

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

FINAL

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 Morgantown Historic District

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_ - 109-430-66001-038

2. Location

street & number approximately 4 1/2 blocks centered on Washington St., between Marion St and east of Church St N/A  not for publication  
city or town Morgantown N/A  vicinity  
state Indiana code IN county Morgan code 109 zip code 46160

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 of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
34	20	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
34	20	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**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling  
 DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling  
 DOMESTIC: Hotel  
 COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional  
 COMMERCE/TRADE: Financial Institution  
 COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty Store  
 COMMERCE/TRADE: Restaurant

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling  
 DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling  
 COMMERCE/TRADE: Organizational  
 COMMERCE/TRADE: Financial Institution  
 COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty Store  
 COMMERCE/TRADE: Restaurant  
 SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19th c.: Greek Revival  
 LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate  
 LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne  
 19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Late Gothic Revival  
 19th & 20th c. AMER.: Bungalow/Craftsma

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: BRICK  
 walls: BRICK  
 WOOD: Weatherboard  
 roof: ASPHALT  
 other: METAL  
 CONCRETE

**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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE \_\_\_\_\_
- COMMERCE \_\_\_\_\_
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT \_\_\_\_\_
- TRANSPORTATION \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1840-1956 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

N/A \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A \_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Mesker, George L. & Company \_\_\_\_\_  
Stockton, Thomas \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**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.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

Morgantown Historic District  
Name of Property

Morgan IN  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property 9 acres

**UTM References** (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	563460	4358330	3	16	563800	4358160
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	16	563820	4358320	4	16	563460	4358170

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  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 12-23-2005  
street & number 759 East Washington Street 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 Various  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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**Section 7 Page 2 Morgantown Historic District, Morgan County, IN**

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**ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION (continued)**

LATE 19<sup>th</sup> AND 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY REVIVAL: Late Gothic Revival

LATE 19<sup>th</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Bungalow/Craftsman

OTHER: Vernacular

**MATERIALS (continued)**

foundation: CONCRETE

walls: CONCRETE

walls: STUCCO

walls: TIN

walls: GLASS

walls: SYNTHETICS: vinyl

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

The Morgantown Historic District was identified as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in the *Morgan County Interim Report* (1993). The resource count has been changed to account for all individual buildings as identified through site visits and research. In addition, the district boundaries have been altered slightly to include two buildings that were omitted from the district during the 1993 survey. Consequently, this nomination has a total resource count of 54, consisting of 34 contributing buildings and 20 non-contributing buildings.

The Morgantown Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and C. Bounded by Marion Street (State Road 135) on the west, it encompasses approximately six blocks on the north and south sides of Washington Street, the main thoroughfare. The district is representative of and associated with the founding, development, and maturity of a typical Indiana small town, especially in the areas of commerce, politics, and transportation. It also embodies the distinctive characteristics of a variety of types of commercial, residential, and ecclesiastical architecture ranging from Greek Revival and nineteenth-century vernacular through early- and mid-twentieth century vernacular and popular styles.

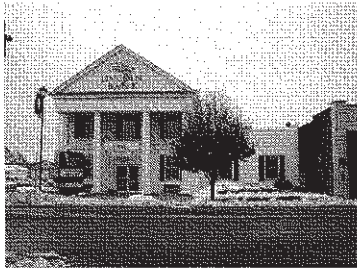
A discussion of architectural styles and development is found in Section 8.

The following architectural descriptions begin with resource 001 and continue through resource 039. Site numbers correspond, as much as possible, to those in the *Morgan County Interim Report* and on the site map. Resources with a capital letter suffix are those overlooked in the

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*Interim Report.* Detached garages and other outbuildings are counted as individual resources. Historic names are in bold type. Resource classifications are in parentheses. All digital index photos were taken by Joanne Raetz Stuttgart in November and December 2005.

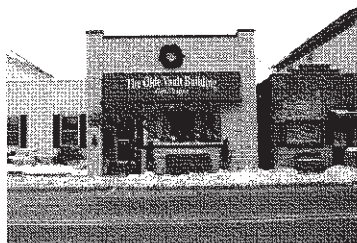


**001 180 W. Washington St. • Farmer's Co-operative Store/Blanche Crawford Building (C)**

Originally a vernacular general merchandise store, this two-story, brick building over a full basement was remodeled in the Colonial Revival style in 1935. In 1968, it received its Neoclassical portico. The building has a front gabled asphalt roof (the rear is hipped) and hewn sandstone block foundation. It features a full-width, full-height pedimented portico supported by four Doric columns. The entablature has a frieze of wood clapboards and a dentilled cornice. Pilasters that extend slightly above the roofline are found at the front corners. Windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash; they are not original. First story windows are set in recessed brick panels that fill the 1935 display windows. All front windows have black shutters. The central entrance consists of paired, steel-framed glass doors topped by a broken pediment. The west wall has one vinyl replacement window and four one-over-one double hung wood sash windows on the second floor.

The one-story east wing is built of concrete block and faced with brick. Pilasters are found at the front corners. Windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash. They are not original.

At the rear is a drive-thru banking facility and a large paved parking lot.



**002 170 W. Washington St. • First National Bank (C)**

Constructed of brick in 1905, this bank building is one story in height, with a stepped back roofline capped with limestone slabs. A concrete block addition is found at the rear. The west wall has three windows, two of which are single pane fixed wood sash with iron bars. The east wall has two single pane fixed sash windows with limestone sills. The front has been faced with cut limestone blocks painted yellow. Limestone trim is painted the color of brick. There is a single corner display window, and a recessed glass entrance with transom on the west front. All are framed in aluminum.



**002-A 160 W. Washington St. • Haase Liquor Store (C)**

With a limestone plaque dated 1954, this one-story building is constructed of concrete block and faced with cut limestone pieces. The side walls have pilasters. The roofline is stepped back on the sides, with a stepped front parapet capped with limestone above the

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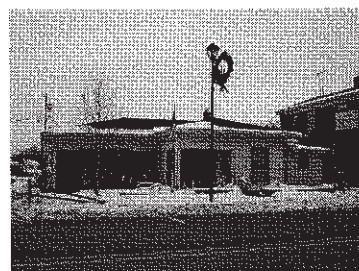
flat roof. The front is distinguished by a single fixed wood sash display window and a paneled wood door with six lights. A green metal awning hangs over the door.



**003 150 W. Washington St. • Obenshain Hotel (C)**

Built in 1860, the original two-story, gable-front building is Greek Revival in style, with a low-pitched roof, bold frieze and cornice returns, and one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. The front has a veneer of cut limestone blocks. The original second floor window openings remain. The first floor front has a central steel and glass entrance door flanked by fixed wood sash display windows. A metal awning stretched across the full width of the

building. The east wall has three second story windows in the rear half, and a filled door and window below. The west wall was originally blank; a door with treated wood staircase access is now found at the north end of the second story. A concrete block addition is found at the rear.



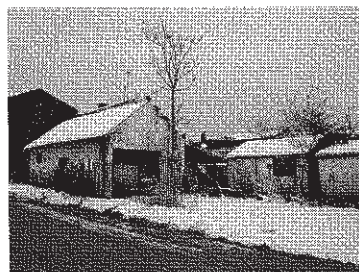
**004 140 W. Washington St. (NC)**

This contemporary nursing home encapsulates a late-nineteenth-century frame house. The front of the facility has vinyl siding and vinyl replacement windows. The rear is covered with Brown County stone.



**005, 005-A, 005-B 130 W. Washington St. • Roberts House(C), Shed (C), and Coal Shed/Garage (C)**

A blend of Greek Revival and Italianate styles, this 1870 two-story, rectangular plan, gable front house is constructed of brick. Original windows are six-over-six double hung wood sash with pale blue glass. Sills and trim are wood; lintels are limestone. Second floor front windows are reduced in size, one-over-one double hung wood sash. Only these windows have bracketed hoods. The entrance is located beneath the easternmost window. The door, transom, and fanlights are all replacements. A one-story bungalow-style "brick" porch extends the width of the house and wraps the east corner. (The "bricks" are actually molded concrete.) A one-story, brick-faced frame enclosure runs from the front corner to about two-thirds back along the east wall. Attached to this, at the northeast corner of the house, is an unfinished two-story frame addition that incorporates an inset first and second story porch.



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Behind the house is a frame shed with a brick chimney, vertical tongue-and-groove board siding, asphalt roof, ten-light rectangular window, and a swinging door with diamond-shaped strap hinges.

To the east of this shed, just off Cross Street, is a frame coal shed and/or garage. It has vertical tongue-and-groove board siding over narrow lapped siding, corrugated metal roof, beaded board under the eaves, and exposed beveled rafter tails. A filled garage-type door is in the east wall. A fixed wood sash window with a large single light and two rows of alternating five lights below is found to the left of this door. A second garage door is in the north, gable-end wall.



**006 120 W. Washington St. • Morgantown Town Hall (C)**

Built about 1900, this two-story red brick, rectangular plan building has a gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. Second story windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash. All first story windows have been filled with brick. The front façade is concrete molded to resemble brick. A bell tower with a hipped roof is centrally located and framed with pilasters; pilasters also appear on the outside corners of the front façade. The opening in the tower, and the tower sides and rear, is covered with vinyl siding. An asphalt-covered shed roof awning hangs over the entrance. The storefront is infilled with wood, with two fixed aluminum sash windows and a solid wood door. Two public restrooms are located on the north end of the east wall. The bell on the front sidewalk is from the demolished Morgantown School.



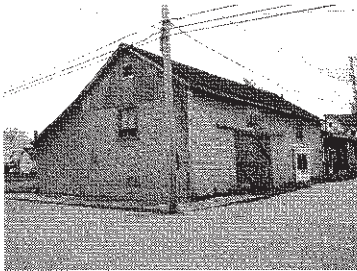
**007, 007-A 80 W. Washington St. • Griffitt-Murphy House (C) and Livery Barn (C)**

This two-story, Queen Anne style frame house, built in 1895, has a hipped roof with multiple cross gables covered in asphalt. The plan is irregular. The foundation is brick. Windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash. Doors are paneled oak with single lights. A porch with turned posts wraps around the front (south) and partial sides of the house. A projecting two story, gabled bay with cutaway corners and second story gingerbread brackets is found on the east front of the house. Gables on the front, east and west have fan ornamentation. A second story bay window with hipped roof is found above the porch roof on the west wall. Stair-stepped, square fixed windows are found in the stairway wall. A second story cantilevered bay supported by gingerbread brackets is found on the east wall. Enclosed porches are found on the northwest and northeast corners. Total restoration is nearing completion.

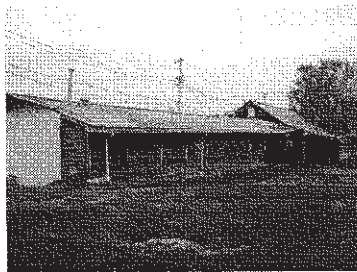


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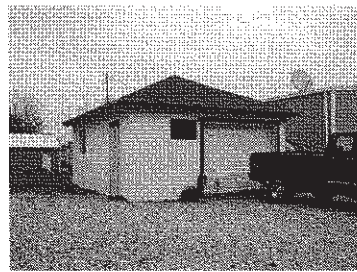
**Section 7 Page 6 Morgantown Historic District, Morgan County, IN**



The c.1895 livery barn/garage is in deteriorated condition. It is a small English barn with a lean-to shed on the east wall. Paired wood doors on an overhead track are centrally located in the north half of the west wall. A second pair of doors has been converted into a garage door. Wood hay doors are above the livery and garage door. A single fixed wood sash window is found in the hayloft; all other windows have been filled. The roof is corrugated metal. Siding is asphalt over vertical tongue-and-groove board. The floor is poured concrete. Gables are filled with vertical boards.



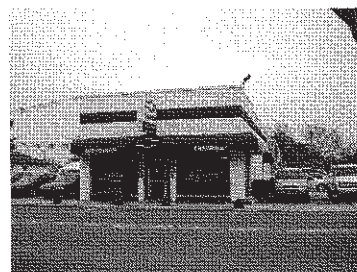
Attached to the south wall of the livery barn/garage is a long rectangular building on a poured concrete foundation and rustic wood lapped siding. It dates to about 1975.



**008 [60] W. Washington St. • Lake Garage (C)**

Built c.1920, this concrete block garage has a hipped roof and wide overhanging, exposed eaves. In the south wall is a fiberglass paneled garage door; to the left is a three-light fixed wood sash window. A six-light, fixed sash wood window and a paneled wood door are found in the west wall. The north wall is blank. A garage door in the east wall has been filled with concrete block.

**009 [40 W. Washington St.] • Car lot. No extent resources.**



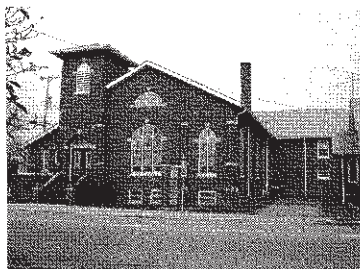
**010 20 W. Washington St. • Mitchell Feed Store/Whitaker Chevrolet (C)**

Rectangular in plan and a single story in height, this simple building was built about 1929. It is constructed of poured concrete painted white with royal blue accents. The roof line is stepped back. Display windows and front entrance door are aluminum framed plate glass shaded by a blue fabric awning. The original display window at the south end of the east wall has been converted into paired entrance doors. The east wall also has two vinyl clad casement windows and two solid steel entrance doors. The west wall has two single pane, fixed sash windows. A third window has been filled. A large extension with concrete foundation and metal walls is found on the north end of the building.

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**011 [10 W. Washington St] • Car lot. No extent resources.**



**012 20 E. Washington St. • Morgantown Methodist Episcopal Church (C)**

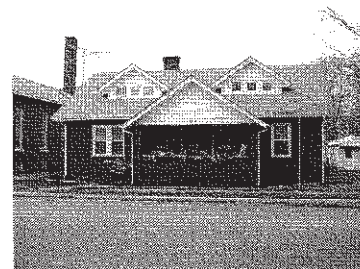
This brick veneered, Akron-plan church complex dates to 1923. It consists of a gable-front chapel in Twentieth Century Gothic Revival style, with a two-story rectangular plan community center at rear. The chapel features Gothic arch stained glass windows with limestone keystones and plinths on the front (south) elevation, buttresses capped with limestone, and a square, hip-roofed bell tower with an elevated, recessed and vaulted entrance consisting of paired walnut doors with stained glass windows and fanlight. There are five pairs of one-over-one double hung wood sash windows with stained glass in the east wall. The west wall has four pairs. A gabled entrance pavilion replaces the fifth pair; it has corner buttresses with stone caps and paired steel entrance doors with a fanlight.



The auditorium, or nave, is oriented to the north.

Classrooms with movable partitions to close them off from the congregation were once located on the west and south walls; today the classroom space is part of the nave. Classrooms are now located in the full basement. Basement windows are six-light fixed wood sash.

The rear community center, originally a public auditorium with gymnasium and stage, is two stories in height, with a hipped roof and a two-story gabled entrance pavilion in the center of the west wall. The gym has been reduced to half its original size; the other half has been made into a combination meeting room and dining room/kitchen. Six-over-six double hung wood sash windows appear in ribbons of three on the second story. First floor windows on the rear (north) wall are six-light fixed sash; on the west wall, flanking the pavilion, first story windows are four-over-four double hung wood sash in ribbons of three. Original window glass is pebbled.



**013 40 E. Washington St. • [Third] Methodist Parsonage (C)**

Rectangular in plan, one story in height, and veneered with corrugated red brick, this 1923 dwelling has a pair of front dormers covered with white vinyl and a central bungalow-style porch. All windows are vinyl replacements. The off-center entrance features a wood door with an octagonal light filled with false mullions in a diamond pattern.

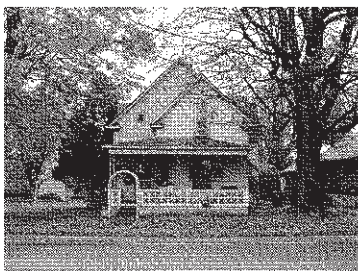
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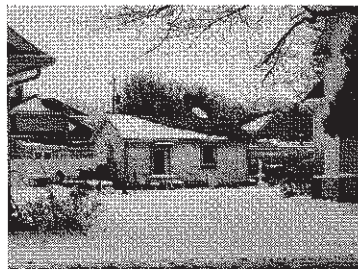
**014, 014-A 60 E. Washington St. • Miller House (C) and Garage (NC)**

This 1926 bungalow is constructed of concrete block coated with a concrete-based stucco. The stucco on the front wall and front foundation is imbedded with chips of colored glass. Banding the house, about three feet above the ground, is a belt course of molded brick made of concrete. The foundation is concrete block. The asphalt roof is gabled, with a second projecting front gable and a third gable over the east half of the front porch. The west half has a trellised roof. An external chimney made of concrete bricks is found on the west side of the house. To the left (west) are a side entrance porch with Doric columns and a gable roof with bracketed eaves. Double hung wood sash windows appear singly, in pairs, and, in the east wall, in a ribbon of three. Lower lights are single pane; upper lights consist of a square pane framed by narrow, rectangular lights on the top, bottom, and sides, with small square lights in the corners. Other smaller windows are both one-over-one double hung wood sash and single light fixed wood sash. Paired multi-light dormer windows are fixed. The front and side entrance doors are wood with a single large pane framed by long, narrow panes, with square panes in the corners. A narrow, one-car garage with synthetic siding is found off the northwest corner of the house; it is counted as a noncontributing building.



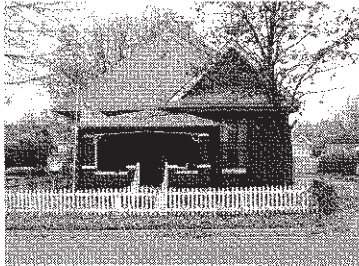
**015, 015-A 80 E. Washington St. • [Second] Methodist Parsonage (C) and Garage (C)**

One and one-half stories in height, this vernacular house has a gabled roof with two layered front cross gables. It was built between 1907 and 1910. The front gables and cornice returns hint at a Free Classic influence. The foundation is brick. Siding is aluminum. Windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash. The front porch banister is constructed of openwork concrete block. Two frame garages—one attached to the house and one at the rear lot line—are found behind the house. The detached garage (shown at left) is counted as a contributing resource.



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**016, 016-A 110 E. Washington St. • Willan House (C) and Garage (NC)**

This c.1890 vernacular house exhibits a bungalow influence in the use of brick wall cladding and the prominent front porch, both added about 1924. The roof is pyramidal with a cross gable on the east half of the front (south) elevation. A brick stretcher belt course surrounds the house at foundation level. Windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash. The front entrance door is wood with a single large pane framed by long, narrow panes, with square panes in the corners. At the northwest corner is an attached rectangular garage with Dutch-lap siding, now used as living space. A modern detached garage is located on the northwest corner of the lot.



**017 120 E. Washington St. • Parkhurst House (C)**

Greek Revival in style, this two-story brick house has a gable front and side hall plan. It was built in 1865. The roof is asphalt. Original windows on the west and north walls are six-over-six double hung wood sash; all others are one-over-one double hung wood replacements. Lintels are limestone; sills are wood. The recessed entrance, framed with engaged Doric columns, features a paneled wood door with single light, transom, and sidelights. The entrance porch has wrought iron supports. A second floor door has been converted into a sliding glass door. A sleeping porch at the northeast corner has been made into an enclosed room; infill is vinyl. An attached brick summer kitchen has an open garage addition on the front, and an enclosed addition at the rear.



**018 140 E. Washington St. • Morgantown Christian Church (C)**

Rectangular in plan, this gable front brick church with Italianate influence has slightly arched, one-over-one double hung wood sash windows filled with stained glass and topped with brick archivolt. Paired steel entrance doors are accessed by a raised concrete porch. An arched transom is filled with wood. A limestone date plaque gives the date of construction as 1871. A round gable vent or window is open. The white steeple appears to be metal. A one-story, red brick classroom and fellowship hall addition is located at the rear.

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**019 159-169 W. Washington St. • Masonic Lodge No. 358  
(C)**

Constructed in 1903, the two-story brick Masonic Lodge is a rectangular building with three-bays on the second story front, and six bays at street level. The upper story bays are framed by brick pilasters and topped with a corbelled cornice. Star-end tie rods are found below the two center pilasters. The central bay is higher than the two outer bays, with the shared corners filled with triangular shaped, incised limestone blocks. A limestone plaque identifies the building as Masonic Lodge No. 358. All second story windows are reduced from their original size; existing windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash, with infill of gray vinyl. The upper story is unpainted.

At street level, the front of the building is divided into six arched bays and two business units. Each unit has a central door flanked by windows, each occupying its own arch. The unit at 159 W. Washington St. retains its original recessed entrance. The unit at 169 W. Washington St. has a modified entrance that is now flush with the outside wall. All windows have lower wood panels, with two-light arched transoms and corbelled brick archivolt overhead.

The building has a brick foundation and hipped asphalt roof. The west wall has three second story windows, all reduced in size. The east wall has four second story windows, all reduced in size. A first floor entrance and window have been filled with concrete block. A two-story frame addition clad with red aluminum siding covers approximately two-thirds of the rear (south) wall; it appears to enclose an original staircase to the second floor. The ground entrance is on the east side. A one-story, lean-to concrete block kitchen building with a tapered roof is tacked on to its south wall.

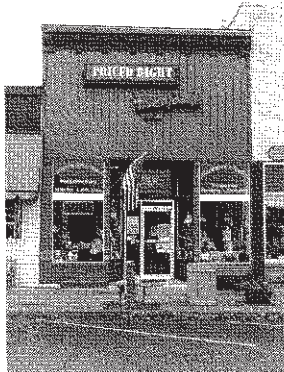


**020 147-149 W. Washington St. • Morgantown Odd Fellows  
Lodge (NC)**

The rectangular plan, brick IOOF Lodge, built in 1894, is two stories high with a front parapet. The parapet has a corbelled cornice. All of the upper story windows have been filled with brick. On the rear (south) wall, second story, steel-frame windows with ten lights each have been added. On the front wall, a limestone plaque identifies the lodge hall and the date of construction as 1894. The store front retains its original cast iron columns (manufactured by George L. Mesker and Co. of Evansville) but has otherwise been altered with aluminum frame replacement windows and security doors, infilled transoms, and a flush front wall. On the west wall, the lodge hall entrance has been altered with the installation of vintage steel doors. On the rear wall, first floor windows have been filled.

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**021 129 W. Washington St. • Morgantown Hardware (C)**

The original storefront of this 1894 one-story, brick commercial building is a sheetmetal façade produced by the George L. Mesker Co. of Evansville. Green ribbed panels obscure the original sheet metal false upper front with two blind "window" panels. The sheet metal resembles rusticated cut stone. The building has a recessed 45 degree entrance, replacement aluminum-framed plate glass display windows, and exposed Mesker cast iron columns nearly identical to those on the Odd Fellows Lodge. Brick panels below the windows are not original. The glass door is framed with aluminum. The original metal cornice is exposed. The roofline is stepped back. Two concrete block additions, one in front of

the other, are found at the rear.



**022 125 W. Washington St. • Kuhn Grocery, Ice Cream Parlor and Bakery (NC)**

The original style of this c.1900 one-story brick building is indeterminate. It has a brick foundation, a flat roof, and a stepped back roofline. The upper front is covered with panels of black architectural glass. The lower front is covered with gray vinyl. A wood shed awning covered with blue fabric stretches across the full width of the building. A central wood door with a single light —

two steps above sidewalk level—is framed with glass block and flanked by a pair of single display windows framed with wood. The existing façade carries over to the building on the east (121 W. Washington St.), as if they were a single building rather than two. A concrete block addition is found at the rear.



**022-A 121 W. Washington St. • Lonyo Liquor Store (NC)**

The original style of this c.1945 one-story brick building is indeterminate. It is one story in height and constructed of concrete block with a brick face. The original façade has been significantly altered. On the top half, the brick is obscured by panels of black architectural glass. Gray vinyl covers the lower half. One wood-framed display window is found east of the entrance. The door—two steps above sidewalk level—is paneled wood with three lights.

A corbelled cornice is obscured with aluminum overlay. The roof is flat; the roofline is stepped back. The existing façade carries over to the building on the west (125 W. Washington St.), as if they were a single building rather than two. The only access to this building is through 125 W. Washington St. A concrete block addition is found at the rear.

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**023 109 W. Washington St. • Cowden Building (NC)**

Built in 1967 of concrete block with a front veneer of orange brick, this two-story building features structural pilasters on the east wall. Second floor windows are four-light fixed aluminum sash. First floor, front display windows are aluminum frame plate glass. The central entrance consists of paired aluminum frame glass doors. A flat aluminum awning stretched across the full width of the building.



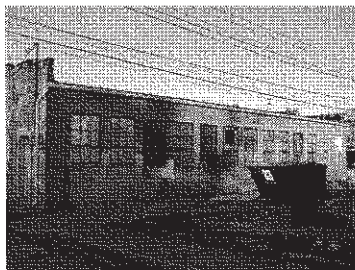
**024 79 W. Washington St. • Woods Dodge/Plymouth Dealership (C)**

Built in 1914, this former car dealership is a one-story red brick building with a brick foundation and stepped back roofline. The front wall features a decorative corbelled cornice and four pilasters, two at the outer corners and two on the wall itself. The pilasters project above the cornice; both pilasters and cornice have concrete caps. Aluminum framed display windows have been reduced in size, with lower infill of rough-finished boards. An entrance fills the east window opening. A green cloth awning runs the full width of the building.

The west wall features six pilasters that intersect the cornice at each step. A display window on the northwest corner is filled with board and a single aluminum frame glass entrance. Two windows are filled with glass block. Two are filled with board, and two have been converted into doors. An aluminum frame, multi-light garage door is found at the rear of the west wall.



At the southwest corner of the building is located the Woods garage. This concrete block building has a stepped roofline on both the front (west) and rear (east) walls. The front wall has a large metal garage door and two small windows that have been filled in, and an entrance with a steel door. The south side wall has eleven four-over-two double hung steel sash windows; one has an altered upper sash. Two smaller window openings have been filled in. The rear wall is blank. The west and south walls are painted a buff color; the rear wall is unpainted. The building is also attached to the rear wall of 71 W. Washington St.



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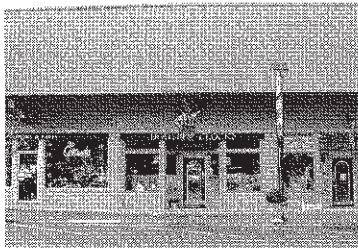
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**024-B 71 W. Washington St. • Ezra Schultz Building/Woods Annex (NC)**



This one-story, painted brick building, erected in 1914, was historically a separate building, but through recent extensive remodeling, it has become identical to 69 W. Washington St. (see below). It features a 45-degree recessed central entrance and corner display windows with overhead transoms. Lapped siding infill is found below the windows; lapped siding also appears above the windows and extends across 69 and 59 W. Washington Street (see below). A large shed awning covered with ribbed green metal extends across the front of both buildings. Brick pilasters at the front corners are still evident below the awning.

**025 69 W. Washington St. • G. W. Crawford Annex (NC)**



Built between 1914 and 1929, this two-story, painted brick building was historically a separate building, but through recent extensive remodeling, it has become identical to 71 W. Washington St. above. The front façade features a 45-degree recessed central entrance and corner display windows with overhead transoms. Lapped siding infill is found above and below the windows. A large shed awning covered with ribbed green metal hides the second

story front façade and extends across the front of 71 and 59 W. Washington Street. Three original brick pilasters at the center and front corners are still evident below the awning. The original brick has a corrugated, wire-cut surface.

**025-A 59 W. Washington St. • G. W. Crawford Building (NC)**



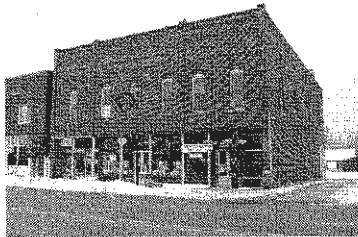
Built in 1910, this building, originally three bays, was occupied by a single business. The east bay was one story in height. The middle bay was two stories. The west bay was one story; it later received a second story. Extensive remodeling in recent years has severely compromised its integrity. The front façade merges with that of two buildings on the west (69 and 71 W. Washington Street. See above.). In addition, the asphalt roof of the east unit has been

pitched eastward, and the roof of the middle and west units has been pitched southward. From the south, the altered roofline has a mansard appearance. The same heavy green awning on the two neighboring buildings (see above) hides the second story front façades. The storefront consists of central aluminum-frame glass door flanked by single-light display windows. Above the entrance and windows is the same lapped siding as in the two buildings to the west. Above this, the corbelled capitals of the original pilasters can be seen. The east wall is unpainted brick; a fixed sash wood window is found at the south end.



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**026 29-39-49 W. Washington St. • Redman's Lodge (C)**

This two-story brick commercial building, apparently built in 1908, has a recessed storefront under a structural I-beam header. The front upper story is carried by round cast iron columns. The roof is flat; the roofline is stepped back to the rear (south). The front cornice is corbelled. The foundation is brick.

There are three units, each divided by cast iron columns on the first floor and brick pilasters on the second. All upper story windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash topped with segmental arched hoods. Above the windows of each unit are blind brick panels.

The three units are differing sizes. The east unit is the smallest; the central unit is the largest; and the west unit is medium in size. All units have wood framed display windows with wood panels below and transoms. Entrances are flush with the display windows. The east unit has a steel door with a single pane. The central and west units have paired paneled wood doors with single lights.

The east wall has two one-over-one double hung wood sash windows on the second floor.

The west wall has four second story windows; one is filled in. A small fixed window and a recessed, vaulted entry is found on the first floor near the south corner. The entrance consists of a pair of narrow paneled wood doors with a two-light transom overhead.

All rear (south) windows are filled with plywood, with the exception of a square fixed wood sash window on the first floor. To its left is an Eastlake wood door.

A large garage of glazed brick tile is attached to the rear of the building. The cornice has iron caps. In the west wall is a paneled wood garage door with six-lights; to its left is a solid wood door. Two windows of glass block are found in the south wall.



**027 7-13 W. Washington St. • Wisby Hotel (C)**

The Wisby Hotel, built in 1918, is a vernacular two-story brick veneered building with three business units on the first floor. The corrugated brick was manufactured by the Poston Company of Martinsville. Each unit has an elevated, recessed entry accessed by three concrete steps. Display windows are framed with wood, with painted pressed metal (or glass) panels below and transoms consisting of

three lights overhead. On the west side of the center unit is a fourth recessed entrance (with a steel door) leading to the second floor staircase.

A brick stretcher belt course bands the building above the second front story windows. Windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash; they appear in pairs on the west and east front. The westernmost front window is filled with replacement jalousie windows. All lintels and sills are a single header course. The west wall has five one-over-one double hung wood sash windows on the second floor and two on the first. On the east wall, smaller windows are one-

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over-one-double hung wood sash. There are two entrances: one has a luan wood door, and the other the original paneled wood door with a single light.

The south (rear) wall has two paneled wood doors with a single light on the second story, and two small one-over-one double hung windows, one of which has been filled. The ground floor has two doors (one is a steel security door) and three windows. A mid-twentieth-century wrought iron staircase accesses the second floor rooms. A paired wood cargo door in the basement is found at the bottom of a flight of concrete steps.



**028 19 E. Washington St. • Telephone Exchange (C)**

Erected in 1906, this square brick building has a raised corner entrance over a full basement. Windows (two per wall) are one-over-one double hung wood sash with limestone sills. A limestone belt course wraps the building. Basement windows are single light fixed wood sash. The asphalt roof is pyramidal; a brick chimney emerges near the peak on the south side.



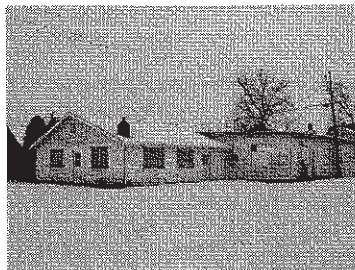
**029, 029-A 49 E. Washington St. • Hickey-McGrayel House (C) and Garage (NC)**

This large brick dwelling, built in 1851 or 1852, originated as a Greek Revival I-house with internal end chimneys, a dentilled cornice, and cornice returns. Windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash. The entrance features transom lights and sidelights; the door is a steel replacement. The rear ell is Italianate in style, with a boxlike form and hipped roof. A front cross gable rises above the ridge of the I-house and ties the two roofs together. Doors and one-over-one double hung wood sash windows are slightly arched. Wide, overhanging eaves lack brackets. A detached frame garage west of the rear ell is noncontributing.



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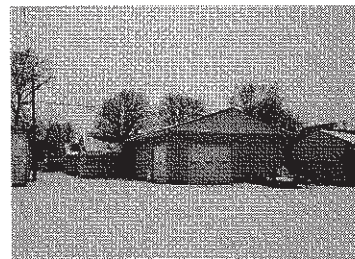


**030, 030-A 79 E. Washington St. • Loop House and Watch Shop (C) and Woodworking Shop/Garage (C)**

Built in 1946, this one-story vernacular house with a full basement shows a bungalow influence in its full-width front porch and front dormer. The side-gabled, one-and-a-half-story main mass has a rectangular plan; a one-story extension with an intersecting cross gable is found at the rear. The walls are constructed of pale yellow glazed tile brick. Windows are three-over-one double hung wood sash on the first floor. Second floor windows are double hung vinyl replacements. The dormer is likewise sided with vinyl. The foundation is concrete block. The roof is asphalt. The front porch is concrete. The front, side (east) and rear entrance doors are wood, each with a single light.

A frame addition on the west—a former watch shop—is covered with vinyl and extends the full length of the house.

Behind the house is an assemblage of two concrete block buildings counted as a contributing resource. The c.1946 building on the south has a gable roof, 16-light, fixed steel sash windows, and paneled wood doors with four lights. Built in two phases, the building on the north has a flat roof and two fiberglass garage doors. Original multi-light steel windows have been filled.



**031, 031-A 89 E. Washington St. • Butler House (NC) and Garage (NC)**

This one story gabled-ell house appears to have been built about 1907. It is covered with vertical board siding and vinyl. All windows are replacement vinyl. The entrance door is steel. Lower walls are covered with irregularly shaped limestone block. A lean-to addition is found at the rear. Behind the house is a large concrete block garage, formerly an automobile repair shop. It is counted as a noncontributing resource.

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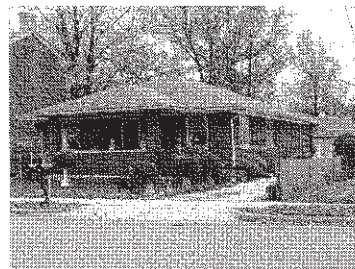
**032, 032-A 119 E. Washington St. • Adams House (C) and Garage (NC)**

This red brick bungalow, built in 1918, is one-and-a-half stories in height. It has a full basement. The asphalt roof has multiple cross gables filled with vinyl siding; brackets are found under the eaves. All windows are vinyl replacements. The off-center porch has brick columns and walls. A rear lean-to-addition is sided with vinyl. A frame garage is covered with vinyl; it is counted as a noncontributing resource.



**033, 033-A 129 E. Washington St. • Payne House (NC) and Garage (NC)**

The 1993 *Morgan County Interim Report* identifies this steeply-pitched front gable house as Italianate in style and dates it c.1875. Since publication, the house has been sided with vinyl. All windows are vinyl replacements. Several one-story additions are found at the rear. The front porch has brick bungalow-style newels and walls, vinyl columns, and a hipped asphalt roof. The wood door has a single large light. A noncontributing concrete block garage is covered with vinyl.



**034, 034-A 139 E. Washington St. • Blanche Crawford House (NC) and Garage (NC)**

Built in 1965, this vernacular one-story, rectangular plan house has walls of red brick, a hipped roof, and a front porch also with a hipped roof. The foundation is brick. Windows are one-over-one double hung wood sash with limestone sills. The entrance door is steel. At the rear of the lot is a noncontributing unpainted concrete block garage with a hipped roof.



**035, 035-A 149 E. Washington St. • Fesler House (C) and Garage (NC)**

This c. 1840 brick Greek Revival I-house features six-over-six double hung wood sash windows with limestone sills, internal end chimneys, a bold frieze and cornice returns. The foundation is brick. The roof is asphalt. The steel entrance door has sidelights and a two-light transom. A lean-to extension original to the house extends across the rear the full width of the house. On the southeast corner, a brick outbuilding (summer kitchen) is now connected to the lean-to by a frame addition. A contemporary detached garage is located southeast of the house.

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**036 29 S. Marion St. (NC)**

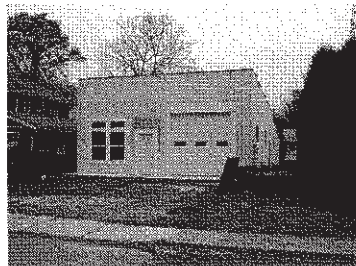
Built in 1968, this concrete block filling station has been significantly altered. The front and side walls are covered with red brick, with original display windows filled with wood. The asphalt roof has a mansard-style overhang.



**037 30 Church St. • George Wisby Garage (C)**

Constructed of rusticated concrete block in 1923, this garage features a parapet roofline capped with cast concrete. The gable roof is corrugated metal. The garage door in the front (east) wall is replacement fiberglass; a poured concrete ramp scored to resemble tile squares ramps up from the town roadway. To its right is an original three-over-two fixed wood sash window; the left window is filled with plastic. Side and rear windows are four-over-four

double hung wood sash or four-light fixed wood sash. On the south wall is a paneled entrance with six lights; to its left is a Majestic coal chute. The gable in the west end is filled with seamed metal sheets. In the north wall is a pair of wood automobile doors, each with six lights.



**038 37 Church St. • Roush Garage (C)**

This automobile garage, built in the 1930s, is constructed of ashlar concrete block painted a pinkish beige. It has a stepped back roofline with new metal caps. The roof is flat. All windows, entrance doors, the front (west) garage door, and all trim are synthetic replacements.



**039 129 Mulberry St. • O. O. Elkins Ice House (C)**

Constructed in 1914, this L-shaped, one-story building is constructed of rusticated concrete block with bead mortar joints. The foundation is poured concrete. The front (east) elevation has a parapet roofline capped with contemporary aluminum. The central delivery door is filled with wood and has a steel entrance door. An original window opening to the right has been reduced in size and filled with a vinyl double hung window trimmed with wood

shutters. The north and south walls have stepped back rooflines also capped with aluminum. All windows and doors are vinyl replacements. Windows are original size. The west wall has a single entrance near the west end (the door is a steel replacement) and three square fixed wood

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sash windows. Originally there were four; the fourth opening has been filled and a new opening, filled with a one-over-one double hung wood sash window, is immediately to its left.

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

**History and Development**

The Morgantown Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and C. Bounded by Marion Street (State Road 135) on the west, it encompasses approximately six blocks on the north and south sides of Washington Street, the main thoroughfare. The district is representative of and associated with the founding, development, and maturity of a typical Indiana small town, especially in the areas of commerce, politics, and transportation. It also embodies the distinctive characteristics of a variety of types of commercial, residential, and ecclesiastical architecture ranging from Greek Revival and nineteenth-century vernacular through early- and mid-twentieth century vernacular and popular styles. The period of significance is 1840-1956, since the historical period of the town's development was ongoing to beyond the 1950s.

The Morgantown Historic District was identified as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in the *Morgan County Interim Report* (1993). It is one of four districts in the county and the last to be nominated and listed. The resource count has been changed to account for all individual building as identified through site visits and research. In addition, the district boundaries have been altered slightly to include two buildings that were omitted from the district during the 1993 survey. Consequently, this nomination has a total resource count of 54, consisting of 34 contributing buildings and 20 non-contributing buildings.

Morgantown is the only town in Jackson Township in southeastern Morgan County, nine miles east of the county seat of Martinsville, at the intersection of State Roads 252 and 135. With forested areas punctuated by tilled fields and residential subdivisions, the northern two-thirds of the township is gently rolling. The southern one-third, relatively hilly and wooded, is cut through by Indian Creek and several smaller creeks. Indian Creek touches Morgantown on its south boundary. The Illinois Central Railroad parallels the Johnson County line in the southeast, entering Morgantown on its east end.

Platted in 1831 by Robert Bowles and Samuel Teeters, Morgantown originated as a mill town on Indian Creek comprised of 52 lots roughly one-fifth acre in size, beginning at Church St on the east and centered on Washington Street. A portion of the plat is today's historic district. The entire area was replatted by Isabelle Teeters and Colonel John Vawter in 1836.<sup>1</sup>

The town grew slowly during its formative years. A corn cracker was built by Joshua Whitley about 1830, followed by two other mills which operated on Indian Creek. The first post office was established in 1833. By 1835, postmaster John Fee was operating a dry goods store and

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<sup>1</sup> Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 12, 1981.

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linseed oil mill, and Vawter was proprietor of a general store. Other businesses, including wagon shops, a blacksmith, woolen mill, and cabinet shop, provided essential needs to about 15 families, or 70 residents, and others in the surrounding area. The first frame school was built in 1840, the same decade that the Methodist and Christian churches were organized. The Baptist Church followed in 1850.<sup>2</sup>

The coming of the Martinsville-Franklin Flatbar Railroad in 1853, and its extension to Fairland (thereinafter called the Big Four) following the Civil War, had a dramatic impact on Morgantown. James McCallister built a wool carding mill in the 1850s, and William Hickey established a plug tobacco business in the 1860s. The increase in population and demand for building lots led, in 1859, to the first addition to the city north and east of the original plat. In the 1870s, a fine brick school building was erected and the early church buildings were replaced with more permanent buildings, among them was the Christian Church (018) built in 1871. By 1880, the town's population had reached over 600, and new businesses, attracted by ready access to the rail line, were thriving. The discovery of a natural gas well marked the beginning of municipal improvements.<sup>3</sup>

The Morgantown Historic District along Washington Street represents this early period of prosperity. The earliest buildings are the Greek Revival-influenced I-houses at 149 E. Washington Street (035, built c.1840) and 49 E. Washington St. (029, built 1851 or 1852). Other mid-nineteenth-century buildings include the Greek Revival Obenshain Hotel at 160 W. Washington St (003, built 1860) and the Parkhurst House at 120 E. Washington St. (017, built 1865). Post-Civil War residential construction is represented by the Roberts House at 130 W. Washington St. (005, built 1870), a blend of Greek Revival and Italianate styles and a side hall plan, and the Italianate style house at 129 E. Washington St. (033, built c.1875).

The 1890s constituted a major period of rebuilding following an 1894 fire that destroyed all of the buildings on the south side of Washington St. between Marion and Cross St. Rebuilding began immediately, with the Masonic Lodge (020) and Mitchell Hardware (021), both built 1894, among the first buildings to go up. In 1895, Dr. R. C. Griffitt tore down his father's store and post office and rebuilt a fine Queen Anne style house (008) on the same site.

Fire and rebuilding also characterized the first decades of the twentieth century. In 1908, fire destroyed all of the buildings on the south side of Washington St. between Cross and Church St. The G. W. Crawford Building (025-A), constructed in 1910, was the first to go up, followed, in 1914, by Woods Dodge/Plymouth Dealership (024) and the Ezra Shultz Building (024-B), later the Woods Annex. Morgantown soon prospered with the establishment of an electric light plant

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<sup>2</sup> Orville R. Wells, "Wells Gives History of Morgantown Post Office." *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, December [date unknown], 2000. [Reprint of original 1953 publication.]

<sup>3</sup> "Remember When," *Reporter Times*, 29 July 1999.



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(and its improvement following a 1903 crash) and telephone system (c.1900), founding of the first bank (1900), installation of the first concrete sidewalks (1907), the arrival of the Indiana

Southern Railroad (Illinois Central after 1927) in 1910 and, about the same time, the founding of Fulmore Furniture Manufacturing Company, which became Faucett Umphrey Chair Company in 1916. Among the buildings that present this prosperity are the Telephone Exchange (028), built in 1906, the 1903 Odd Fellows Lodge (019)—whose first floor served as Red Cross headquarters during World War I—, the 1908 Redmen's Lodge (026), and O. O. Elkins Ice House (039), built in 1914.

The 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s were a period of maturity. Town government moved into a permanent home in Town Hall (006, built c.1900) in 1925. Redevelopment occurred on E. Washington St. with remodeling of the Methodist Church and construction of the new Community Hall (both 012) in 1923, and the replacement of older housing stock with new styles. The 1926 Miller House, a stucco covered bungalow at 60 E. Washington St. (014) is a good example. Enhancement of infrastructure was marked by installation of a municipal water system in 1927. The Wisby Hotel (027), built in 1923, represents the beginning of Morgantown's transition from a self-supporting, self-sustained village to a stopover for tourists to and from Nashville and Brown County. Increasing reliance on automobiles is reflected in the number of private and commercial garages, the founding of Whitaker Chevrolet in 1933, and the paving of State Road 135 in 1941. Highway travel soon trumped travel by rail, with Scenic Bus Lines service available to and from Indianapolis, Nashville, and Camp Atterbury, resulting in the pull-out of the Big Four in 1945. The post-war years also brought new construction: Lonyo Liquor Store (022-A) in 1945 and Haase Liquor Store (002-A) in 1954.

By the 1950s and 1960s, Morgantown had attained an uneasy balance of stability and decline. Redevelopment occurred in the downtown area with the replacement of Whitaker's Store with the Cowden building (023) in 1957; the demolition of Graham Lumber Company at the corner of Washington and Church St.; and the replacement of the two buildings on the southeast corner of Washington and Marion St. with a Pure Oil station. Long-established businesses began to close, among them the Morgantown Packing Company canning plant about 1950, Woods Dodge/Plymouth in 1958, Faucett Umphrey Chair Company in 1962 or 1963. The high school closed in 1967 (the grade school followed 20 years later). It was during this period that the rural fire department—it was not yet a municipal fire department—moved into the Crawford and Woods Annexes; the bank moved into its new Neoclassical home; and Blanche Crawford, who designed and supervised the new bank building, built the house at 139 E. Washington St. (034-A)—the youngest resource in the district.

By the 1970s, buildings had gone without conscientious and regular maintenance for several decades, and, generally speaking, both businesses and homeowners rotated on a steady basis. By

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the mid-1980s, Morgantown residents began to envision a new chapter in the town's history patterned after that of nearby Nashville. Morgantown could become a tourist destination—or at least a stop on the way to Nashville. The Chamber of Commerce was formed in the 1980s,

followed in the 1990s by the Morgantown Merchants Association, whose primary objective was downtown revitalization and improvement. A Project Main Street grant funded tree planting, improvements to sidewalks and gutters, improvement of the Illinois Central Railroad crossing, and the construction of public restrooms behind Town Hall. The 2000s have been characterized by a continuing earnestness for improvement, increased emphasis on tourism, and celebration and promotion of Morgantown's unique cultural heritage.<sup>4</sup>

**Architecture**

The Morgantown Historic District is significant for its collection of typical small town buildings representing various special functions. Private residences are intermixed with public buildings like the Town Hall, which even though remodeled, still evokes a typical small town governmental building. Commercial buildings range from converted early residences and hotels to late-nineteenth century popular designs incorporating mass-produced architectural elements. A building of industrial use is the Elkins Ice House. The two religious buildings, located within a single block, represent two very different architectural periods, as well as two very different cultural ideologies. The Christian Church is a symmetrical, rectangular plan structure. The Methodist Church is built on the Akron Plan, which incorporated Sunday school classrooms into the auditorium-like nave. Other distinct building types associated with specific functions include the town's first and only telephone exchange; the gymnasium/community hall attached to the rear of the Methodist Church; the Whitaker and Woods car dealerships; and the various automobile service garages.

The architecture of the Morgantown Historic District is primarily characterized by vernacular forms with minimal high-style decorative influences. Vernacular house forms reflect the Southern Upland heritage of the earliest settlers, with folk I-houses and side hall plans among the earliest extant examples. Vernacular commercial buildings are a more popular variety, perhaps influenced by what builders and merchants saw in other communities, in plan books and builder's guides, and other widely distributed sources.

Built about 1840, the Fesler House at 149 E. Washington St. (035) is the oldest resource in the district. It is a traditional I-house, with a central passage flanked by two rooms on each of the first and second floors. It exhibits modest mid-nineteenth-century Greek Revival influence with its bold frieze, cornice returns, and entrance framed by a transom and sidelights. Slightly later is

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<sup>4</sup> Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, December 29, 1977, and "Merchants, residents see good outlook for Morgantown," *Martinsville Reporter*, November 17, 1992.

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the Hickey-McGrayel House at 49 E. Washington St. (029). It, too, is a Greek revival-influenced I-house with a dentiled frieze, cornice returns, and entrance framed by a transom and sidelights.

With classical stylistic details ranging from gable fronts, columns, and dentiled cornices, Greek Revival was the dominant style of American domestic architecture from about 1830 to 1860. Interest in classical buildings was inspired by archaeological investigation in Greece, Greece's war for independence, and America's disenchantment with British architectural models following the War of 1812. The style was largely spread by carpenter's guides and pattern books. Its enduring legacy to American domestic architecture is the gable front house.<sup>5</sup>

The Greek Revival influence is more readily apparent in three gable front buildings: the 1860 Obenshain Hotel (003), the 1865 Parkhurst House (017), and the Roberts House (005), built in 1870. The Roberts House also exhibits Italianate influence in its bracketed window hoods and six-over-six double hung windows. Both the Parkhurst and Roberts Houses have a vernacular side hall plan. Although it is now impossible to ascertain due to extensive remodeling, it is likely that the Obenshain Hotel also originally had a side hall plan.

The late Victorian Italianate style originated in England as part of the Picturesque movement that rejected formal classical ideals in art and architecture. In America, Italianate developed into a truly indigenous style with only hints of its Latin origin. Identifying characteristics of commercial examples include an overall boxlike form, a height of two or three stories, low-pitched roof with widely overhanging eaves supported by decorative brackets; tall, narrow, arched windows, often with decorative hoods; and square cupolas and towers.

In the Morgantown Historic District, the Italianate style is reduced to a few token features; most common are arched windows with modest decorative hoods and bracketed cornices. Examples include the Christian Church (018) and Redmen's Lodge (026), whose arched windows are borrowed from the style, and the Mitchell Hardware Store (021) with its bracketed tin cornice.

Built in 1894 following a fire that destroyed the entire block, the Mitchell Hardware Store (021) is the District's only example of a commercial sheet metal storefront manufactured by George L. Mesker and Company of Evansville, Indiana. From its founding in 1879 through the first two decades of the twentieth century, Mesker sold an estimated 5,000 storefronts across the country. Its largest market was Indiana. For a storeowner like William Mitchell whose business had been destroyed by fire, rebuilding with a Mesker storefront was a stylish, inexpensive, and easy solution to getting back into business relatively quickly.

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<sup>5</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996), 184.

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The Griffitt-Murphy House (007), also built in 1894, is now the district's only representation of the Queen Anne style of architecture, the most dominant style of American domestic buildings from about 1880 to 1900. English in origin, the style is inspired by late Medieval models. Spread by popular pattern books, builder's guides, and catalogues, and American interpretations introduced spindlework and pre-cut "gingerbread" details, such as seen on the Griffitt-Murphy House. Prior to its demolition in 1995, a Queen Anne cottage—the Lake House—stood just east of the Griffitt-Murphy House.

The great majority of buildings in the Morgantown Historic District are late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century vernacular. The origins of their mainstream plans and familiar designs are unknown. Materials tend to be locally derived. Brick was made in kilns nearby or manufactured at the brick yards in nearby Martinsville. Concrete, a relatively new building material, was molded into blocks of various shapes, sizes, and finishes. Local contractor Thomas Stockton experimented with making concrete "brick" and stucco enhanced with chips of colored glass. His handiwork is evident in the bungalow porch on the Roberts House (005), the front facade of Town Hall (006), and the Miller House (014). He may also have manufactured the rusticated block used to build the Wisby Garage (037) and the Woods Garage (024-A). Smooth ashlar block was used in the construction of the Roush Garage (038), Haase Liquor Store (002-A), Lonyo Liquor Store (022-A), and the Loop Garage and Woodworking Shop (030-A). Ashlar block is also used as the foundation of the Loop House (030) made of glazed tile brick.

A significant feature of the vernacular landscape is the location of outbuildings in rear yards. These can be rural in nature, such as the Griffitt-Murphy Livery Barn (007-A); accessory in nature, such as the Roberts Shed and Coal Shed (005-A, 005-B) and any number of automobile garages behind houses; vocational in nature, such as the Loop woodworking shop; and commercial in nature, such as the Roush Garage and the noncontributing Butler Garage (031-A), used first for a porcelain coating business, then as an automobile repair garage, and now for storage.

The Morgantown Historic District also reflects the influence of late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century revival styles, as well as twentieth-century American architectural movements. With its Gothic arch stained glass windows and limestone capped buttresses, the Methodist Church and Community Hall (012) features Late Gothic Revival stylistic details. Next door on the east, the Parsonage (013) and Miller House (014), with their wall coverings of brick and stucco, exhibit the side and front gabled roof with wide overhanging eaves and front porch that are characteristics of the Craftsman style.

The latest architectural style represented in the Morgantown Historic District is Neoclassical. In 1968, the First State Bank (001) received a full-height porch with a dentiled pediment supported by Doric columns. The Neoclassical makeover also included an entrance door topped with a broken pediment, a coat of bright white paint, and a cornice decorated with dentils.

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**Conclusion**

From 1831 until the present day, the core historic area of Morgantown has continually met the needs of the community. It has been the center of commerce and professional life, home to merchants, professionals such as lawyers and physicians, and tradesmen. Its upper stories provided homes to workers and families, many of whom owned and/or tended businesses at street level. Its streets and public sidewalks served as festival grounds for national holidays and local celebrations, such as the town=s centennial in 1931 and today=s Colonel Vawter Day celebration. Its buildings provided recreational opportunities ranging from public lectures, theatrical performances, moving picture shows, and athletic contests. It was also here that educational interests were met by the library, social interests were met by clubs, lodges, and restaurants, and the town was run by elected members of the town board.

From here the town spread out to accept new technologies--telephone service, gas and electric power, the municipal water and sewer system--and improvements such as concrete sidewalks and paved roads. Its merchants stayed in step with the changing times, offering citizens their first automobiles, their first Victrolas, their first televisions. It was in the core historic district that the Methodist and Christian congregations worshipped and marked rituals of the life cycle. And it was at the intersection of Washington and Marion St. that the town was connected to other Indiana cities by means of the state highway system.

In 2006, Morgantown merchants and residents desire National Register status for downtown Morgantown in order to commemorate its heritage and promote it as an exciting and viable tourist and shopping destination.

The following statements of significance begin with resource 001 and continue through resource 039. Site numbers correspond, as much as possible, to those in the *Morgan County Interim Report* and on the site map. Resources with a capital letter suffix are those overlooked in the *Interim Report*. Detached garages and other outbuildings are counted as individual resources. Historic names are in bold type. Resource classifications are in parentheses.

Research was conducted by Henrietta Hickman, a native of Morgantown, and Jeanne Weaver, a former Morgantown businesswoman and a 60-year resident. Both women have a keen interest in Morgantown history and a concern for its future. Without their assistance, this nomination would not have been possible.

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**001 180 W. Washington St. • Farmer's Co-operative Store/Blanche Crawford Building (C)**

Built in 1900 as the Farmer's Cooperative Store, this building housed Thomas Gibson's dry goods store from about 1900-1935. Gibson's was an outstanding store for its day, employing six clerks. Blanche Crawford purchased the building in 1935. She removed 20 feet off the front to accommodate gasoline pumps, remodeled the front in Colonial Revival style, and built the east wing. The building then became a restaurant and Standard service station operated by her nephew, Paul Ratts. This was the first modern filling station in town, and Ratts Restaurant soon became one of the most popular places to eat and visit. It was the first restaurant in Morgantown with restrooms. In 1968, Blanche Crawford sold the building to the First State Bank. A year later, it was again remodeled, and the Neoclassical portico was added. Blanche Crawford helped renovate and completely designed the interior. It has been a bank since that time. The current occupant is Lincoln Bank.<sup>6</sup>

**002 170 W. Washington St. • First National Bank of Morgantown (C)**

This brick building was constructed in 1905 following the reorganization of Morgantown bank into the First National Bank of Morgantown. The bank had been established by R. C. Griffitt (see resource 007) and E. A. Carter in 1899. Reorganized as First State Bank, the bank remained in this building until 1969, when it moved into the building immediately to the west (see above). Blanche Crawford then bought this building and added the limestone block façade, which obscures a limestone plaque below the cornice that reads First National Bank. Crawford used the building as her office and sometimes residence. Following her death in 1989, the building exchanged hands several times. It has been the office of a communications company and a restaurant. It is now occupied by The Olde Vault Building Gift Shoppe. Inside the building is an immense bank vault.<sup>7</sup>

**002-A 160 W. Washington St. • Haase Liquor Store (C)**

This concrete block building with a pieced limestone front façade was built in 1954 by Robert "Jake" Haase and operated as a liquor store. The business was an accessory to Haase's tavern, located in the building to the east (see below). The succession of owners follows that of the tavern building. This building remained a tavern for many years. It has also been used as an attorney's office, an alterations shop, and a retail store. It is currently vacant.<sup>8</sup>

**003 150 W. Washington St. • Obenshain Hotel (C)**

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<sup>6</sup> Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 2, 1978. Also, "1916 Franklin Coed Fixes Up Well House She Built," *The Republic* [Columbus, IN], August 11, 1970; and "Brief History of First Bank," brochure celebrating open house following remodeling, April 27, 2001. This history was prepared by Blanche Crawford, bank president and CEO, before her death in 1989.

<sup>7</sup> Blanche Crawford, "A History of the Bank," March 1989. Copy in Henrietta Hickman files and at Lincoln Bank.

<sup>8</sup> Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 2, 1978. Also, Morgan County deed and transfer records, and memories of Mary Stockton.

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Built in 1860, this two-story Greek Revival building was used as combination hotel and private residence by the Tim Obenshain family. According to Sanborn maps, in 1910 the building was vacant. In 1929, it was a retail store. This was Dale's jewelry and Music Store. *Martinsville Daily Reporter* newspaper columnist Mary Taylor, a lifelong Morgantown resident, remembered her fascination with this building; its interior walls were really movable partitions. In following years, a succession of owners and varying uses—mostly restaurants and taverns—came and went. The building is now occupied by Joe's Sports Bar.<sup>9</sup>

**004 140 W. Washington St. (NC)**

Inside this modern nursing home is a c1890s house originally owned and occupied by the John W. Watson family. It appears on the 1902 Sanborn map. It was then home to Dr. Ira Willan and James R. Shank. In 1931, Emerson Clark purchased the house and converted it into a funeral home. His sister, Delphia, remembered having to carry caskets from the upstairs down to the first floor when there was a funeral service. In 1965, Clark sold the building to Joe Henderson, who established a private, family-operated nursing home. It remains a nursing home, now known as Morgantown Health Care-Inn.<sup>10</sup>

**005, 005-A, 005-B 130 W. Washington St. • Roberts House (C), Shed(C), and Coal Shed/Garage (C)**

This Greek Revival and Italianate influenced brick house was built in 1870 by James N. Roberts. It remained in the family until 1997. (One of the Roberts daughters married a man by the name of Bishop, and that couple had two daughters. The entire family—grandparents, parents, and children—all lived in this house. One of the daughters, Beulah Bishop Budd, became owner of the house in 1948. Her son, Larry Keith Budd, became owner following her death in 1990. He sold it in 1997 to its current owners, James and Marilyn Cullen. The Cullens live in the house and operate a resale business from the front porch.

The 1902 Sanborn map shows an open second story sleeping porch on the northeast corner of the house. By 1910, it has been enlarged and enclosed, with the same configurations as today. The shed in the rear yard, and the coal shed on the west side of Cross Street appears on the 1929 map.<sup>11</sup>

It is assumed that the bungalow porch made of concrete brick was added about 1925, most likely by Thomas Stockton, who operated a concrete business. The same brick appears on the front of the Morgantown Town Hall (006) and the bungalow known to have been built by Thomas Stockton in 1926 (see resource (014).

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<sup>9</sup> Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 2, 1978. Also, Morgan County deed and transfer records, and memories of Mary Stockton.

<sup>10</sup> "Remember When" [feature story about Delphia Clark], *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, August 26, 1999, and Morgan County deed and transfer records.

<sup>11</sup> Morgan County deed and transfer records, and memories of Henrietta Hickman.

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**006 120 W. Washington St. • Morgantown Town Hall (C)**

This building appears to have been constructed about 1900. The first owner was Ella Purvis. The 1902 Sanborn map does not specify the building's use, but it is known that the first telephone exchange was located on the second floor. By 1910, the building housed a bakery. At various times, other business included a restaurant, pool room, grocery store, and feed store. In 1925, the building was sold to the town of Morgantown. It is assumed that the concrete brick façade was applied at this time, most likely by Thomas Stockton, who operated a concrete business.

Formally organized in 1924, the town fire department, with its single automatic pumper truck, occupied the first floor. The public library was upstairs. Mrs. Mattie Roney Faucett was the librarian, assisted by her daughter, Betsey Dee Faucett Ashcroft. The library was heated by a wood stove. Henrietta Hickman remembers spending many Saturday afternoons there picking out books for the week ahead, hoping her mother would approve of her choices.

By 1969, the town fire department had combined with the rural fire department and vacated this location for one across the street (see resource 024-B and 024-C). The first floor of this building was then occupied by the town offices, as it still is today.

In 1995, public restrooms were installed in the rear of the building.

The bell on the sidewalk in front of the building came out of the old Morgantown High School.<sup>12</sup>

**007, 007-A 80 W. Washington St. • Griffitt-Murphy House (C) and Livery Barn (C)**

This Queen Anne style house was built about 1895 for Dr. R. C. Griffitt. Dr. Griffitt's father, Reuben, town postmaster and justice of the peace for over 30 years, had had a store and post office in a building on this site, which was torn down and replaced with the house. It is believed that the livery barn at the northwest corner of the lot also dates to about 1895.

Dr. Griffitt had been a prisoner of war at Andersonville during the Civil War. According to local legend, he watched a tiny tree grow out of a dry crack in the prison yard. It gave him hope that he, too, could survive. He later learned that the tree was a ginkgo. Griffitt did survive and returned home to Morgantown to start his medical practice. In 1908, Griffitt returned to Andersonville as a member of the Indiana commission to memorialize the 635 Hoosier soldiers who died there. He found a ginkgo sapling, brought it home to Morgantown, and planted it as a living memorial in front of his house, where it still grows today.

In 1917, Dr. Maurice "Pat" Murphy, son of Dr. William Murphy, Griffitt's medical partner, moved into the house. Dr. Pat had his office and exam rooms on the first floor. Dr. Pat converted the south half of the livery into an automobile garage. In bad weather, Dr. Pat would make house calls in the car, with his horse and buggy tied behind. When the car bogged down in mud or snow, he'd leave it where it was and finish the trip with the horse and buggy.

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<sup>12</sup> "Morgantown School to Become Church," *Martinsville Reporter*, August 4, 1992; Nancy Voris, "Morgantown receives revitalization grant; businesspeople and residents plan for future," *Indian Creek Scout*, March 30, 1993; M. E. Elkins, "First Fire Department," *News Review*, June 20, 1981; Patience Northern, "Morgantown Fire Dept. is better equipped," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, January 6, 1978; and Morgan County deed and transfer records.



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Mary Murphy Taylor, Morgantown columnist for the *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, was his daughter.

In 1955, the house was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Ted Wolkins. The Wolkinses added the long building to the south side of the livery barn about 1975; it was used as an archery range and shop. Later it became Wolkins Bait Shop. The Wolkinses began raising gray crickets on the back porch of the house, and then moved into the barn. Baby crickets were raised in the hayloft, and then moved into a large pole building where they grew to adulthood. (This building no longer exists.) Wolkins Bait Shop eventually grew to be the largest producer of gray crickets in a four-state area. The crickets were shipped all over the country.

In 2001, the house was sold to Ted and Gina Riggan, who are currently completing an extensive restoration and adaptation to a bed and breakfast under the guidance of Duncan Campbell, a professional historic preservation consultant.<sup>13</sup>

**008 [60] W. Washington St • Lake Garage (C)**

This small c.1920 garage was an accessory to a c.1900 Queen Anne cottage that was torn down in 1995. The house was included in the *Morgan County Interim Report* (1993). The house belonged to the Lake family. Timothy A. Lake lived here with his six siblings. These children had made a pact when they were young that they would never marry but live to care for each other. Timothy was a teacher, undertaker, had a hardware business, farmed, and was twice elected to the office of Jackson Township trustee. He was trustee when the Morgantown High School was built in 1908. The garage, and the car lot on which it stands, is now part of Bob Poynter Chevrolet. It is owned by Rawlins and Margaret Whitaker.<sup>14</sup>

**009 [40 W. Washington St.] • Car lot. No extent resources.**

This lot was formerly occupied by a c.1890 gabled-ell house included in the *Morgan County Interim Report* (1993). It was torn down in 1995. The lot is owned by Rawlins and Margaret Whitaker.

**010 20 W. Washington St. • Mitchell Feed Store/Whitaker Chevrolet (C)**

This concrete building appears on the 1929 Sanborn map. It was built about the same time by Richard Mitchell, who operated a feed mill on this site. The metal pole barn addition replaces a tile brick feed mill. Through the years, many businesses have been located in the building, including a poultry business owned by Syd Smith and a succession of gas stations, including the Lin-Co gas station owned by Blount McLary and the Bratton White Star. There was a gas pump in front of the building. From about 1947-1956, John Hamilton used the building for his furniture

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<sup>13</sup> Steve Rice, "Discover Morgantown," *Tri-County News* [Franklin, IN], July 17, 1991; Bette Nunn, "Morgantown doctor's Civil War prison book to be republished," *Reporter Times*, August 21, 2005; Mrs. Wanda Parsley Bunge, "The Readers' Corner" [article about Dr. Maurice "Pat" Murphy], *Indianapolis Star Magazine*, [c.1940s]; and Ruth Harroll, "Wolkins Wholesale Bait Shop is Nationally Known," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, January 12, 1978. Telephone interview with Carol Wolkins Graphman, December 12, 2005. Also, Morgan County deed and transfer records.

<sup>14</sup> Henrietta Hickman files

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repair shop. Paul Irvin "Shockey" Whitaker purchased the building in 1959, extended it to the north as it is today, and operated Whitaker Chevrolet. Shockey's son, Rawlins, recently retired and sold the business—not the property—to Bob Poynter Chevrolet. The property is owned by Rawlins and Margaret Whitaker.<sup>15</sup>

**011 [10 W. Washington St.] • Car lot.** No extent resources.

The 1902 and 1910 Sanborn maps identify this lot as the W. H. Mitchell Lumber Company. In 1929, it was Graham Lumber Company. The Whitakers cleared the site in 1957 or 1958. The lot is owned by Rawlins and Margaret Whitaker.<sup>16</sup>

**012 20 E. Washington St. • Morgantown Methodist Episcopal Church (C)**

Three years before Morgantown was platted, some of the local settlers began holding meetings in their homes following the teachings of the Methodist Church. This group built its first church of logs on a small lot east of the present site. In 1851, the congregation purchased land from John Hamilton and in 1858, erected a white clapboard building where the present building stands. By 1923, the year this church was remodeled to its present appearance, the Methodists had adopted the Akron plan and oriented the pews to the northeast corner. Classrooms with movable partitions were located along the south wall; they were discontinued in 1955 when the basement classrooms were completed.

Though relatively unknown today, the Akron plan was a popular design that combined worship with Sunday school in a single church building. The design was named for the city of Akron, Ohio, where it was first used in the First Methodist Episcopal Church built between 1866 and 1870. The plan was so popular that thousands of similar churches were built throughout the United States between 1870 and World War I.<sup>17</sup>

The 1923 remodeling was paid for by congregants' pledges. The old frame building was raised and a basement dug beneath it. The church was veneered with brick and expanded to accommodate additional rooms. At the same time, the community hall consisting of a 40' x 70' gymnasium and elevated stage, was built. While the congregation fostered the construction of the community hall, contributions were made from other denominations and private citizens, making it a true community building. Over the years, it has been the site of high school graduations, basketball games in the gym, theatrical and musical productions, movies, community dinners and fundraisers, and meetings of civic organizations. In 1955, the west half of the gymnasium was remodeled into a kitchen, social room, and classroom.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Morgan County deed and transfer records, and memories of Henrietta Hickman. Also, Rawlins Whitaker, telephone interview with author, December 2, 2005.

<sup>16</sup> Telephone interview with Rawlins Whitaker.

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.sacredplaces.org> and <http://www.njchurchscape.com>

<sup>18</sup> Booklet prepared for Heritage Sunday, 1999; copy in Henrietta Hickman files. Also, "Morgantown Community House, as a Place of Recreation and Amusement, Keeps Many Young Folks Happy and Contented," *Indianapolis News*, March 3, 1923, and Dr. Mel Ritter, "Nightlife in Morgantown, Nightlife in Morgantown?" *Martinsville Reporter*, August 31, 2000.

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**013 40 E. Washington St. • [Third] Methodist Parsonage (C)**

This brick parsonage was built in 1923 as part of the church remodeling project. The lot had previously been occupied by a frame house with a long porch covered with morning glories owned and occupied by Thomas Scroggins (also spelled Scrogghams). He reportedly disliked the Methodists and refused to sell any of his property to them. However, his heirs did sell this lot to the congregation, which tore down the house and built the brick house. Since 1923, it has always been used as a parsonage.<sup>19</sup>

**014, 014-A 60 E. Washington St. • Miller House (C) and Garage (NC)**

Thomas Stockton, the owner of a concrete business, built this bungalow in 1926 for Ferd and Bea (Parker) Miller. The concrete stucco embedded with chips of colored glass and the concrete brick is believed to be Stockton's handiwork, as is similar brick in the Roberts House (006) and the Morgantown Town Hall (007). A frame house owned by Susie Obenshain previously occupied this lot. It burned to the ground. Henrietta Hickman and her husband, "Mac" Hickman, owned and occupied the house from 1990-1998. The house is now owned by James and Wuanita Whitaker.<sup>20</sup>

**015 80 E. Washington St. • [Second] Methodist Parsonage (C) and Garage (C)**

This house was built sometime between 1907 and 1910, when it appears on the Sanborn fire map. According to Mary Murphy Taylor, it was used as the [second] Methodist parsonage. It replaces the first parsonage, a Gothic Revival style, central passage frame house with a Queen Anne porch pictured on a real photo postcard postmarked 1907. In 1911, the existing house was sold by the Methodist Church Trustees and became a private residence, which it has been since that time. Courthouse records list the current owner as Anne Thelma David, but she is deceased.

**016, 016-A 110 E. Washington St. • Willan House (C) and Garage (NC)**

This is a c.1890 Queen Anne cottage that was veneered with brick manufactured by the Poston Company of Martinsville by Dr. Ira and Rosalia Willan, who bought the house in 1924. The Willans lived here, and Dr. Willan maintained his office in the southeast part of the house, which had been designed as separate from the living room, yet still a part of the house. It was sold to Gilford Hennegar, an FBI agent, in 1950, and to Pershing Anderson in 1964. Anderson was a former undertaker and an insurance agent for Morgan County Insurance.

After Pershing died, his widow sold the house to Blanche Crawford. She intended to live here but never did. The house has had several owners since her 1989 death. It is currently owned by David E. Weber and Shelly Satter.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> Methodist Church records.

<sup>20</sup> Memories of Henrietta Hickman.

<sup>21</sup> Margaret "Peg" Anderson, telephone interview with Henrietta Hickman, December 16, 2005. Also, memories of Henrietta Hickman and Morgan County deed and transfer records.

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**017 120 E. Washington St. • Parkhurst House (C)**

John Parkhurst built this house in 1865 and lived here until 1877. The house was then owned by Samantha E. Obenshain and later Mary B. Obenshain. The Obenshains sold the house in 1926 to John J. Crunk, who sold it to Chester A. Miller, Henrietta Hickman's father, in 1944. His widow, Chattie, sold it to Glenn and Alma Rainwater in 1965. They in turn sold it to James and Mary Ann Schnaiter in 1990. They converted the former summer kitchen into a beauty salon and the living room into a tanning parlor.

Henrietta remembers that the house had a beautiful interior. All of the walls are solid brick. There is an open stairway leading from the front door to the second story, and a hidden, winding stairway from the kitchen to the back upstairs bedroom. It had an open sleeping porch on the northeast corner of the second floor; below was an enclosed porch. The summer kitchen had an indoor cistern. There was a well on the covered, brick-floored back patio. At this time, the property extended north to Mulberry Street, and Chester Miller had flower and vegetable gardens in the entire rear lot.

The Rainwaters removed the balusters on the second floor balcony and replaced the original six-panel door with frosted glass sidelights with sliding glass doors.

James and Mary Ann Schnaiter are the current owners.<sup>22</sup>

**018 140 E. Washington St. • Morgantown Christian Church (C)**

The Christian congregation, established in the early 1840s, built this rectangular church building in 1871 for \$3,000. In 1964, the fellowship hall was added to the north side. In 2004, due to a large increase in membership, the congregation purchased land and built a new facility on North Morgantown Road (also known as Church Street). The last day for services at the 1871 building was December 26, 2004. The building is owned by the First Christian Church of Morgantown and is currently vacant and for sale.<sup>23</sup>

**019 159-169 W. Washington St. • Masonic Lodge No. 358 (C)**

Prior to the construction of this building in 1903, a one-story, two-unit brick building owned by Calvin Obenshain stood on this site. Behind the building was a frame cabinet shop and warehouse. Tenants were Tom Watson and Oliver Fesler, who operated a furniture store and hardware and wallpaper business. They were also engaged in the undertaking business. Watson was an embalmer and Fesler built caskets, which explains the cabinet shop at the back. When the existing building was constructed, Watson and Fesler continued to occupy both first floor units. The Masons claimed the second floor as their lodge hall (it was their second home), for which they negotiated a 99-year lease. The Masons moved out in 1968.

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<sup>22</sup> Memories of Henrietta Hickman, who lived here from 1944-1951. Also, "Completed in 1865, Rainwater home still stands in Morgantown," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, September 11, 1971; and Morgan County deed and transfer records.

<sup>23</sup> Charles Blanchard, *History of Morgan, Monroe, and Brown Counties*. (Chicago: F. A. Battey), 1884. Also, "Morgantown Church's 100<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration Sept. 19," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, September 11, 1971, and Morgan County deed and transfer records.

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In 1923, the building was sold to T. A. Lake, who, in partnership with Thomas Gibson, carried on the furniture, hardware and wallpaper, and undertaking business. Lake was an embalmer, farmer, teacher, and township Trustee. In 1947, the building was sold to Emerson Clark. Over the years, tenants have included Moore's 5 and 10, Foster's 5 and 10, Hiatt's 5 and 10, Kathy's Cafe (in the east half since about 1950). The west unit has had a variety of tenants. The current owner is MR. CETS & PARK, LLC [Mike Smith et al].<sup>24</sup>

**020 147-149 W. Washington St. • Morgantown Odd Fellows Lodge (NC)**

The IOOF Lodge was built in 1894 following the fire that destroyed all of the buildings on this block. Cast iron columns bear the name of George L. Mesker & Co., of Evansville, a manufacturer of commercial sheet metal storefronts, columns and other architectural and structural elements. Founded in 1879, George L. Mesker & Co., and Mesker Brothers Ironworks in St. Louis, "set the standard and became the leading producers of cast iron and galvanized iron storefronts in the United States during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries."<sup>25</sup>

According to Mary Murphy Taylor, during WWI, the first floor room(s) was the sewing room and headquarters for Red Cross. Here local women made flannel pajamas and knitted socks for the soldiers overseas. Following the war, a Mr. Mohler ran a bakery here. The IOOF and Rebekah Lodge occupied the second floor.

The entire building was gutted by fire on February 12, 1948. At the time, occupants included the IOOF Lodge on the second floor and the Green Lantern Liquor Store and William John's Electric Shop on the lower floor. Following repair and reconstruction, the first floor was home to a variety of businesses. The west unit was home to a bakery and restaurant owned by Garfield Green, followed by other restaurants, including the Green Lantern Cafe, a local hangout. The east unit was vacant for several years until Foster's 5 and 10 moved in. In recent years, it has been a variety of gift and antique shops.

The building continues to be owned by the Morgantown IOOF.

**021 129 W. Washington St. • Mitchell Hardware (C)**

This building was built in 1894, following a fire that destroyed this entire block. Under the ribbed metal panels is a sheet metal facade manufactured by the George L. Mesker Co. of Evansville. Mesker cast iron columns nearly identical to those on the IOOF Lodge (020), also built in 1894, support the storefront. The 1902 Sanborn map identifies the front façade of the one-story building as "iron clad." The 1910 and 1929 maps indicate that it is clad in tin. Former owner Don Condon says it is pressed tin that resembles cut stone. When he pulled off old wood siding, he found the sheet metal facade rusty and in deteriorated condition. It still exists under the current ribbed metal panels that cover the upper façade.

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<sup>24</sup> Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 10, 1978.

<sup>25</sup> Tom Wyman, "Evansville firm becomes iron giant," *Indiana Preservationist*, September-October 2005, 4-5. Quote belongs to John Warner, who prepared the National Register nomination for the North Vernon (IN) Downtown Historic District.

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The building is a replacement of one in which William Mitchell established Mitchell's Hardware in 1883. Following William's death, his two daughters, Genevra and Bernice, ran the business until 1972, when they sold to Howard and Maxine Hutchison. A former employee of the Faucett-Umphrey furniture company of Morgantown, Howard was an excellent upholsterer and also sold new and custom-made furniture.

On April 29, 1994, the Hutchisons sold to Donald Condon, who in turn sold to Mike and Debbie Parsons on August 1, 2003. The Parsonses are the current owners.

In business for 123 years, Morgantown Hardware, the store's current name, is believed to be the longest continuously operated hardware store in the state.<sup>26</sup>

**022 125 W. Washington St. • Kuhn Grocery, Ice Cream Parlor and Bakery (NC)**

The 1902 and 1910 Sanborn map identifies this one-story brick building as a grocery. This was the grocery, ice cream parlor, and bakery business owned and operated by Lewis Kuhn. Following Kuhn's death in the late 1920s, the building was occupied by a short-lived private bank—perhaps the Farmers Trust, which sold the building in 1933. A room at the rear of the original building has solid brick walls; it is the former bank vault. In 1947, Edmund "Bud" and Cornelia Lonyo purchased the building and established Lonyo's Liquor Store. It was perhaps about this same time that this building and the one to the east received their unifying front façade of black architectural glass (see 022-A), and the interior dividing wall was broken to allow for passage between the two buildings. Sold by the Lonyo heir in 1989, the building was occupied by Quaker Auto Supply from 1989-1995. Since that time it has been home to a variety of retail businesses. Roger and Wanetta Graham are the current owners.<sup>27</sup>

**022-A 121 W. Washington St. • Lonyo Liquor Store (NC)**

This lot remained vacant until about 1945. In the late 1920s it was used as the site for carnivals and other festivals and public gatherings. In the 1930s, Johnny Hamilton built and operated a miniature golf course here.

It is believed that Bud Lonyo, a construction worker, built this one-story concrete block building following his return from military service in World War II. Lonyo and Glenn ("Tater Baker") Everling operated a tavern here. In 1947, Lonyo purchased the building immediately to the west (022) and established a liquor store. About this same time, it is believed, the two buildings received their unifying front façade of black structural glass, and the interior dividing wall was broken to allow for passage between the two buildings. From 1989-1995, the building (and the one on the west) was occupied by Quaker Auto Supply. Since then, it has been home to a variety of retail businesses. Roger and Wanetta Graham are the current owners.

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<sup>26</sup> Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 10, 1978; "Older Citizen Reminisces Past," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, December 16, 1966, and "Morgantown News," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, February 17, 1978. Also, Morgan County deed and transfer records.

<sup>27</sup> Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 10, 1978. Also, memories of Henrietta Hickman and Mary Stockton, and Morgan County deed and transfer records.

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**023 109 W. Washington St. • Cowden Building (NC)**

The Sanborn map of 1902 shows a one-story frame grocery building on this site, along with an open shed on the east and an agricultural implements dealer at the rear. In 1910, the building is identified as an "iron clad" frame general store, enlarged to incorporate all of the other businesses. By 1929, the building is the same, but its use is not identified. An automobile garage is at rear.

This store was originally Woods, Whitaker, and Co. general merchandise. Ira Whitaker was owner/manager. He was later joined by his son, Alvin. Joe Woods left in 1914 to establish his car dealership (see resource 024 below). Henrietta Hickman remembers that a Mr. Prather had a jewelry counter in Whitaker's store. She remembers, "Many school children bought their lunch from Whitaker's. Our school had an "on again-off again" lunch program, and many of us bought our sandwich and fruit from Alvin. Later, we always ate lunch at Paul Ratts or the drugstore."

By 1967, Whitaker's store made way for the existing building, originally a restaurant/tavern built by Jesse and Ada Cowden. According to Henrietta, the Cowdens entertained friends, and perhaps family, in the building. It was never really pushed to become a popular spot for the general public.

"Ada Cowden lived above the tavern in a nice apartment," remembers Henrietta. "She was a collector of many things: jewelry, Avon, dishes, memorabilia, furniture, linens, antiques, etc. At her death, her family held a large, two-day auction."

The building was purchased in 2003 by Lloyd and Janette Brock, who operate a motorcycle business called GearWorx.<sup>28</sup>

**024 79 W. Washington St. • Woods Dodge/Plymouth Dealership (C)**

Prior to the 1908 fire that destroyed the buildings on this block, this site was occupied by Cap Lawrence's livery barn. It remained a vacant lot until 1914, when Ezra Shultz built this brick building for Joseph Woods and Morris Canatsey. The men were partners in a new Dodge and Plymouth automobile dealership. The 45' x 103' building was constructed of Adam's brick from the new Coleman-Atchison plant of Martinsville. By 1929, according to the Sanborn map, the business had expanded into the business room to the east (024-B) and the repair garage to the south (024-A) and had a capacity of 60 cars.

Woods Dodge/Plymouth closed in 1956. The building was owned from 1958-1970 by John and Helen Wolff. During their ownership, it was used as a roller skating rink, bowling alley, and the Silver Stallion Restaurant, in addition to a variety of retail businesses. Patterson Revocable Trust (Joe and Margaret Patterson) are the current owners.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> Memories of Henrietta Hickman. Also, Morgan County deed and transfer records.

<sup>29</sup> "Business Good at Morgantown," *Daily Reporter* newspaper clipping dated only 1914, in Jeanne Weaver files.

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The Woods garage was built about 1925 by Joe Woods and used as a repair shop for his Dodge/Plymouth dealership. Other than periods of vacancy, it has always been used as a garage. It is currently owned by the Town of Morgantown and used as the town garage.<sup>30</sup>

**024-B 71 W. Washington St. • Ezra Shultz Building/Woods Annex (NC)**

This one-story brick commercial building was built by Ezra Schultz in 1914, at the same time as the Woods Dodge/Plymouth dealership (024). Very early on, it was occupied by John Section 8 McGrayel's shoe store.<sup>31</sup> In April 1923, the building was sold to Joseph Woods; it then became an annex to the dealership, which closed in 1956. The building was sold in 1958 and became a laundromat. From 1969-1996, the Morgantown fire department occupied this building and the one to the east (025). The storefronts were altered and made into two fire bays with aluminum framed garage doors. The curb of the sidewalk out front was broken and two drive-up entrances were constructed. The front 12 feet of the interior dividing wall was removed, and the fire trucks were lined up side by side. In 1986, the roof was altered and the front awning built. Following the fire department's departure in 1996, the building was converted back into a store by Don Condon. Daniel and Anna Condon are the current owners.

**025 69 W. Washington St. • G. W. Crawford Annex (NC)****025-A 59 W. Washington St. • G. W. Crawford Building (NC)**

The 1902 Sanborn map shows a rambling collection of attached one-story frame buildings on this site. They include an agricultural implement dealer with a harness shop, a "W. Rm.," a cobbler, and a brick blacksmith shop. In 1907, the lot, number 11 in the original plat, was purchased by George W. Crawford from his father, John H. Crawford, the owner of all of the businesses. In 1908, all of these buildings were destroyed by fire, along with the others in this block.

The existing building numbered 59 W. Washington St. (025) was constructed in 1910 by George W. Crawford; his name appears in the limestone block above the entrance. Crawford dealt in agricultural implements, hardware, and later Interstate automobiles (for a brief time) and appliances. His son, James, operated the family business until 1960, followed by his son and daughter-in-law, Gwynn and Mary Katherine. Gwynn did not wish to carry on after his father's death, so he sold the building in 1966 to the Morgantown Rural Fire Department. The building stood vacant until 1970, when Critser's Flower Shop moved in. Critser's has occupied it since this time.

As built, the G. W. Crawford building consisted of one open room. Dave Critser remembers there were no partitions. In back, there was a single chimney and woodstove, and a staircase leading to the second floor of the center portion of the building. As built, the east and west wings were only one story in height. The west wing received a second floor by 1931.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>30</sup> Telephone interview with Gwynn "Timmy" Fesler, December 7, 2005.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid. Also, Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 10, 1978.

<sup>32</sup> See photo that accompanies "Morgantown Pays Tribute to Founders of Village a Century Ago," *Martinsville Democrat*, October 23, 1931. Copy on file at Morgan County Public Library, Martinsville.



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According to Walt Wise, who worked for Crawford during the 1930s, the second floor was used to store out-of-season merchandise.

Sometime between 1914 and 1929, Crawford built a two-story annex immediately to the west. This is the building at 69 W. Washington St. The two upper story rooms were accessed by the same staircase. The 1929 Sanborn map identifies this annex as a "W. Ho. & A."—a warehouse and appliance salesroom. Walt Wise remembers that later it was used to repair machinery.

During the fire department's ownership, the front three-fourths of the building was used for storing fire trucks. The rear one-fourth was a meeting room and kitchen. The storefront was altered with the installation of a large glass and aluminum garage door. The neighboring building on the west was also purchased, altered, and used by the fire department.

About 1986, the fire department altered the roofs of the Crawford Building's one-story wings and the Woods Annex by increasing their pitch southward; the Crawford Building's east wing was likewise pitched eastward. At the same time, the heavy front awning that obscures the buildings' second story façades was added.

Today, both buildings are owned by Daniel and Anna Condon.<sup>33</sup>

**026 29-39-49 W. Washington St. • Redman's Lodge (C)**

Apparently built in 1908, this two-story, three-room brick building housed the Redman's Lodge on the second floor (with access via an entrance on the south end of the west wall), and, over the years, a variety of businesses on the first. Harvey Merriman's Grocery/General Store occupied the large central room for 43 years, from 1925-1968. In 1910, other tenants included a motion picture theater owned by Joe Woods in the west room and a confectionery in the east room. In recent years, other businesses have been a shoe repair, video store, art/frame shop, UPS, various gift shops, and in 2006, Cripple Crow and Me (west), the Morgantown Branch of the Morgan County Public Library (center), and Jerrell's Barbershop (east). The current owner is Esther Hamilton.<sup>34</sup>

**027 7-13 W. Washington St. • Wisby Hotel (C)**

A two-story brick building housing a saloon operated by John Lock (alternative spellings Locke and Loch) stood on this site prior to 1918, when it was razed and replaced by the Wisby Hotel built by George W. Wisby. The original hotel lobby was located in the center first floor unit, with rooms upstairs. In 1933, George Wisby sold the building to his son, James. Jim Wisby was the first Morgan County boy accepted into Officer Candidate School during World War II.

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<sup>33</sup> The 1910 Sanborn map identifies the Crawford building as being under construction. Morgan County deed and transfer records and memories of Walt Wise; also, telephone interview with Don Smith, former member of rural fire department, December 5, 2005, and Dave Critser, founder and former owner of Critser's Flower Shop, December 5, 2005.

<sup>34</sup> Mary Taylor's column, *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 10, 1978, Also, Henrietta Hickman telephone interview with Evelyn Holman Fry [Merriman's niece], December 7, 2005; written memories about Merriman's Grocery written by "Beezer" Johnson in Hickman files; and Morgan County deed and transfer records,

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The building has had many occupants. The second floor has housed the offices of Dr. Davidson, dentist, and Drs. Siebel and Schneider, physicians. Russell D. Voiles, who purchased the building in 1954, had an appliance store in the center and east rooms for many years. After he departed, other businesses included a clock shop, fabric/craft shop, used clothing store, and antique stores. The Morgantown Post Office was located in the west room from the 1930s to the 1990s.

Currently, the second floor rooms are apartments. Commercial tenants are Key Kreations (east) and Auntie M's Tea Room (center); the west unit is vacant. Ben S. Hoff III and Linda Hoff are the current owners.<sup>35</sup>

**028 19 E. Washington St. • Telephone Exchange (C)**

Erected in 1906, this building housed the Morgantown Bell telephone company from 1906-1934, Union Bell from 1934-1953, and Indiana Bell from 1953-1957. With the advent of the dial system, no local building or switchboard was needed. In 1957, the building was sold to Dr. Oliver Wilson, who practiced medicine here until 1982. Since then, many owners and uses—including a ceramics business and carpet business—have come and gone. Joe D. Eller, who operates a mat and rug business, is the current owner.<sup>36</sup>

**029, 029-A 49 E. Washington St. • Hickey-McGrayel House (C) and Garage (NC)**

It appears that Andrew Hickey built this house in 1851 or 1852. It passed through several different hands and received the Italianate style rear addition before being purchased in 1911 by John A. McGrayel, the proprietor of a general store and a short-lived shoe store. The McGrayels sold the property to Jesse and Emma Roush in 1945. Jesse had an auto repair business in the garage behind the house (see 038), and Emma Catherine was an art teacher. It remained a private residence until about 1993, when it became an antique store. In 1997, current owners Thomas and Sandra Givan purchased the house. They operate a retail shop called Serendipity and also live in the house.

Mary Murphy Taylor was born in this house in 1910. The Murphy family lived in the east half of the house, while the Jim Greensburg family lived in the west half.<sup>37</sup>

**030, 030-A 79 E. Washington St. • Loop House and Watch Shop (C) and Woodworking Shop/Garage (C)**

The 1910 and 1929 Sanborn fire maps show a frame house on this lot, which Lewis N. Loop purchased in 1946. It appears that he tore down the old house, first building a rectangular frame structure, and then attaching the existing tile brick house. The frame building then became his watch repair shop. The concrete block building at rear was built in three stages. First was a

<sup>35</sup> Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, March 10, 1978. Also, Morgan County deed and transfer records, and memories of Henrietta Hickman and Jeanne Weaver.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

<sup>37</sup> Mary Murphy Taylor, "Twenty Years on Main Street," *Martinsville Daily Reporter*, February 24, 1978. Also, Morgan County deed and transfer records, and memories of Henrietta Hickman.

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woodworking shop; this was converted into a garage with the addition of a larger shop used for making cabinets. The third addition was a second bay added to the garage. Lewis's widow, Wilma, sold the property to John and Joyce Carpenter in 1987. The Carpenters converted the home and shop into four apartments. They are the current owners.<sup>38</sup>

**031, 031-A 89 E. Washington St. • Butler House (NC) and Garage (NC)**

This house appears to have been built in 1907 for Barbara (Barbra) Butler, who owned it until 1955. Subsequent owners have been many, but longtime residents were John and Jennie (Butler) Hamilton. The concrete block garage at the rear of the house was built about 1968 or 1969 for Robert Holman's porcelain coating business. It replaces an earlier block structure used by John Hamilton for refinishing furniture. More recently, it has been used as an auto repair shop. The house has been a rental property for many years. Current owners are Gerald and Brenda Gottlieb.<sup>39</sup>

**032, 032-A 119 E. Washington St. • Adams House (C) and Garage (NC)**

For many years this house was the residence of O. B. and Bettie Adams, who acquired the property from the heirs of Emeline Adams in 1917. O. B. tore down an old frame house that stood on the lot and had this house built in 1918. O. B. was a "gentleman" farmer and Bettie was very active in the Methodist Church and WCTU. The house was sold out of the Adams family in 1958. Since then it has had numerous owners. The owner of record is Meredith Coy, who recently died. The house is now vacant and now up for sale by Sheriff's order.

**033, 033-A 129 E. Washington St. • Payne House (NC) and Garage (NC)**

The *Morgan County Interim Report* (1993) identifies this house as Italianate in style and dates it to c.1875. Since that time, the house has been significantly altered with the application of vinyl siding and replacement windows so that an Italianate influence is no longer apparent. Nothing is known about the history of this house prior to 1910, when it appears on the Sanborn map. In 1916, the property on which it is located was purchased by Jacob W. Payne from James H. Payne. Jacob Payne owned it until 1949, when it was transferred to Mary S. Payne 1949. The Craftsman-style front porch is believed to have been added about 1925. Currently vacant, the house is owned by Tori Burns.

**034, 034-A 139 E. Washington St. • Blanche Crawford House (NC) and Garage (NC)**

This house was built by Blanche Crawford in 1965 to house part of her vast collection of antiques. As she did not intend to live here, the house was never completed; it was just one big room. The house was sold in 1992 to Laurel G. and Anita Pyles, who finished it off. They are the current owners.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> Telephone interview with Ernie Loop, son of Lewis Loop, December 12, 2005. Also, Morgan County deed and transfer records.

<sup>39</sup> Telephone interviews with Doris White and Esther Hamilton, December 11, 2005, and Ernie Loop, December 12, 2005. Also, Morgan County deed and transfer records.

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**035, 035-A 149 E. Washington St. • Fesler House (C) and Garage (NC)**

This Greek Revival-influenced brick I-house appears to have been built about 1840 for John Fesler, a member of a large and prominent family of landowners and merchants. (Fesler bought the lot in October 1837.) Following his death in 1875, the house went to Ira Fesler, who sold it to Maude Fesler in 1922. According to Mary Murphy Taylor, Maude was an old maid—a longtime schoolteacher—who really shook up the town when she married Thomas Brickey, a widower.

Following Maude's death in 1926, the house was sold to two sisters, Charity and Mabel Sanders. They divided the house so each could have their own half. In 1944, the house was sold to Chelce "Dan" and Fern Williams, who did a lot of remodeling and refurbishing. Many owners have since come and gone. The current owners, since 1999, are Darren and Christine Long.<sup>41</sup>

**036 29 S. Marion St. (NC)**

This large lot was once occupied by a pair of two-story brick buildings facing Washington Street. The east building housed Karst's dry goods store. The building on the west was first Davis and Varble dry goods, then Ferd Miller's grocery store; at one time, it was also occupied by a grocery run by Tom Gibson. East of the buildings was an empty space, with a small white concrete block building—a barbershop—attached to the west wall of the Masonic Lodge (019). The two-story buildings were torn down in the 1950s by Emerson Clark and replaced by a Pure Oil filling station. This was destroyed in an explosion of a propane gas truck in 1968. Emerson's son, Dick Clark, cleared the site, tore down the little white building, and built a new filling station. It stayed in business only a short time. Subsequently, the building was then used as a ceramic and gift shop, an antiques shop, and as Dick Clark's real estate office. It has been a liquor store since about 1992. It is still owned by Dick Clark and his wife, Glenda.<sup>42</sup>

**037 30 Church St. • George Wisby Garage (C)**

It is believed that this concrete block garage was built by George Wisby in 1923, at the same time as the Wisby Hotel (027). The 1929 Sanborn map indicates it has a capacity of 14 cars. This building was the first home for Paul Irvin "Shockey" Whitaker's garage and car dealership (see 010). Dixie Steen is the current owner.<sup>43</sup>

**038 37 Church St. • Roush Garage (C)**

The 1929 Sanborn map shows a frame building with brick veneer on this site; it was used as a tire repair shop. It was replaced by this building in the 1930s, most likely by Jesse Roush, who operated a tire and auto repair business. In the 1950s, it was used as the high school industrial

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<sup>40</sup> Morgan County deed and transfer records, and memory of Henrietta Hickman. Blanche Crawford took Henrietta into the house several times.

<sup>41</sup> Memories of Henrietta Hickman, who lived across the street during the Williamses' ownership, and Morgan County deed and transfer records.

<sup>42</sup> Memories of Henrietta Hickman. Also, telephone interviews with Don Condon, December 2, 2005, and Dick Clark, December 5, 2005.

<sup>43</sup> Memories of Henrietta Hickman and Rawlins Whitaker.

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arts shop. In the 1980s, an explosion in this building blew out the windows and doors. This explains why they are all replacements. The current owner is Paul Crawley.<sup>44</sup>

**039 129 Mulberry St. • O. O. Elkins Ice House (C)**

Oliver O. Elkins purchased this lot in 1912; two years later, the construction of Elkins Ice House was completed. Ice was brought from Martinsville, first by train and then by truck, and stored in the south portion of the building, which was heavily insulated by sawdust. The business closed in 1958. Oliver's son, Marvin, and his wife Marjorie, lived in the building until 1999. It is now an apartment house owned by Karen Henderson Brock.<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> Personal interview with Paul Crawley, November 21, 2005. Also, memories of Henrietta Hickman, and Morgan County deed and transfer records.

<sup>45</sup> Morgan County deed and transfer records. Also memories of Henrietta Hickman and Jeanne Weaver, and "Down Memory Lane: The Old Ice House," *Morgantown News Review*, August 18, 1973.

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2005.

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**BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Beginning at the northeast corner of Marion and Washington Street, thence north along east side of N. Marion St. to rear wall of 180 W. Washington St.; thence east to the east side of the north-south alley east of Marion St.; thence north along said alley to Mulberry St.; thence east along south side of Mulberry St., crossing Cross St., to the east boundary of the property at 80 W.

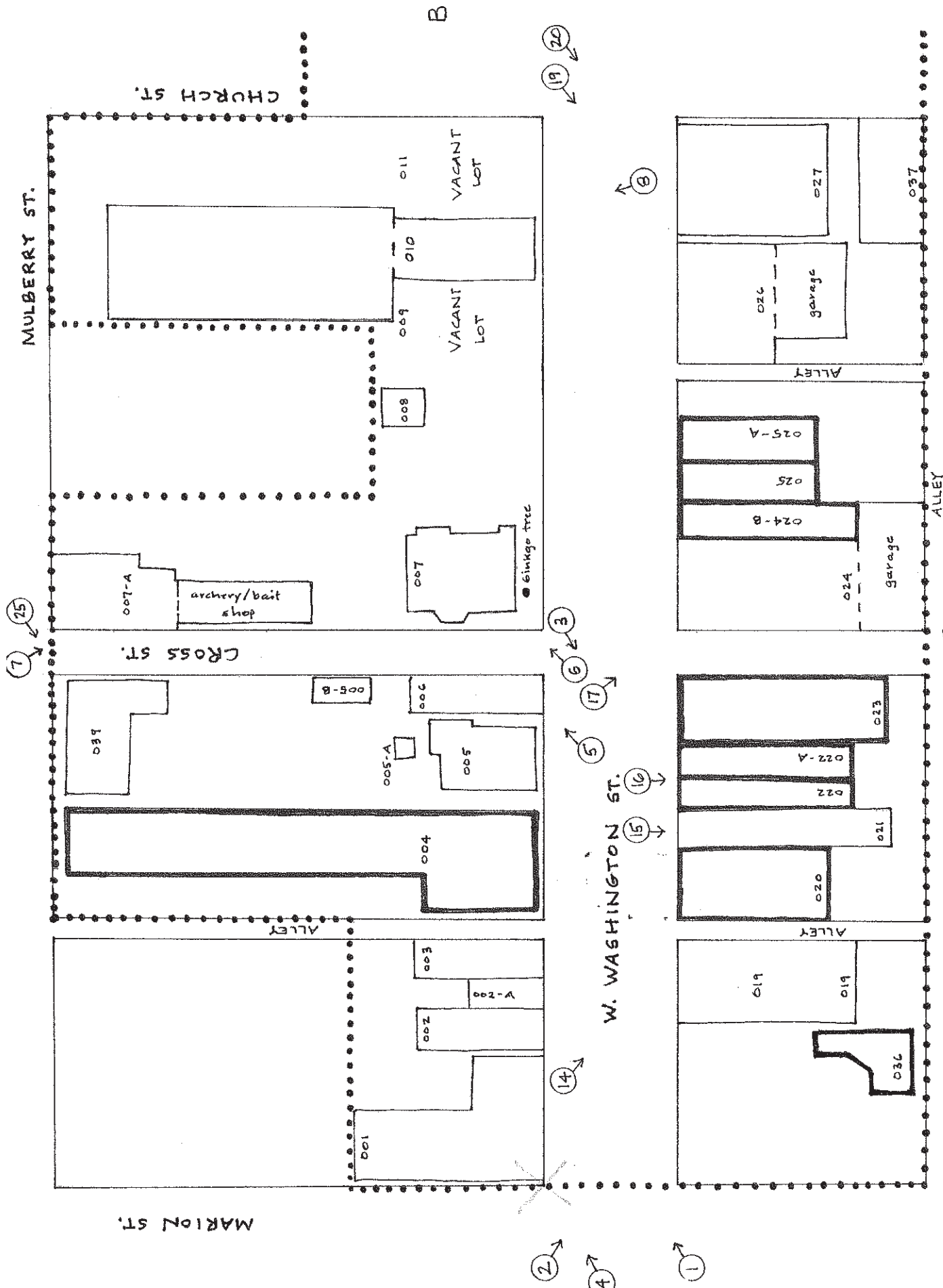
Washington St.; thence south along said boundary to a point on axis with a line running parallel and one foot away from the north wall of the block garage on the car lot numbered 60 W.

Washington St.; thence east along said line to a point on axis with a line running parallel and one foot away from the west rear wall of the building numbered 20 W. Washington St.; thence north along said line to the south side of Mulberry St.; thence east along south side of said street to the west side of Church St.; thence south along said street to a point on axis with a line running parallel and one foot away from the north wall of the building at 20 E. Washington St.; thence east along an axis with said line and the rear (north) property lines of 40, 60, 80, 110, and 120 E. Washington St. to a point on axis with a line running parallel and one foot away from the east wall of 140 E. Washington St.; thence north along said line to a point on axis with a line running parallel and one foot away from the north wall of said property; thence east along said line to a point on axis with a line running parallel and one foot away from the east wall of said property; thence south, crossing E. Washington St., along an axis with said line and the east boundary of the property at 149 E. Washington St., to the rear (south boundary) of said property; thence west on axis with the north side of the east-west alley south of W. Washington St.; thence west along said alley to the east side of N. Marion St.; thence north along said street, crossing W.

Washington St. to the point of beginning.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

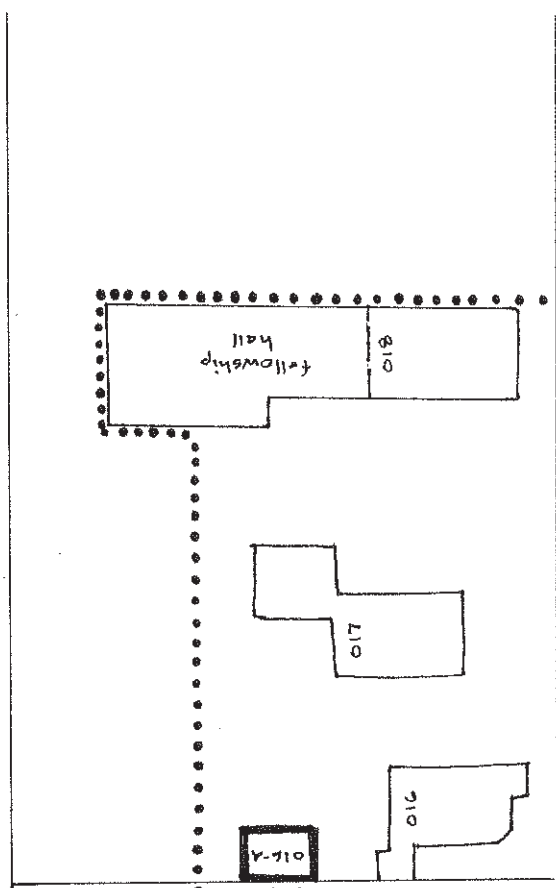
The boundaries of the district enclose all the land that has historically been associated with the district's resources. The district is also clearly differentiated from the areas surrounding it. Bounding it on the north, east, and south are blocks strictly residential in nature. On the west is found additional commercial properties that are either outside the period of significance or historic properties that have been significantly altered.



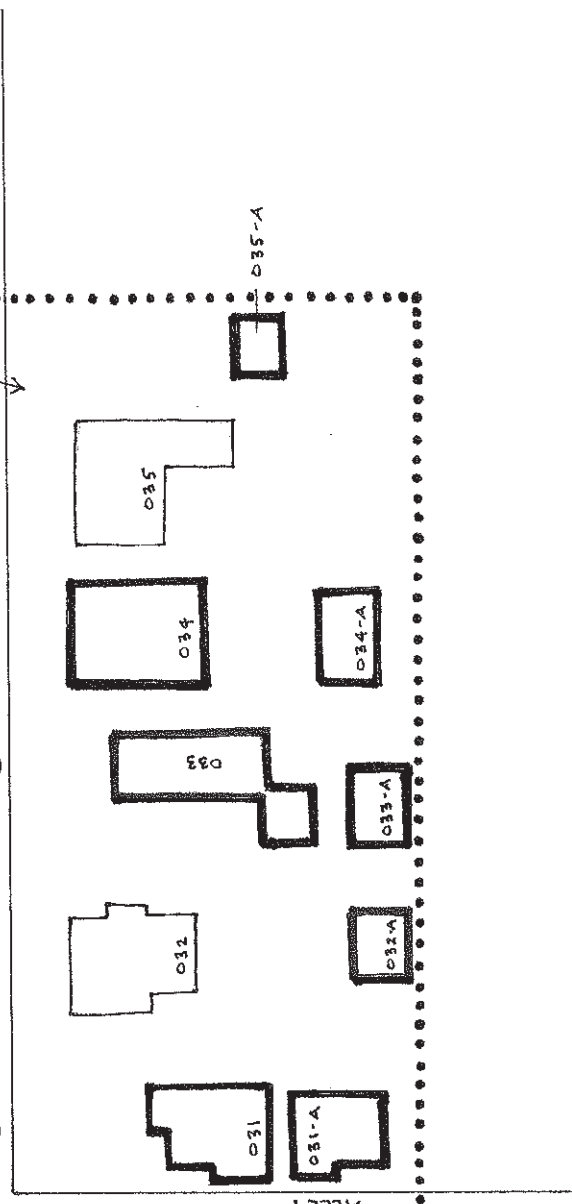
↑ N  
 = contributing resource  
 = noncontributing resource  
 = photo # and direction  
 = boundary

2/1/00

MULBERRY ST.



E. WASHINGTON ST.



CHURCH ST.

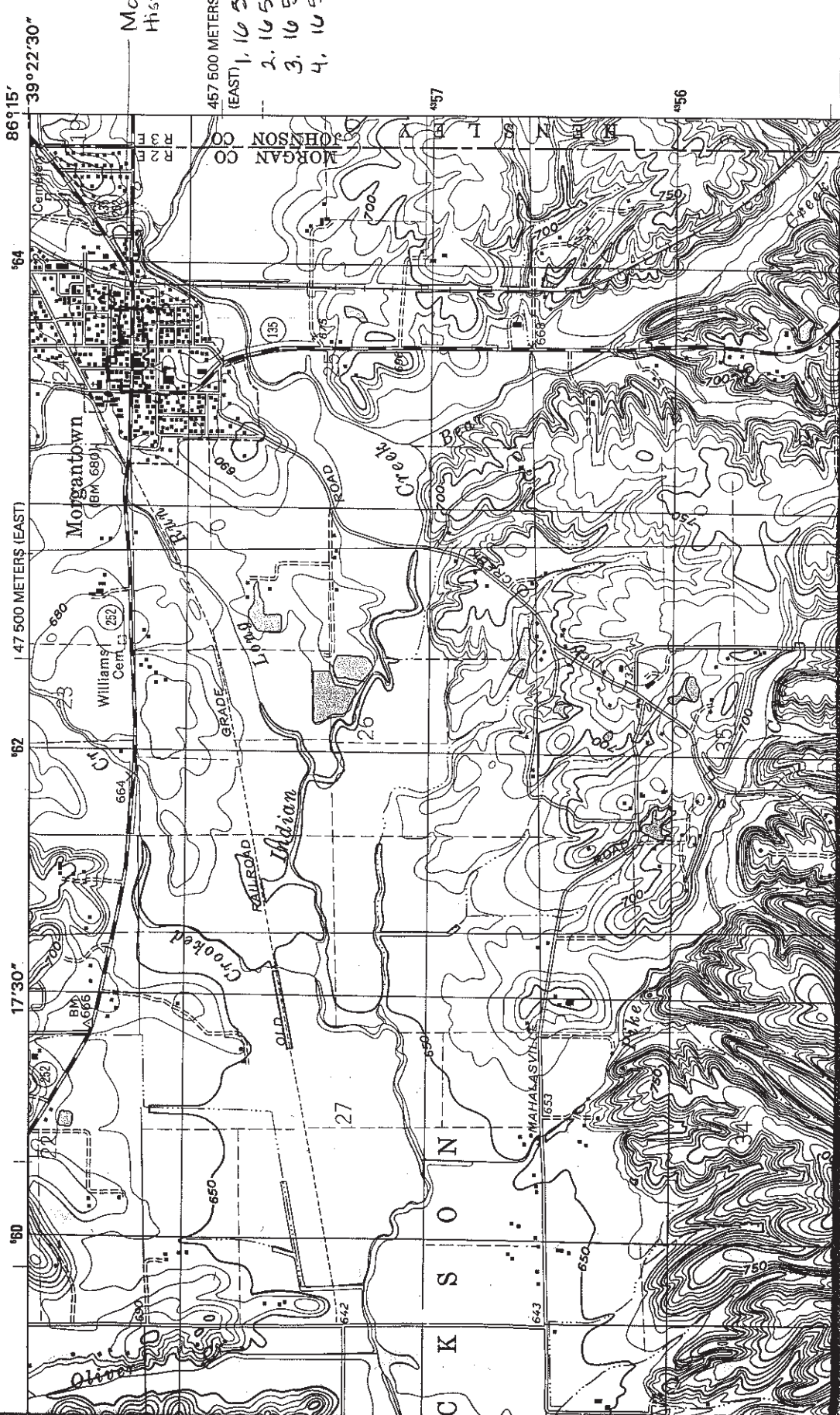
ELM ST.

MORGANTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT • SHEET B

↑ N  
 □ = contributing resource    □ = noncontributing resource    ○ = photo# and direction    ..... = boundary

7/60

**MORGANTOWN QUADRANGLE**  
**INDIANA**  
**7.5-MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)**



Morgantown  
 Historic District

457 500 METERS (EAST) 1. 16 563460 4358380  
 2. 16 563820 4358390  
 3. 16 563800 4358160  
 4. 16 563460 4358170