close was the Home Lawn in 1968--the population stabilized.

ARCHITECTURE

The majority of existing historic buildings in Martinsville date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, reflecting urban growth during this period. In the early to mid-nineteenth century, most of the people in Indiana lived on farms. In the typical Indiana county seat, development was concentrated in the original plat until the onset of the railroad

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 33 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

and industrial expansion in the late nineteenth century. The creation of new jobs in towns and cities resulted in a shift of the population from rural to urban areas.

This was the case with Martinsville. Most of the early buildings were located in the area adjacent to and surrounding the courthouse square. As population growth and economic pressure forced the rise of real estate prices in this district between 1860 and 1870, early frame buildings began to be replaced with new brick commercial blocks.

The growth of the city in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries is represented in the Martinsville Commercial Historic District. Architectural styles represented in the district include commercial vernacular, Italianate, Gothic Revival, Craftsman, Neoclassical, Chicago, Renaissance Revival and Colonial Revival.

The oldest buildings in the district are located on the west side of the square, the earliest apparently dating to c.1847, and represent the first wave of post pioneer-era construction. By 1875, the north and east sides of the square were completely developed. It was not until the first decades of the twentieth century, however, that the early buildings on the south side of the square were replaced by those existing today.

The title of the oldest building on the square goes to either the commercial building at 56 North Main Street (right unit in photo #20), said to have been built c.1847, or the Stevens House (photo #14; see also xeroxed page B) located at the southeast corner of Main and Washington Streets, also believed to have been built about 1847. Originating as an I house with Greek Revival and later Italianate style influence, it was converted into a commercial building about 1915. The 1860 Blackstone House (photo #7) at Jackson and Main Street is the only other significant property in the Martinsville Commercial District to have originated as a residence.

It is not surprising that the outstanding early structure in the commercial district is the Morgan County Courthouse (photo #12), built between 1857 and 1859. Into this building the people of Morgan County channeled their aesthetic ideas, civic-mindedness and hard-earned money. As the anchor not only of the commercial district but symbolically of the county as well, the Morgan County Courthouse influenced both the commercial and architectural growth of the district.

The commercial buildings built prior to 1870 were mostly vernacular buildings, tending to plain fronts, one-over-one double hung sash windows and simple corbelled cornices. Among

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 34 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

these are the Mason House/Grand Hotel (1856-1866) (photo #2) at the northwest corner of Main and Washington Street; the properties at 38 and 40 North Main Street (photo #19) and 56 North Main Street (photo #20) and the properties south of the east-west alley on Jefferson Street (photo #39), the east boundary of the courthouse square. The Union Block (photo #6, 31), built by Norman T. Cunningham in 1866, covers nearly a quarter block and represents the period of post-Civil War affluence and optimism that culminated in the more elaborate Italianate commercial buildings of a few years later.

About 1870, elaborate Italianate commercial buildings began to appear alongside the vernacular ones. Particularly notable examples are the properties at 78 and 88 East Morgan Street (photo #33), with their molded tin cornice and window surrounds and tin siding. Historic photographs reveal that these twin units were originally topped with semi-circular badges projecting above the cornice; sadly, the photographs are too blurry to read the name and dates on these badges. The I. O. O. F. Block (1893) (photo #35) at the northeast corner of Jefferson and Morgan Street is another imposing Italianate style building as is the J & S Linoleum & Paint building at 33 East Washington Street (photo #13); both feature elaborate molded cornices.

In 1891, the First Christian Church (photo #16) on the corner of Main and Jackson Street was erected. One of three Gothic Revival churches in Martinsville, the Christian Church is the only religious building in the Martinsville Commercial Historic District and represents the last structure to be built prior to 1900. The appearance of the Martinsville Commercial Historic District stabilized through the turn-of-the-century. In 1908, the Neoclassical style Carnegie Library (photo #8) was completed one block southwest of the square. One year later, Citizen's Bank built a new, Craftsman style facility (photo #32) on the north side of the square. These buildings marked the beginning of twentieth century redevelopment and were followed shortly after, during the period of prosperity prior to the Depression, by the construction in 1914 of Switow's Dream Theatre (photo #5; see also xeroxed page A) on Washington Street and in 1915 of the Chicago style Toner Store (photo #38) and the Neoclassical style First National Bank (photo #37), side by side on Jefferson Street. The Martinsville City Hall (photo #9), a Renaissance Revival style center of local government, was completed in 1917. The last significant building to be constructed within the Martinsville commercial district was the Colonial Revival U. S. Post Office (photo #17), completed in 1935.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 35 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

The last side of the square to be developed was the south--Washington Street (photo #41). As evidenced by historic photographs, prior to 1914 the area midblock consisted of one-story frame buildings housing a variety of commercial establishments (see xeroxed page F with historic photographs). With the completion of Switow's Dream Theater in 1914 and the conversion of the Stevens House just off the corner of Main Street about 1915, the south side of the square was fully matured.

The Martinsville commercial district extended approximately one block from the courthouse square in all directions. Over the years, these areas have suffered widespread demolition and rebuilding that is reflected in the rather jagged boundaries of the district. It is these areas which best reflect the functional, twentieth-century commercial vernacular style of architecture and the growth of twentieth-century businesses, particularly auto dealerships, garages, filling stations and farm implement dealerships. The Martinsville Auto Company (photo #22) at 77 West Morgan Street, Morgan County Auto Company (photo #34) at 161 North Main Street and Hendrickson Motors and the Marathon Filling Station (photo #30) at 215 North Main Street are examples of this modern development, as is the tile brick automotive garage located behind the Wich Apartments on Pike Street. Coincidentally, these automobile-related businesses supplanted livery stables once located at the same intersections. The small vernacular building at 152 North Main Street (photo #3) was built to display John Deere tractors by Court Maxwell, owner of Maxwell Hardware.

Additional information on the architecture and histories of representative properties may be found in Section 7.

The Martinsville Commercial Historic District is one of three historic districts in Martinsville identified in the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. The other two are the East Washington Street (109-386-62001-045) and the Northside Historic District (109-386-63001-082). The East Washington Street Historic District includes residential properties roughly located on East Washington Street between Sycamore and Crawford Street; it meets the Martinsville Commercial Historic District at Sycamore Street. The Northside Historic District is a residential district located northeast of the commercial district, which it meets at the north boundary of the property at 161 North Jefferson Street. A National Register of Historic Places nomination for the East Washington Street Historic District is currently pending. The Northside Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

There is at least one other historic district in Martinsville, not identified in the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory, which merits further consideration. This is

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 36 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

“Bucktown”, a working-class neighborhood comprised of small, folk and vernacular houses. It is located northwest of the Martinsville Commercial Historic District.

In Morgan County, there is one other historic district identified in the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. The Morgantown Historic District (109-430-66001-038) is a combination commercial and residential district in a small market town approximately 15 miles east of Martinsville. Historic buildings in the district date from c.1845 to c.1940.

Today, the Martinsville Commercial Historic District is a vital commercial area comprised of buildings constructed between the years c.1847 to 1935. Professional trades have largely replaced earlier retail businesses, with numerous attorneys offices and abstract and title companies plus print shops, taverns and various retail businesses clustered around the Morgan County Courthouse. The Morgan County Historic Preservation Society is seeking listing on the National Register of Historic Places in order to foster a spirit of preservation in this historic area and throughout Morgan County.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 37 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 38 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10

Page 39

Martinsville Commercial Historic District

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the northeast corner of Jefferson and Jackson Street; thence west along the south side of Jackson Street, continuing across the north-south alley west of Jefferson Street; thence north along west side of said alley, continuing across Jackson Street and continuing across east-west alley north of Jackson Street; thence east along north side of said alley, continuing across north-south alley east of Jefferson Street and continuing across Jefferson Street; thence south along east side of Jefferson Street, continuing across east-west alley north of Jackson Street to Jackson Street; thence east to the axis of the east boundary of the property at 59 South Jefferson Street; thence north along boundary of said property, continuing across east-west alley north of Jackson Street; thence east along the axis of the south boundary of the properties at 171 and 193-195 East Washington Street to Sycamore Street; thence north along west side of Sycamore Street to Washington Street; thence west along south side of Washington Street, continuing across north-south alley west of Sycamore Street; thence north along west side of said alley, continuing across Washington Street and continuing across east-west alley north of Washington Street to the axis of the south boundary of the property at 165 East Morgan Street; thence east along boundary of said property, continuing across north-south alley east of Jefferson Street to the axis of the east boundary of said property; thence north along east boundary of said property, continuing across Morgan Street; thence east along north side of Morgan Street to Sycamore Street; thence north along west side of Sycamore Street to east-west alley north of Morgan Street; thence west along south side of said alley, continuing across north-south alley west of Sycamore Street; thence north along the west side of said alley, continuing across east-west alley north of Morgan Street, to the axis of the north boundary of the property at 161 North Jefferson Street; thence west along axis of said boundary to Jefferson Street; thence south along east side of Jefferson Street, continuing across east-west alley north of Morgan Street; thence west along south side of said alley, continuing across Jefferson Street and continuing across north-south alley west of Jefferson Street to the axis of the east boundary of the properties at 159 and 171 North Main Street; thence north along east boundary of said properties, continuing across Pike Street; thence east along north side of Pike Street to the north-south alley east of Main Street; thence north along west side of said alley to the east-west alley north of Pike Street; thence west along south side of said alley to Main Street; thence south along east side of Main Street, continuing across Pike Street; thence west along south side of Pike Street, continuing across Main Street; thence west along south side of Pike Street, continuing across north-south alley west of Main Street to Mulberry Street; thence south along east side of Mulberry Street to the east-west alley south of Pike Street; thence east along north side of said alley to the axis of the west boundary of the property at 90 West Morgan Street; thence south along said boundary, continuing across Morgan Street; thence west to east side of Mulberry Street;

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 40 Martinsville Commercial Historic District

thence south along east side of Mulberry Street to the east-west alley south of Morgan Street; thence east along north side of said alley, continuing across north-south alley east of Mulberry Street; thence south along east side of said alley, continuing across east-west alley east of Mulberry Street to Washington Street; thence east along north side of Washington Street to the axis of the west boundary of the property at 10 S. Main Street; thence south along boundary of said property, continuing across Washington Street to east-west alley south of Washington Street; thence east along north side of said alley, continuing across Main Street; thence south along east side of Main Street, continuing across east-west alley south of Washington Street and continuing across Jackson Street to the axis of the south boundary of the properties at 127 South Main Street and 39 East Jackson Street; thence east along boundary of said properties, continuing across north-south alley east of Main Street; thence south along east side of said alley to the axis of the south boundary of the property at 110 South Jefferson Street; thence east along boundary of said property to Jefferson Street; thence north along the west side of Jefferson Street to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries approximately enclose the Martinsville Commercial Historic District as designated in the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory.

The northwest boundary has been adjusted to include the east side of Mulberry Street between Pike Street and the east-west alley south of Pike Street in order to bring into the district the Preston Hotel at 189 North Mulberry Street and the Sugar Creek Creamery Station at 159 N. Mulberry Street. Located one-half block from the Interurban station, one and one-half blocks from the train depot and one-half block from the Buis, Hill House and National Sanitariums, the Preston Hotel was popular with salesmen, travelers and sanitarium visitors. The Creamery Station, formerly a barbershop, operated from 1925-1959.

The north boundary has been altered to include Hendrickson Motors and Marathon filling station located at the northeast corner of Pike and Main Streets, a stable anchor commercial establishment for nearly 70 years. This resource was omitted from the Historic Sites and Structures Inventory.

The south boundary has been moved one-half block south in order to include in the district the Blackstone House/Cure and Hensley Mortuary and Martinsville Telephone Company at 127 South Main Street and 59 East Jackson Street, a National Register-listed combined historic resource, and the Martinsville Carnegie Library at 110 South Jefferson Street.

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 41 Martinsville Commercial historic District

The south east boundary has been adjusted to bring the Martinsville City Hall into the district and to exclude the 1970s Reporter-Times Building located at 90 South Jefferson Street, on the northeast corner of Jackson and Jefferson Street.

The east boundary has been extended roughly to Sycamore Street to include two vernacular commercial buildings at the southeast corner of Sycamore and Washington Streets and the Artesian Laundry at 165 East Morgan Street.