

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 North Wabash Historic District
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number see continuation sheet N/A not for publication
city or town Wabash N/A vicinity
state Indiana code IN county Wabash code 169 zip code 46992

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] 7/26/99
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____ Signature of the Keeper	_____ Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____ Signature of the Keeper	_____ Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____ Signature of the Keeper	_____ Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____ Signature of the Keeper	_____ Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> 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	
159	9	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
159	9	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

RELIGION: Research Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

RELIGION: Religious Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

19th & 20th c. AMER.: Bungalow/Craftsman

OTHER: American Four-Square

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

WOOD: Weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other

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

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1846-1949

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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:

North Wabash Historic District
Name of Property

Wabash IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 45

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	599600	4517900	3	16	598930	4517005
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	16	599590	4517130	4	16	598930	4517410

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 Laura Thayer, Historic Preservation Consultant
organization Wabash Marketplace, Inc. date 9/24/98
street & number 3905 N. 500 W. telephone 812-372-6806
city or town Columbus state IN zip code 47201

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.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section 2

Page 1

North Wabash Historic District

Street and Number

Roughly bounded by Carroll Street on the west, Ferry and Noble Streets on the north, Wabash Avenue and Huntington Street on the east, and Maple and Union Streets on the south.

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Continuation Sheet

Section 5

Page 2

North Wabash Historic District

Resources Previously Listed in the National Register

McNamee-Ford House

Wabash is the seat of Wabash County, which is in northeastern Indiana. Wabash is a town of rolling hills located on the Wabash River. Because of its position on the Wabash and Erie Canal, completed in 1837, and the Lake Erie, Western, and St. Louis Railroad, which came through town in the 1850s, Wabash became an important regional market center.

The North Wabash Historic District is located north of the town's historic commercial district. Because of hills and a creek that roughly borders the historic district on the north, the district developed with an irregular street pattern. Wabash Street extends in a northeasterly direction through the district; Cass Street extends to the northwest; and Miami Street is a true north-south street between the two. None of the side streets in the district extend uninterrupted for more than one block. The result is a neighborhood of curved and angled streets with lots of varied shapes and sizes.

Two State Roads and one U.S. Highway run through the district. State Road 15 extends along North Cass Street; and State road 13 is routed north on North Wabash Street until it turns northeast on Manchester Avenue. U.S. 24, which extends along Stitt Street and Manchester Avenue, crosses through the historic district at the intersection of North Wabash and Stitt Street/Manchester Avenue.

Architecturally, the district exhibits a variety of residential styles that were popular in Indiana from the 1840s to the 1940s. The most commonly seen are Italianate, Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Bungalow, cross-plan, gabled-ell, and American four-square. Also represented are the Greek Revival, Shingle, and Prairie styles. There is also one Lustron house (left in photo 30). In some parts of the district, there is continuity in features such as scale, size of house, massing, lot size and orientation, and set-back (see photo 33, North Wabash Street). In other areas, there is a variety among houses in regards to these elements (see photo 2, North Carroll Street). Streets are asphalt, with concrete curbs and sidewalks, and are lined with shade trees.

Generally, the historic district has a high degree of integrity and conveys the character of the neighborhood during the period of significance (1846-1949). In a few cases, synthetic siding has been added. For the most part, however, the buildings do not suffer from alterations that often afflict historic houses, such as enclosed front porches and replacement doors and windows. Few houses have been removed, and few new buildings constructed since 1949.

Exceptions include a Cape Cod style house (photo 21) on Pawling Street, constructed in the 1950s, and two Ranch style houses that replaced earlier dwellings on the northwest corner of Stitt and North Wabash streets and on the northwest corner of West Maple and North Miami streets. The Miami Public School building, historically located in the large lot on the northeast corner of North Miami and Union streets, was replaced by a new building in 1959. Another prominent intrusion is the c.1970 church building that

occupies a large lot on the southwest corner of North Wabash Street and Manchester Avenue, once the site of the First Evangelical Church, as well as several houses.

The one commercial building within the boundaries of the historic district is a small, noncontributing building on the northeast corner of North Wabash Street and Manchester Avenue.

The majority of the houses in the historic district have small garages at the rear of lots. Some of these are located on alleys. Because of the lack of a regular system of alleys in the district, however, many properties have driveways (photos 2, 4, 11, 38). Generally, outbuildings in the district are limited to these garages.

For the purpose of the resource count, there are a total of 159 contributing buildings and 9 noncontributing buildings. All but one of the contributing buildings are houses. The non-residential building is the Wabash Street Methodist Church. Of the noncontributing buildings, six are houses that were constructed after the period of significance, one is the 1959 school, one is a 1970s church, and one is a historic commercial building which has been altered to the extent that it no longer contributes to the characters of the district.

Pivotal and representative houses are described below. (For additional information on architecture and houses in the historic district, please see Section 8, "Statement of Significance.")

John Wilson House, 331 Ferry Street (Photo 1). This is a two-story, Italianate style house constructed by local contractor John Wilson around 1870. The house has a hipped roof, a brick foundation, and clapboard siding. The main entry is in the center of the north façade. It is flanked on each side by a single window. On the second story are paired windows. Windows have wood surrounds and bracketed hoods. Windows and doors were updated, probably in the 1920s. Windows have multi-light upper sashes. The paneled wood and glass door dates from the same era. A small, Craftsman style porch was added to the front of the house, probably also in the 1920s. A sunroom on the east side of the house may date from the same era. A wide, bracketed frieze extends around the top of the house.

Wilson was a prominent local builder who constructed many of Wabash's schools and houses. His daughter, Anna L. Wilson, who later owned the house (by 1898), was one of the first female physicians in Indiana.

Milliner House, 228 N. Cass Street (Photo 10). This Queen Anne style house was built for John Miliner and his family about 1890. Two-and a half stories in height, the house has an asymmetrical plan, a corner turret, and a one story porch which extends around the east and south facades. The house has a cross jerkin-head roof. Siding is clapboards,

with fish scale shingles on the turret. Windows are tall with wood, double hung sashes. The house is situated back from the street among large shade trees. There is a stone retaining wall at the front edge of the lot.

Milliner was born in 1849. He first moved to Wabash in 1864. After completing his education, he practiced law in various places before returning to Wabash in 1886 to set up a practice.

Thomas McNamee House, 240 N. Cass Street (Photo 11). The MacNamee House is a two-and-a-half story, Colonial Revival style house built around 1900. The house has a rectangular plan, a hipped roof, and a stone foundation. It is sided in clapboards. A one-story, columned porch extends across the width of the main (east) façade. The entry is in the center of the main façade. This contains a paneled wood and glass door which is flanked by sidelights and has a transom above. On each side of the entry is a large window with a double hung wood sash. On the second story of this façade are four windows. These are double hung with multi-light upper sashes. There are dormer windows on the roof.

The house was built for Thomas McNamee and his family. McNamee was Secretary-Treasurer of Ford Meter Box Company.

Williams House, 298 N. Cass Street (Right in Photo 12). William A. Williams built this gable front/Queen Anne style house for his family around the turn of the twentieth century. The house is two-and-a-half stories high and two bays wide. It is sided in clapboards. The entry is in the north bay of the east façade. The left bay has a large, transomed window. On the second floor are double hung, wood windows with one light in each sash. The window in the south bay is narrower than the north window. In the gable are a group of three windows. This group is flanked by "half timber" decoration. The house has a decorative wooden porch which extends the width of the main façade.

William A. Williams was a painter and contractor. He became Wabash's first fire chief in 1894. Born in 1851, he first came to Wabash in 1875. Leaving in 1876, he returned in 1885.

Jones House, 254 Miami Street (Photo 20). The Jones House is a two-story, American four-square house. The façade is two bays wide, and the roof is hipped. Materials include a rough-faced concrete foundation and vinyl siding. The entry door is in the north bay and is a paneled wood and glass door. Window openings have wood surrounds with architrave heads and contain double hung wood sashes with one light in each sash. A hipped roofed wood porch with square wood supports extends across the width of the façade. This house is close to the street, as are other houses along this straight stretch of Miami Street.

The first family to live in the house was probably the Ward Jones family. Jones was a miller.

Eagle House, 290 N. Wabash (Photo 22). The Eagle House, build c.1870, is the most elaborate example of the Italianate style in the historic district. It is a two-and-a-half story brick residence with an asymmetrical plan and a hipped roof. The foundation is rough-faced limestone. The main entry is on the east side of the house. It contains a pair of paneled wood and glass doors with a transom above. The opening has an elaborate stone surround. A secondary door is located on the south side of the house. This opening has a single, paneled wood and glass door with a transom above, and a less elaborate stone surround. A simple, wood porch has been built at this secondary entrance since the time the house was surveyed for the Indiana Historic Sites and Structure Inventory (1981). (The original porch extended from the main entry around to the rear of the south side of the house, as shown on Sanborn maps.) Windows are in flat-arched openings with stone, segmental arched heads. Openings contain wood, double hung sashes, with one light in each sash. Extending around the top of the house is a bracketed frieze with rectangular attic lights. Three corbeled brick chimneys protrude from the roof.

The house was built for the Francis Eagle family about 1870. Eagle was an attorney. The lot originally extended south to Union Street, and there were several outbuildings on the property. A commercial encroachment now located just to the south of the house defines the limits of the historic district at this point.

David Kunse House, 414 N. Wabash Street (Photo 25). The Kunse House is a two story, double pile house with a side gable roof. The house has a central hall plan and interior end chimneys. It is Greek Revival in style. The entry is in the center of the main façade, which is five bays wide and symmetrically arranged. This contains a paneled wood door with sidelights and a transom. At this entry is a one-story, pedimented, columned portico. Window openings have stone lintels and sills and contain double hung, wood, multi-light sashes. A two-story rear extension appears to date from the early twentieth century. On the south side of the house is a one-story sun room which is also a twentieth century addition.

The David Kunse House, built in 1846, is believed to be the oldest building in the historic district.

McNamee-Ford House, 536 N. Wabash Street (Photo 28). The McNamee-Ford House is an elaborate Colonial Revival style house built in 1901. It is a two-story, double-pile, wood frame structure with a side gable roof. Like the Kunse House, it has a central hall and interior end chimneys. The main (east) façade is three bays wide. The entry is in the center bay, which projects from the façade and is surmounted by a pedimented gable. A columned portico with balconet above extends from this bay. In the gable is a lunette window. Other windows, symmetrically arranged, have wood surrounds and architrave

heads. Sashes are double hung, with a multi-light upper sash. Small, square attic windows flank the chimney on the north and south sides.

The house was built for Henry McNamee, assistant cashier for Wabash National Bank at the time the house was constructed. By 1907 he was employed by Honeywell Specialty Manufacturing Company, where he served as treasurer and vice-president. The house was acquired by Edwin H. Ford in 1926. Ford founded Ford Meter Box Company, incorporated in 1911. The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Wilbur Ford House, 540 N. Wabash Street (Photo 29). Classical Revival in style, the Ford House is a two-story brick residence. The foundation is coursed, rough-faced limestone. The plan is asymmetrical, and the roof is hipped. The east side of the house faces Wabash Street, but the main entry is located on the south side of the building off the driveway. A prominent feature of the house is the two-story bay window on the north half of the east facade. Between the first and second floor of this bay is a wide, intricately carved stone band. There is a similar band at the base of the bay between the window sill and water table. On each side of the bay is a carved stone medallion. Windows of the house are wood with double hung sashes. Other than those on the previously described bay, most windows are paired. Lintels and sills are stone. First floor lintels have carvings similar to those on the stone banding.

This house was constructed for the Alonzo Atkinson family in 1884. It was originally a large and elaborate Victorian dwelling. A major remodeling in 1928 reduced the size of the house and modernized its appearance, both inside and outside. The part of the house that was demolished was on the southwest corner. The exterior of the house retains much of the original character, although it was simplified. For example, the two-story bay with its decorative elements was retained, except that it was reduced in height and its polygonal roof removed. The roof was lowered, and the first floor ceiling was lowered completely intact. Several interior elements of the original house were retained, including walnut paneling in the stairway, inlaid doors, and fireplace tiles.

The house was purchased from Atkinson in 1899 by Alexander Hess. Hess or his descendants lived in the house until 1902, when it was converted into a private hospital for a year. After being neglected for a period, it was acquired in 1928 by Wilbur Ford, an executive of Ford Meter Box Company, an important local business. The Ford family was responsible for the transformation of the building. Wilbur Ford's son, Richard, continues to live in the house today.

Frank Wilson House, 560 N. Wabash Street (Photo 31). The Wilson House is a two-story, Shingle style house. Built around the turn of the twentieth century, the house has an irregular plan that features a conical roofed, round tower on the northeast corner. The main entry is just to the south of the tower. The house, the only Shingle style structure in the historic district, is sided in flat, wood shingles. Window openings are flat-arched

with plain wood surrounds, and contain double hung wood sashes with one light in each sash. A one-story, Craftsman style porch extends from the main entry to the south, and functions as a porte-cochere in the driveway. There is an exterior chimney on the south side of the house.

The original owner of this house was Frank P. Wilson, who was in the insurance business in Wabash.

Mark Honeywell House, N. Wabash Street (Photo 36). The Honeywell House is a two-story, Classical Revival dwelling. It is set back some distance from the street on a large lot. The structure is faced in brick and has a low-pitched hipped roof. The front of the house is a rectangular with the main facade on the wide part of the rectangle. Recessed wings extend on the sides. The main entry is in the center of the east facade. This is a flat-arched opening with double, paneled wood and glass doors. A columned stone portico with an iron balconet above surrounds the opening. Window openings have soldier course lintels and metal casement sashes. Brick banding separates the two levels, and brick quoins decorate the corners. A Classical frieze surrounds the top of the house. A brick wall with stone balusters extends in front of the house.

The Honeywell House was originally built for the Isaac Beitman family about 1880. In 1960, it was extensively remodeled for Mark Honeywell and his wife Eugenia Hubbard Nixon Honeywell. Honeywell founded one of Wabash's most important industries of the early twentieth century, and personally had an important impact on the social and recreational needs of the town. He started the Honeywell Heating Specialty Company in 1902. The company began as a manufacturer of hot water heating systems and later produced thermostats. Merging with the Minneapolis Heating Regulator Company in 1927, it became an international leader of the industry, with Mark Honeywell as its president. Besides founding a company that was of immeasurable significance to the Wabash economy, Honeywell was a philanthropist who ensured that the community's other needs would be met as well. He established the Honeywell Foundation in 1941 to build and operate the Honeywell Center in Wabash, a multi-use community center, and to support other charitable activities in the community.

Alber House, 56 Walnut (Photo 38). Constructed c.1920, the Alber House is a good example of a Bungalow style house. The house is one-and-a-half stories in height and has a side gable roof with an incised front porch. There is a gable-roofed dormer on the second floor. The house is faced in stucco. The base of the porch is bricked. Windows are single or grouped in pairs or threes. They have double hung wood sashes. The entry is in the center of the main (south) façade and is a paneled wood and glass door. There are plain brackets under the wide eaves of the roof. A low stone retaining wall defines the front boundary of the property. The William J. Alber family first occupied this house. Alber was a bank cashier.

The North Wabash Historic District is significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture, as a distinctive collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century residential architecture. The district developed as a middle to upper class residential neighborhood between 1846 and 1949. The historic district is also significant under Criterion A in the area of Social History, primarily for its association with the Mark C. Honeywell, a prominent local businessman and philanthropist. Many other prominent citizens of Wabash were residents of the neighborhood as well.

History

Wabash County was formed by statute in 1832 and organized in 1835. The town of Wabash was named the county seat in 1835. Both the county and the town were named for the Wabash River, one of the state's main waterways. As in most Indiana counties, farming was the principal pursuit of the pioneers. Corn and wheat were the chief crops, and hogs were the staple of livestock farmers. Early industries included flour and lumber mills, slaughterhouses, tanneries, and black smith shops.

Because of its position on the Wabash and Erie Canal, completed through town in the 1830s, Wabash was an important regional market and shipping center from its early days. The first railroad reached the town in the 1850s. A few years later, in 1872, the Cincinnati, Wabash and Michigan was constructed. The second railroad became part of the Big Four, which later built repair shops in Wabash.

The availability of shipping facilities encouraged industrial development. One of the earliest factories was the Wabash Milling Company, established in 1843. Timber was the area's chief natural resource, and lumber mills were built. This led to the establishment of an industry that became a specialty in Wabash: furniture making. T.F. Payne started the first of several furniture factories in 1849.

A devastating fire swept through downtown Wabash in 1870 destroying the courthouse and damaging at least 30 other building. This setback, coupled with the nationwide economic depression of the 1870s, must have been disheartening. Townspeople forged ahead, however, planning an elaborate new courthouse that was completed in 1878, and repairing or rebuilding other damaged buildings. The founding of the Wabash School Furniture Company in 1872 demonstrated confidence in the town's future. Established at a time when new schools were being built all over the Midwest, the company would become one of the largest employers in Wabash.

By 1875, there were two hotels, two banks, two newspapers, a couple dozen stores, and, in addition to previously mentioned industries, a cigar factory, a woolen factory, two planing mills, lime kilns, a stone quarry, and saw mills.

The early 1880s saw a building boom. In 1881 alone, 67 new structures were erected, 36

of these being commercial buildings, and the remainder residences. One of the important events in the town's history took place in 1880, when it became the first city in the country to have electric street lights. These were replaced by more efficient gas lights in the late 1880s.

The natural gas boom of the late 1880s may have been part of the reason for a tremendous growth in the population of Wabash between 1880 and 1900 when the number of inhabitants increased from 3,800 to 8,618. Wabash County was on the edge of the gas fields. It benefited by being close enough to have the inexpensive fuel piped to the county seat.

Wabash became a part of the overnight industrialization of the natural gas region. Several large factories were built in Wabash in the 1890s. Among them were the Wabash Paper Company (1890), the Wabash Baking Powder Company (1895), the Wabash Bridge and Iron Works (1895), and the Wabash Canning Company (1897). Another important enterprise that was started in the late 1890s and incorporated in 1911 was the Ford Meter Box Company. The company, which was the brainchild of Edwin H. Ford, first manufactured water meter housings. Later, setting and testing equipment for water meters were also made. Ford lived with his family in the historic district at 437 N. Miami Street in the early part of the twentieth century and, starting in 1926, at 536 N. Wabash Street in the home built for Henry McNamee (photo 28).

After 1900, several new factories contributed to the continued prosperity of Wabash. Mark Honeywell started Honeywell Plumbing and Heating in 1900. In 1902, the name of the company was changed to Honeywell Heating Specialties, and later, the Honeywell Company. Its main product was heating regulators. The Mark Honeywell House is located in the district at 720 N. Wabash Street (photo 36).

Other leading manufacturers of the early twentieth century included Diehl Machine Works which moved to Wabash from Peru in 1909, and the Container Corporation of America, established in 1926.

After 1900 the population stabilized and grew at a slower rate. The town's downtown was well developed by this time. Principal additions to the main commercial area in the early twentieth century were banks and public buildings, such as the Carnegie Library (1903) and the U.S. Post Office (1911). The Interurban reached Wabash in 1901, linking the town to other cities in the central part of the state. It operated until 1937.

As commerce and industry developed and prospered in Wabash in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, education, culture, and societal responsibilities were not neglected. By 1860, a public grade school had been established in the northern part of town, on the northeast corner of Union and Miami Streets. The late 1880s and 1890s saw the construction of five new grade schools and a new high school, the result of an

increased school population and greater emphasis on the importance of education. There were several cultural and literary clubs. One of the most active of these was a women's club known as The Round Table. This group organized a library of several thousand volumes and, with the help of other clubs, started the drive that resulted in the construction of the 1903 Carnegie Library. Other clubs promoted music appreciation, organizing musical groups and concerts.

An orphanage built on Hill Street in 1889 was turned into a hospital in 1903. After a new hospital was completed in 1921, the building was left vacant. In 1930, it was rehabilitated and put into use as the Women's Clubhouse, an educational, entertainment, and art center. The initial membership was 700. Mrs. Isaac Beitman led the effort to establish the center and served as its first president.

The building of the Wabash and Erie Canal produced high hopes of rapid growth among land speculators. Though growth did come, it was probably not to the extent that was expected, partly because the canal was not as successful as its builders had wished. Nevertheless, many residential plats were recorded for Wabash in the 1840s and 50s. These were not densely developed until the late nineteenth century. As a result, there are early houses mixed with Victorian era houses in most of the neighborhoods surrounding the commercial district.

The first plats to be fully developed were those closest to the business district. One of the oldest residential neighborhoods is the one immediately adjacent to downtown Wabash to the west. This area has been listed on the National Register as the Old Wabash Residential Historic District.

The residential area north of downtown, which is the subject of this nomination, was platted in a series of "Northern Additions" in the 1840s and 50s. There are several examples of early Wabash houses scattered throughout this area. The majority of houses, however, were built after the Civil War, during a period of growth which extended from about 1870 to about 1920.

Significance

The buildings of the North Wabash Historic District are significant as an intact collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century houses, many of which are outstanding examples of their architecture style. The most commonly seen are Italianate, Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Bungalow, cross-plan, gabled-ell, and American four-square.

The Italianate style became prevalent in the Midwest after 1860. Employed in commercial and governmental buildings as well as residences, it was popular into the 1890s. The movement, based on architecture of the Italian Renaissance, tended toward

the picturesque qualities of rural Italian villas, although in a distinctly American interpretation.

Italianate Houses are two to three stories high. They have low-pitched, hipped roofs with wide eaves. Decorative, wood brackets under the eaves are a defining element. Windows are tall and narrow with elaborate window heads. Many examples were constructed with square cupolas or towers. Italianate residences often have elaborately decorated porches. Such structures were built of brick as well as wood.

The style emerged as one of the predominant ones of the late nineteenth century in Wabash. As the town entered a period of post-Civil War prosperity, many of its citizens obtained the means to display their wealth through this decorative and romantic mode.

In the North Wabash Historic District, there are many good examples of the style. One of the oldest is the house at 331 Ferry Street (photo 1) built by John Wilson for his family about 1870. The house is a large, wood-frame structure with decorative window heads, and a bracketed frieze. Its integrity has been compromised to some degree by a porch, sunroom, and new windows that appear to date from the 1920s. The house was the residence of one of Wabash's leading contractors. Wilson built most of the early school buildings in town, as well as many commercial buildings and residences, before his death in 1874.

Possibly the grandest example of the style in the district is the Francis Eagle House at 290 N. Wabash Street (photo 22). Built around 1870 for Eagle, a prominent local lawyer and banker, it is a large brick structure with elaborate ornamentation including a bracketed frieze, denticulated frieze, stone banding, polychromatic window heads, and stone surround and hood at the main entry.

Other examples of the Italianate style are scattered throughout the district. Among these are the houses at 413 N. Miami Street (photo 16); 340 (photo 23), 437, 470 (right in photo 27), and 595 N. Wabash Street (left in photo 35); 86 Walnut Street (photo 39); 34 Elm Street (photo 40); and 309 W. Maple Street.

The Queen Anne style of architecture originated in England and first appeared in the United States at the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876. The style was immediately embraced by the American public, and soon overshadowed Second Empire and Gothic Revival styles, which were in vogue at the time. Most houses of the style were of wood construction. Defining characteristics included asymmetry achieved by towers, turrets, wings, bay windows, oriels, and porches; a variety of siding types such as clapboards, fish scale shingles, and waved siding, often separated by ornamental banding; complex roofs; scroll and spindle work; and a variety of window sizes and designs. The most ornamental examples of the style were reserved for the upper classes, but middle and working class houses such as gable fronts, shotguns, and cross-plan cottages could

imitate the Queen Anne style with the application of a bit of mass-produced "gingerbread" on a porch or cut-away corner.

In Indiana, the Queen Anne style was very popular from about 1880 to 1910, a period of prosperity and population growth in the state. In Wabash, most examples appear to date from the 1890s.

As in the case of the Italianate style, the Queen Anne style is well represented in the historic district. The John Milliner House at 228 N. Cass Street (photo 10) is one of the outstanding examples. Asymmetrical in plan with a turret on one corner and an encircling porch, the dwelling has a complex roof and varied wood siding.

Less elaborate, but still good examples of the style are 286 N. Cass Street and the William Williams House at 298 N. Cass (from left in photo 12). These houses, which sit side-by-side, illustrate two of the vernacular house type that were employed to exhibit Queen Anne ornamentation: gabled-ell and gable-front.

Some of the many other examples of the mode in the North Wabash Historic District are 284 N. Miami Street (photo 19); the Milo Meredith House at 317 N. Wabash Street; and 360 (partially visible at left in photo 24), 442 (photo 26), 567, 570 (right in photo 33), 578 (left in photo 34), and 586 N. Wabash Street (right in photo 34).

The Colonial Revival style grew out of an interest in our early heritage after the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876. In its early years, the style was characterized by an asymmetrical form with imposed classical details. The twentieth century version more closely resembled true colonial architecture in proportion and detailing, although there were several subtypes including Georgian, Dutch Colonial Revival, and Cape Cod. One popular form was an American four-square with classical ornamentation, such as columned porches, corner pilasters, and entries with transoms and sidelights.

In Wabash, the Colonial Revival style appears to have been popular starting in about 1900. Variations of the style continue to be constructed. One of the most imposing local examples is located in the North Wabash Historic District. This is the Thomas McNamee House at 240 N. Cass Street (photo 11). A large cube-shaped structure, the house has a hipped roof, columned front porch, a front door with sidelights and a transom, and ornamental features including modillions under the eaves.

Another outstanding example of the style, the McNamee-Ford House, can be seen at 536 N. Wabash Street (photo 28). This is a two-story, double pile, wood-frame house. Classical detailing includes a pedimented gable with a lunette window, fluted pilasters, cornice returns, and architrave window heads.

Other examples of the Colonial Revival style in the historic district include the Frank Plummer House at 458 N. Cass Street (photo 14); a house on the west side of N. Cass Street, north of Ferry (photo 13); the house at 464 N. Wabash Street (left in photo 27); and the house at 579 N. Wabash Street (photo 32).

The Bungalow style was an outgrowth of the Craftsman style, and was popular nationwide from c.1905 to c.1930. Bungalows were one to one-and-a-half stories in height. Roofs were low-pitched with projecting eaves, often with exposed rafters. Porches, often with battered posts, were an important feature. Ornamentation was simple and not based on historic motifs. The Bungalow style was popular in Wabash from about 1910 to about 1930, with several examples of the style located in the historic district.

Two similar examples are located next to each, at 60 (photo 38) and 66 Walnut Street. These are one-and-a-half story houses with side gable roofs, incised front porches, and gable roofed dormers. The house at 60 Walnut Street has a stuccoed exterior. The one to the east is sided in clapboards. Other examples include houses at 297 N. Miami Street, and 425 N. Wabash Street.

Vernacular house types comprise an important part of the character of the North Wabash Street Historic District. The three leading types represented are gabled-ell, cross-plan, and American four-square.

The gabled-ell appeared after the Civil War and quickly became a popular building form. It is composed of a gable-front section and an ell of equal height. The resulting floor plan is L- or T-shaped. The primary entry is almost always in the ell portion. Gabled-ell houses typically were built with porches on the ell portion. Examples in the historic district include a brick house at 204 N. Cass Street (photo 9), and a brick house at 304 W. Maple Street.

A cross-plan cottage is distinguished by its plan, which, with ells and wings, is roughly in the form of a cross placed perpendicular to the street. The roof is multi-gabled. Most houses of this type are wood frame and have clapboard siding. Side, wood porches frequently are composed of scroll and spindle work.

This was a house type of the working class, which, with its irregular massing, echoed the popular Queen Anne style. Particularly ornamental versions of the type are sometime referred to as Queen Anne cottages. The cross-plan was a popular builders' form in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Examples in the historic district include a contiguous group at 275, 263, 255, and 247 N. Carroll Street (photo 4).

The American four-square was a popular early twentieth century form. Sometimes classified as the basic Box, Vernacular Prairie, the Midwest Box, or the Cornbelt Cube,

the form has been characterized by scholars as the preeminent Victorian house type. Its simplicity and practicality made it the "comfortable house" ideal after the turn-of-the-century. The ground plan is a square or near square. The house is two stories in height and most often has a medium pitched pyramidal or hipped roof. The roof sometimes has one or more centrally located dormers.

American four-square houses in the historic district are similar in character. Most are wood frame structures with clapboard siding. Roofs are hipped and there are dormers on the front slope. There are minor variations among these. For example, some have wood porches, while others have brick; some have grouped windows; some have the main entry in the center of the façade, while some have the entry on one side. Examples include the Arthur Carpenter House at 280 Carroll Street (photo 5); the Ward Jones House at 254 Miami Street; the William Sharpe House at 27 Walnut Street (photo 37); 65 Walnut Street; and the house at 66 Elm Street (left in photo 41).

There are several outstanding houses that represent styles or types that are not common in the historic district. One of these is the David Kunse House, a Greek Revival style house at 414 N. Wabash Street (photo 25). This is a two-story brick structure with a five-bay façade, side gable roof, interior end chimneys, pedimented columned portico, stone lintels and sills on window openings, double hung multi-light sash, and a door with side lights and a transom.

Other uncommon houses include the I-cottage on the southeast corner of Carroll and Maple Streets (photo 6); and a composite cottage at 306 N. Carroll Street (photo 3). An I-cottage is an early nineteenth century house type: a one-story, single-pile dwelling with a side gable roof and symmetrical façade. A composite cottage is an irregularly massed, one-story structure. Houses of this type were in vogue around the turn of the century.

The only house in the district that represents the Shingle style is the Frank Wilson House at 560 N. Wabash Street (photo 31). The Shingle style, like the Queen Anne style, was popular in the United States between about 1880 and 1900 and employed irregular massing as a feature of the style. Houses of the Shingle style tended to be horizontal in orientation. The style's defining feature, however, was shingle siding, usually over the entire dwelling, but often only on upper stories. The Shingle style, though seen in Indiana, was never as popular as on the east coast.

The solitary example in the district of the Prairie style is a house at 549 N. Wabash Street (right in photo 30), which appears to date from about 1915. This is a two-story house with a low-pitched hipped roof. It has banded windows, and siding that emphasizes the horizontality of the structure.

Another distinctive house in the district is the Wilbur Ford House at 540 N. Wabash Street (photo 29). The house was originally the Alonzo Atkinson House, built in 1884. It

was reduced in size and extensively remodeled in 1928 for Ford and his family. Originally an elaborate Queen Anne style dwelling, it was re-created in a simple, Classical mode.

Similar in character to the Ford House is the Mark Honeywell House at 720 N. Wabash Street (photo 36). Originally built for Isaac Beitman about 1880, this house was also extensively remodeled in a Classical style in about 1960. Though the present character of the Honeywell House was achieved after the period of significance, the house is considered to be contributing to the district because of the importance of the Honeywell family in Wabash. As previously noted, Honeywell founded an important local company, which later became a leading national industry.

Unique in the historic district is the Lustron house at 555 N. Wabash Street (left in photo 30; built c.1949). This is one of the approximately 2,500 prefabricated houses that were manufactured by the short-lived Lustron Corporation between 1947 and 1950. Lustron houses were made almost entirely of porcelain enamel, a material that was popular in the early to mid-twentieth century. Though few houses were sided in porcelain enamel, the material was used extensively for gas stations, restaurants, and many other commercial buildings.

There are two historic churches in the proposed historic district. The most visible is the Methodist Episcopal Church, located on the southwest corner of N. Wabash and Stitt Street. This is a stone, Late Gothic Revival style building that is in keeping with the character of the district. The other church, though much simpler in design, is also in character. This building, located on the northeast corner of Maple and Cass Streets (second from right in photo 7), is the former Christian Science Church, a small, Classic Revival style edifice.

A third church in the district, located on the southeast corner of Wabash and Manchester Road, is a contemporary intrusion. The Miami Elementary School on Miami Street north of Union (photo 18) was built in 1959 and is another intrusion. Both of these are located on sites that have historically been associated with each institution.

In general, however, there are few noncontributing buildings in the historic district. Most of these are houses that are compatible in character, but were constructed after the period of significance. Among these are the Ranch style house on the northwest corner of Maple and Miami Street, and a Cape Cod style house at 37 Pawling Street. Both houses appear to date from the early to mid-1950s.

The house at 720 N. Wabash Street (photo 36) was the residence of Mark and Eugenia Honeywell. Mark Honeywell (1874-1964) founded Wabash's most important industry in the early nineteenth century and made important contributions to the social and recreational needs of the town. He started the Honeywell Heating Specialty Company in

1902. After merging with the Minneapolis Heating Regulator Company in 1927, it became an international leader of the industry, with Honeywell as its president. The company insured Wabash's prosperity for several decades. Its founder saw to other needs of the community as well. He built Honeywell Center (1940), a large, multi-use community center (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983), and a municipal swimming pool. He also established the Honeywell Foundation in 1941 to support charitable activities in the community.

Honeywell was a nationally recognized business leader, and supporter of social, educational, and cultural activities. He was one the board of directors for several companies in Wabash and throughout the United States. He was a trustee for the National Foundation for Education in American Citizenship, Vice-President of the Hoosier Salon, and a director or member of numerous other boards and organizations.

Honeywell's wife Eugenia Hubbard Nixon Honeywell (1896-1974) was prominent in her own right. She was president of Nixon Newspapers Inc, a company that produced several newspapers, mainly in Indiana. Like her husband, she was a patron of the arts, and was also a concert pianist. Her credits included performances with several major symphony orchestras in the United States and Canada. She was named Wabash Distinguished Citizen in 1959, and received the first Eisenhower Distinguished American Award from Butler University in 1971. She was a member or director of several state and national arts organizations, and the recipient of several honorary degrees.

The Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory identified three potential historic districts in 1981. Two of these, the Marketplace Historic District and Old Wabash Residential Historic District, have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The third district was identified as the North Wabash Street Historic District and included 51 buildings on North Wabash Street roughly between Elm and Noble Streets. For this nomination, this last district has been renamed the North Wabash Historic District and expanded to the west to include residential streets which are similar in character and were developed during the same period of time as the houses on North Wabash Street. One of the streets added to the district is North Cass Street, which was originally identified as part of the Old Wabash Residential Historic District but omitted when the nomination was prepared.

The Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory identified only one other historic district in Wabash County. This was the North Manchester Historic District, located in North Manchester in northeastern Wabash County. North Manchester became an important trade center after the Detroit, Eel River, and Illinois Railroad was built in 1871. It is the home of Manchester College, established in 1889, and the birthplace of Thomas Marshall, governor of Indiana (1909-1913) and vice-president under Woodrow Wilson

(1913-1921). The historic district comprises 200 buildings, mainly residences and commercial buildings constructed between about 1850 and 1930. Among architectural styles represented in this historic district are: Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Queen Anne, Eastlake, Colonial Revival, Prairie, Jacobethan Revival, and Bungalow.

Much of the remainder of the county is rural, with the residential areas consisting mainly of simple, vernacular types. On the more prosperous farmsteads, however, the Italianate and Queen Anne styles are well represented.

The North Wabash Historic District is a cohesive and stable residential neighborhood, which does not appear to be threatened by development or lack of maintenance. Most modern retail development in Wabash is on the outskirts of the city. Wabash Marketplace, Inc., a local not-for-profit organization, is sponsoring the nomination of the historic district in order to recognize its significance and add a degree of protection to the area.

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Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the northwest corner of W. Maple and N. Carroll streets; thence west along the north side of W. Maple Street to the southwest corner of Lot 1 of Subdivision of Outlots 15-16; thence north along the west boundary of said lot, continuing along the west boundaries of properties at 252 to 292 N. Carroll Street, continuing across Wilson Street to the north side of Wilson Street; thence west along the north side of Wilson Street to a point on the alignment of the west boundary of the property at 331 Ferry Street, continuing across Ferry Street to the north side of Ferry Street; thence west along the north side of Ferry Street to the west boundary of the property at 304 Ferry Street; thence north along said boundary, continuing north along the alignment of said boundary to the north boundary of the property at 458 N. Cass Street; thence east along the north boundary of said property to the west side of N. Cass Street; thence south along the west side of N. Cass Street to a point on the alignment of the south side of the alley between N. Cass and N. Miami streets, north of Ferry Street; thence east across N. Cass Street, continuing along the south side of said alley to a point on the alignment of the west boundary of Lot 1 of Williams Subdivision; thence north across said alley, continuing along the west boundary of said lot, to the north boundary of said lot; thence east along the north boundary of said lot, continuing across N. Miami Street to the east side of said street; thence north along the east side of said street to the north boundary of the property at 417 N. Miami; thence east along the north boundary of said property, continuing to the west boundary of a property at 456 N. Wabash Street; thence north along said boundary, continuing across Stitt Street, continuing along the west boundaries of properties from 508 to 592 N. Wabash Street, continuing to the south boundary of the property at 720 N. Wabash Street; thence west along said boundary to the east bank of Charley Creek; thence north along the east bank of Charley Creek to the north boundary of the property at 720 N. Wabash Street; thence east along said boundary to the west side of N. Wabash Street; thence south along the west side of said street to a point on the alignment of the north boundary of Lot 1 of Park Addition; thence east across N. Wabash Street, continuing along the north boundary of said lot to the east boundary of said lot; thence south along the east boundary of said lot, continuing across Noble Street to the south side of said street; thence east along the south side of Noble Street to the northeast corner of Lot 11 of Park Addition; thence south along the east boundary of said lot, continuing along the east boundaries of properties from 589 to 579 N. Wabash Street, to the south side of the east-west alley to the south of the property at 579 N. Wabash Street; thence east along the south side of said alley to the northwest side of the northeast-southwest alley between Wabash Street and Manchester Avenue; thence southwest along the northwest side of said alley, continuing across Manchester Avenue, continuing along the east boundary of Christ Methodist Church on the southeast corner of N. Wabash Street and Manchester Avenue, continuing along the east boundaries of properties at 443 and 433 N. Wabash Street, continuing across the alley between N. Wabash and Huntington Street north of Walnut Street to the south side of said alley; thence along the south side of said alley to the west side of N. Huntington Street; thence along the west side of N.

Huntington Street, continuing across Walnut and Elm streets to the north side of the alley south of Elm Street; thence west along the north side of said alley to the east side of N. Wabash Street; thence north along the east side of N. Wabash Street to a point on the alignment of the south boundary of the property at 290 N. Wabash Street; thence west along said boundary to the east boundary of the school property on the northeast corner of N. Miami and Union streets; thence south along said boundary to the north side of Union Street; thence west along the north side of said street, across N. Miami Street to the west side of N. Miami Street; thence south along the west side of N. Miami Street to the north side of W. Maple Street; thence west along the north side of said street, across N. Cass Street, to the west side of the alley west of N. Cass Street; thence south along the west side of said alley, across W. Maple Street, to the north side of the alley south of W. Maple Street; thence west along the north side of said alley to the east side of N. Carroll Street; thence north along the east side of said street, across W. Maple Street, to the north side of W. Maple Street; thence west across N. Carroll Street to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The historic district includes a series of "Northside Additions" which were platted in the 1840s and 50s and largely developed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The areas included have a great deal of continuity in regards to character and association. To the west of the district boundary, the residential area continues, but changes in character and has a lesser degree of integrity. To the south is the Old Wabash Residential Historic District, a generally older historic residential area which was previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places. To the north of Ferry Street, on Stitt Street, the historic residential area has been altered and many commercial intrusions built. To the north of the district on Wabash Street, residential development was generally delayed until after the World War II era, and contrasts sharply with the character of the historic district. To the east of the district are additional historic residential areas. These were not included because of intrusions that visually separate the two areas, and because of the differing characters of the two neighborhoods.

UTM References

	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
5	16	599350	4517450
6	16	599390	4517930