

*Final*

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

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

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

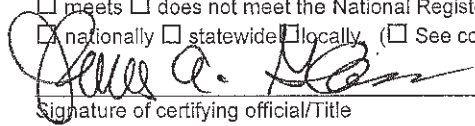
street & number Approx. 3 blocks lining Hohman between Clinton and Rimbach Sts.  not for publication

city or town Hammond  vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Lake code 089 zip code 46320

**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 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be consider significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

  
Signature of certifying official/Title

1/31/2011  
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

Hohman Ave. Comm. Historic District  
Name of Property

Lake County, IN  
County and State

**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(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
15	8	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
15	8	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: Multiple dwelling
- DOMESTIC: Hotel
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Business
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Department building
- SOCIAL: Meeting Hall
- RELIGION: Religious facility
- RELIGION: Church-related residence

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC: Multiple dwelling
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Business
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty shop
- COMMERCE/TRADE: Restaurant
- HEALTH CARE: Medical business/office
- RELIGION: Church-related residence
- RELIGION: Religious facility

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque Revival
- LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup> C. REVIVALS: Classical Revival
- LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup> C. REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation BRICK  
STONE: Limestone
- walls BRICK  
STONE: Limestone  
STUCCO (EIFS)
- roof STONE: Slate  
CERAMIC TILE  
SYNTHETICS: Rubber
- other WOOD: Plywood/particle board  
TERRA COTTA  
GLASS (structural glass)

**Narrative Description**

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

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the 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, method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

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

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**Areas of significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

**Period of Significance**

1904 - 1956

**Significant Dates**

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

**9. Major Bibliographical 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 if 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:

\_\_\_\_\_

Hohman Ave. Comm. Historic District  
Name of Property

Lake County, IN  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Approx. 6 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

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

1	6
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4	5	6	3	8	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	6	0	7	2	6	8
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2 

1	6
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4	5	6	5	9	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	6	0	7	2	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4 

1	6
---	---

4	5	6	4	1	3
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	6	0	7	5	7	6
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See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

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

**Boundary Justification**

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

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kurt West Garner

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date March 31, 2009

street & number 12954 6<sup>th</sup> Road telephone 574-936-0613

city or town Plymouth state IN zip code 46563

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

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

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

**Photographs**

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

**Additional items**

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

**Property Owner**

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

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this 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 the 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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*Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District, Lake County, IN*

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**Section 7: Description**

**Narrative Description**

The City of Hammond is located in the very northwest corner of the State of Indiana, part of North Township in Lake County. The city lies to the north side of the Little Calumet River and mostly north of Interstate 80/94 bordering the State of Illinois on its west side. It has a border with Lake Michigan and the metropolitan areas of Whiting and East Chicago on its north and east sides. Interstate 90 crosses the city in a northwesterly direction toward Chicago, IL while U.S. Highway 41 (Calumet Avenue) and Highway 20 (Indianapolis Boulevard) create important regional corridors. Hohman Avenue, a north/south alignment, and State Street, a mostly east/west alignment are important local corridors.

The commercial area of Hammond developed near the intersection of Hohman Avenue and State Street, but due to the convergence of rail lines also near this intersection the commercial areas developed to the east on State Street and south on Hohman Avenue, forming two pockets of commercial development. The Hohman Avenue commercial area is considered the essential downtown of the City of Hammond. The defined boundary of the Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District incorporates approximately three blocks lining the west side of Hohman between Rimbach and Clinton Streets and one block on the east side of Hohman between Russell Street and Muenich Court. Outside of the district boundaries the character changes considerably to residential and newer commercial development.

The character of the district is defined by a continuous street facade on Hohman Avenue of single story to tall multi-story buildings ranging from simple vernacular styles to more elaborate revival styles all in masonry construction. Contributing buildings located on side streets are mostly free-standing in nature but contribute to the overall integrity of the district. Concrete curb and sidewalks are located along the asphalt streets in the district with Hohman Avenue having the widest road bed with four lanes of traffic and parallel parking to its outside edges. Limited landscaping is located along the street line. Landscaping is also located around the two residences and the Catholic Church. Generally the district has a relatively level grade with its tall buildings creating strong vertical interest. (photos 0020, 0026)

Buildings were dominantly constructed for commercial use except for the three Catholic Church properties at 5302, 5304 & 5314 Hohman Avenue (photos 0008-0011) and the Masonic Temple at 45 Muenich Ct. (photo 0002). Two nearly identical duplexes constructed in the Chicago two-flat

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style are also located in the district at 47-49 and 53 Muenich Court (photo 0004). Building styles found in the district include Colonial Revival and Neoclassical found on commercial buildings and Romanesque Revival and Collegiate Gothic found on public buildings.

**Individual Resource Descriptions**

142 Rimbach. 1920; contributing. Photo 0001. Commercial/commercial vernacular & Moderne The two story, reddish-brown brick building with white terra-cotta trim is independent, not sharing walls with adjoining buildings. Its east wall is bordered by an alley, while its west wall borders a parking lot. The building appears to have had an early remodeling of its front facade with the elimination of eave/cornice work at its parapet (evident by ghost markings) and its front entry surround appears to date to about 1955. Mounting holes appear on the stones comprising the newer entry but no photographs were located to show the original or later appearance of the entry.

The front facade is arranged symmetrically with a tall center entry opening framed by a projecting square, wide stone block surround. The entry doors and high transom window above are aluminum storefront with the transom being divided by a square grid pattern. On each side of the stone surround are groupings of three masonry openings on the basement and first levels, followed by two masonry openings on the second level. The basement level's openings are shorter, with stone sills and square stone corner blocks at the bottom, in line with a continuous brick rowlock course at the foundation. The former window openings have been filled in with brick. A continuous terra-cotta water table with bull-nose detail is above the basement openings and runs continuously across the facade between the entry surround and corner columns. The water table is capped with a taller terra-cotta tile belt course. Extending up from this belt course are four, tall and narrow terra-cotta columns with Corinthian capitals framing each window opening on the main level. A field of brick is located below the window sill and above the belt course. The window sills are also terra-cotta tile, as are the lintels that form a continuous course across the three openings. A tile with a recessed square panel is located above each column capital. The windows are fixed, six-pane wood windows.

The two second level window openings on each end have terra-cotta tile sills and flat, steel lintels. The second level windows are 6/6 wood windows. Directly above the projecting entry surround, centered on the second level of the building is a pair of fixed, 12-pane wood windows separated by a brick pier. A brick soldier course is laid to the outside of the pair of windows and across the top, interrupted by square terra-cotta corner blocks. To the outside of the soldier course is a continuous, thin row of terra-cotta trim vertically and then across the top of the pair of windows. The brick changes in color approximately two feet above the tops of the second level windows indicating some alteration to the front facade; this variation continues up about five feet on the facade. A brick rowlock course followed by a flat-face stone parapet cap terminates the front facade wall.

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The outside corners of the front facade have engaged terra-cotta columns resting on octagonal bases that extend from the bull-nose water table to the point of brick color change above the second level windows. The columns have smooth shafts and round bases and capitals with a single row of tall, narrow acanthus leaves decorating the capitals and bases. The capitals are terminated with an octagonal cap. On each side of the columns, where engaged into the facade, are rows of vertical terra-cotta tile trim with lotus flower detailing. Below the north column is a stone building name block, however it appears that a metal plaque was once located on it and is now gone.

The east and west facades are fairly utilitarian with no terra-cotta detailing. Three openings exist on the main level, but have been covered with paneling. These have limestone sills and flat steel lintels. Second level openings have 6/6 wood windows, stone sills and steel lintels. The front portion of the side facade's parapet steps up, then forms a gabled wall with another step up in the center. The remaining parapet forms a gentle slope toward the rear of the building. The parapet has stone coping on the front part and clay tile coping on the remainder of the wall. A small single story brick addition is set back slightly from the front facade on the west side of the building. It has a flat roof with applied dentil fascia and a single window centered on its north (front) facade.

53 Muenich Court. Knott's Apartments, 1904; contributing. Photo 0004, right  
Chicago two-flat with some Classical elements

This building is nearly a mirror image to a two-flat residence once located on its west side. It was separated from that building by a narrow lawn. The two story brick residence has a raised brick porch base across the front facade, formalized front and side walls that step down to the rear of the house. The front porch has a set of eight concrete steps at its east end, with simple metal handrails. A door opening is located in the center of the brick porch base and is accessed by a concrete stairwell. The porch has a concrete floor and is open with four equally spaced narrow, Corinthian columns supporting the flat roof and simple metal handrails between the columns. The fascia of the porch roof has a built-up appearance like a formal cornice. A stone water table forms a continuous line from the side facades, across the front just above the porch floor. The main level of the front facade is arranged with a wide opening for a wood door, transom and wide side-lite on its far east side. To the west of center, between the door and the west side of the front facade is a window opening with a stone sill and 12/12 wood window. False shutters are on each side of the opening. The top of the window and transom, are at the level of the wood porch ceiling.

The second level of the front facade has two equally spaced window openings set on a continuous, narrow stone belt course that wraps around each corner to the side facades a distance of about a foot. The window openings have 12/12 wood windows and are flanked by false shutters. A

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continuous stone belt course creates the lintels/tops of the windows and it also wraps the corners to the side facades. Approximately three feet above the top belt course is a continuous, short dentilated cornice wrapping to each side facade. The parapet wall rises approximately a foot above the cornice and is framed at each corner by slightly taller piers. The parapet wall is capped by stone coping in an ogee design. Side elevations are less formally organized with window openings having simple stone sills and lintels. The side elevations step down in three parts with stone coping for a parapet cap.

57 Clinton Street. Emmerling Ambulance Garage, 1918; contributing. Photo 0005  
Commercial/commercial vernacular

The wide, single story brown brick commercial building is divided into three parts with a low gabled parapet wall on the symmetrically arranged front facade. A wide entry opening is located in the center of the facade with an arrangement of metal framed side-lites and transom to the outside. A pair of aluminum doors makes up the recessed entry. To the west of the center entry is another, wider opening that has brick and glass block infill. The opening appeared to have had a door on its east side and a storefront window on low brick base with stone cap in the remaining part of the opening. The low brick wall and stone cap are still in place. To the east of the center opening, with a wider separation from the opening is another wide opening that has also been filled in with brick and glass block set on a low brick wall with stone cap. To the east of this opening is a brick pier followed by a door opening.(at the east end of the front facade). The door opening has a metal door with some brick infill at the top of the opening.

Between the front facade openings, about three feet above the sidewalk is a continuous brick rowlock course with square limestone blocks flanking the center opening and at the outside building corners. A continuous brick soldier course forms a line above the front facade street openings, with stone corner blocks at the outside corners of each opening and the outside corners of the front facade. A wide field of brick extends above this soldier course and is topped by another brick soldier course extending across the front facade. To the outside ends of the field of brick are tall limestone blocks placed vertically with a single square stone block placed above it. The upper brick soldier course has stone blocks on the outside corners of the front facade. Set in the center of the row, at the center of the building is a large carved square stone panel with a shield in high-relief. The square panel is surrounded by a brick rowlock course with stone corner blocks. The parapet wall has a center, low gabled wall that steps down over the vertical stone blocks below, then back up slightly at the outside corners. The parapet has a stone cap with a lower and upper fillet profile.

The brown brick continues on the east side of the building and intersects the south facade of the building at 5322 Hohman Avenue, which is detailed similarly to this building. The east facade has a



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single, wide masonry opening near its south end with a stone sill and brick soldier course with stone corner blocks that follow the pattern from the front facade. The window opening has been filled in with wood paneling and has a metal grille across the front. The west facade fronts an alley and has a painted brick finish. It has two wide window openings near its center, set higher on the facade with stone sills. The openings have wood infill.

Removal of historic window/door material and brick and glass block infill dates to about 1965. The building is attached at the rear to the former Emmerling Funeral Home at 5322 Hohman Avenue.

*Hohman Avenue (West Side)*

5324 Hohman Avenue. 1918/c. 2000; contributing. Photo 0006, left & 0027, far left.

Commercial/commercial vernacular with Italianate elements

The two story masonry corner building has a front façade reconstructed in style sympathetic to its original with detailing similar to its original Clinton Street façade. The Hohman (front) façade is constructed of red brick with some flashing to the brick finish, limited smooth limestone detailing and a bracketed metal cornice at the parapet. The front facade is divided into three bays with a single center storefront bay flanked by a corner entry bay on the south end and narrower stairway bay on the north end separated by brick pilasters from the storefront bay. The storefront bay has a stone block base and sill stone supporting a row of four metal framed windows with metal framed transoms above each. The entry bay has an open vestibule with free-standing brick pier on the outside corner and corner entry wall angled, facing southeast. The aluminum entry door has a full window and full-length side-lites on each side with metal framed transom windows above each. Narrow windows extending from the sidewalk to the transom line form a right angle to the street facades, inward to the angled entry wall. The stairway entry bay has a recessed aluminum door with full window, with a short concrete step up to the door. The walls of the recessed area are brick. Canvas awnings are placed over each bay with two in the center bay, covering the transom windows. The brick pilasters have rusticated limestone bases and four courses of brick corbelling supporting tall stone blocks in line with the center of the transom windows. The brick pilasters and corner pier (becoming a pilaster) continue up the facade terminating at the metal cornice at the parapet.

Just above the second floor window sill the façade has two brick belt courses projecting slightly from the building that continues across the pilasters. The pilasters are capped with tall stone blocks. There are three second level window openings on the front facade: one located above the corner entry bay and two above the storefront bay. The openings have limestone sills and brick jack arches with a limestone keystone. Windows are 1/1 wood windows with wood jambs and each has a canvas awning covering the upper sash of the window. Over the southernmost window's jack arch is a single projecting brick belt course between pilasters with a single brick below each end of

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the belt course. This pattern is repeated over the two windows above the storefront and in the north stairway bay. Just below the metal parapet cornice is a brick belt course similar in detail to the aforementioned pattern over the window arches. This belt course is two courses in height with three courses below each end and at midpoint over the corner entry bay and in quarters above the storefront bay, resembling a reverse-crenellation pattern. The metal cornice at the parapet has a tall, lower portion divided into several horizontal sections with ogee profile at its base, followed by slightly taller ribbed sections. Above this is a row of smaller brackets supporting the top of the cornice that has a flat fascia followed by a top ogee profile. Tall brackets extend from the base of this to the base of the overall cornice in line with each pilaster below. These brackets are scrolled with a ribbed face, and recessed scrolling in their side faces.

The Clinton Street (south) facade is mostly original construction and is divided into three parts, each with slightly different styling, but all two story masonry construction. The east corner part has matching styling and brick to the front facade (also being reconstructed), separated into two bays with the open corner entry bay and narrow storefront display bay. The entry bay matches the front facade entry bay, also with a single window above the corner entry. The storefront display bay has a stone base and sill stone supporting a pair of metal framed windows with transoms above and canvas awning covering the transom area. A single second level window matching the other windows is located above this narrow storefront display. The bracketed cornice terminates at the west end of this eastern part of the south facade with the middle part stepping down slightly.

The remaining two parts to the south facade are original construction and have had their brick facades painted and have glass block infill in the main level windows, dating to about 1965. The middle part is essentially divided into two bays with the upper parts matching each other. The main level of this middle part has on its east side a wide window opening set well above the sidewalk elevation; it has glass block twelve courses wide by five courses high. This opening has a stone sill and brick jack arch with brick keystone. Two courses of corbelled brick support each end of the stone sill. The west end of the middle part has a single door opening with transom opening above separated from the door opening by a piece of wood trim. The doorway has a raised stone sill with a non-historic wood door and metal grille door over it. The transom opening has glass block with a center, wood covered opening. A brick jack arch is over the transom opening. The second level of this middle part has two projecting brick window bays supported by four courses of brick corbelling at their base, just above the brick jack arches below, with outside corner brick pilasters supported by corbelling. Two recessed brick panels are located above the base corbelling, between the pilasters and just below the second level window opening sills. The window openings have two 1/1 wood windows flanking a center picture window and brick keystone above. A single row of brick belt

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coursing is located above the keystone and continues across the remainder of the facade. It has a lower supporting course at each corner of the window bay. This is repeated again at the top of the bay but with two courses supported by two courses at the corners and at midpoint. The metal parapet cornice extends out to cover the tops of the window bays and has a piece of ogee profile crown molding following the intersection of brick wall with the soffit of the cornice. A low brick parapet wall extends above this middle part's cornice and is capped with a much shorter ogee profile metal cornice.

The third, western, part of the south facade has much less detailing with two window openings aligned with each other on the main and second levels, equally spaced across its facade. The main level openings are slightly taller with glass block infill, stone sills and brick jack arches. The second level window openings have 1/1 wood windows set on stone sills with brick jack arch hoods and brick keystones. Two corbelled courses of brick form a belt course across this part of the facade, in line with the second level window sills and terminated at the west end with additional brick courses below. This is repeated as a continuous belt course across the top of the second level windows, but with a single brick course; then repeated again just below the metal cornice with two brick courses and additional lower coursing directly over the center of the windows. The metal cornice continues from the middle part across the top of this part of the south facade.

5322 Hohman Avenue. Emmerling Building, 1918, contributing. Photo 0006, right  
Commercial/Colonial Revival with Classical elements

The two story, single storefront bay building is constructed of light brown brick with limestone details. It has a partial south facade that is viewable from Clinton Street, but more utilitarian in nature. The front facade is symmetrically arranged with the storefront opening flanked by brick pilasters on low stone bases. The c. 1980 storefront has a center, recessed entry with double non-historic wood doors. The storefront display windows are set on a low concrete base supporting a wood base with framed panels below each of the two 1/1 wood windows flanking the recessed entry and facing Hohman Avenue. The recessed entry part of the storefront display has a single 1/1 wood window over a framed panel below. Each storefront window facing Hohman Avenue has a canvas awning with a wider awning over the recessed entry. Above the storefront opening, between the pilasters, is a wood cornice with a wide frieze and a row of six short brackets.

The second level has a stone belt course continuous across the facade and creating the sills for second level windows. There are two second level window openings with a pair of 1/1 wood windows in each opening. The openings are framed on their sides by flush stone quoining, the center (between pairs) being so narrow to only allow a five brick high rowlock course in line with the top and bottom sashes. A tall stone lintel forms the top of the windows and is continuous

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across the facade. Between the continuous lintel and sill/water table on the outside corners of the building is flush stone quoining creating a brick field between window and corner quoining. Above this brick field are pairs of tall scrolled stone brackets that support a stone cornice at the base of the parapet wall. The cornice is supported by smaller stone brackets between the large scrolled brackets, and steps out slightly on each end with the scrolled brackets. Above the cornice a brick parapet wall rises about three feet and is capped with stone coping. On each outside end of the parapet wall, the brick steps out with the cornice and scrolled brackets below, forming short pilasters that have a recessed brick panel in their face. The stone coping also has an additional chamfered top block over each of these short pilasters.

The exposed south facade is much less formal with brick detailing matching the adjoining building at 57 Clinton Street. The lower level of the facade has at its west end a short 1/1 wood window set on stone sill with brick rowlock surround and stone upper corner blocks. A wider, taller window opening is located east of this with matching detailing, but is covered in plywood. A door opening is located east of this with matching detailing, with a steel door and wood covered transom. Another 1/1 wood window opening is located east of the door, but is tall and narrow. It has matching detailing and is partially covered. A steel staircase is located near the center and provides access to a second level doorway with stone sill that is part of a larger window opening, also with stone sill, in the east half of the second level. The door and window are covered with plywood. A pair of 1/1 wood windows are located in the same masonry opening on the west half of the second level; this opening also has a stone sill.

5320 Hohman Avenue. 1929/1985, non-contributing. Photo 0007, left  
Commercial/commercial vernacular

The single story, wide single storefront bay masonry building has been extensively remodeled. Original brick piers flank the wide storefront opening with original brick continuing above the storefront to the parapet that steps up slightly at the corners of the building, inward. The storefront bay has new brick infill with a recessed aluminum storefront entry door on its south end and three equally spaced, narrow slit openings with aluminum storefront windows in the remainder of the storefront. The upper portion of the building has concrete slurry over a portion of the original brick. The parapet has aluminum flashing for a cap.

5318 Hohman Avenue. 1890/1941, non-contributing. Photo 0007, right  
Commercial/commercial vernacular

The single story, wide single storefront bay building has wood paneling with batten strips covering its outside piers and upper portion above the storefront bay. The storefront bay has a pair of deeply

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recessed aluminum storefront entry doors located just south of center of the opening with scored plywood above the doors. The c. 1940 storefront display windows are set on scored plywood bases with a larger display area on the north end of the building and a narrow display area on the south end. The display areas have a single window in metal frame facing the street and a single window in metal frame angled in toward the recessed entry doors. A shake roof shed canopy extends across the top of the storefront. The parapet wall is capped with aluminum flashing over wood trim. The wood batten and scored plywood additions to the storefront date to about 1985.

5314 Hohman Avenue. St. Joseph Hall. 1956, Contributing. Photo 0008

Religious hall/contemporary Romanesque revival, Moderne with Classical elements

The two story, parapet front building steps back from the sidewalk line, in keeping with the church to its north. It is constructed in mostly tan brick with variations of orange, red and maroon mixed into the tan. The main level has on its north half an entry accessed by concrete ramp. The entry has a single aluminum door and full-round arched wood transom above in a sunburst pattern. The entry has stone quoining for a surround. To each side of the entry are narrow arched window openings with stone sills and 1/1/1 art glass windows in diamond pattern. A stone cross is affixed to the brick south of the south window followed by a rectangular window opening with stone surround and brick rowlock head over the stone surround over the top of the window. The window is divided into nine parts by metal frames with the corners being mostly small squares and the center being a large rectangle. Each window part has art glass in a diamond pattern. The south half of the front facade has a three-side brick apse form projecting from the building, a single story in height with red clay tile roof and copper guttering. The corner of each side is trimmed in stone, as the side walls angle back toward the main facade. The front facing side of the apse has a large circular stained glass window with religious imagery and stone surround. Each angled side of the apse has a full-round arch top window opening with stone surround. Each window has a 1/1/1/1 metal framed art glass window with religious imagery.

The second level steps in slightly from the lower level in line with the eave of the apse. This step in has a stone water table with metal flashing over its top. The second level has three equally spaced window openings with pairs of 1/1 metal framed windows in each opening. The openings have stone surrounds with their stone sills forming a continuous line across the front facade. The building parapet is capped with stone coping and metal flashing over the top of the coping.

5304 Hohman Avenue. St. Joseph's Catholic Church. 1912-14, contributing. Photos 0009, 0010  
Church/Romanesque revival

The large Catholic cruciform-planned church fronts Hohman Avenue with a high gabled front wall

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flanked by a pair of bell towers. It is constructed of a dark orange brick with some limestone trim and copper fascia, gutters, flashing, and slate tile main roof. The building's front facade is perfectly symmetrical and its north and south side facades are mirrored except for a small side room to the rear of the north facade. Its rear (west facade) also has a commanding presence since the building occupies the full depth of the block. The building is set on a high stone base and accessed by a wide set of six red granite steps with granite end walls and caps on their outside ends on the front facade. Windows are all stained glass, with protective storm windows mounted on the outside, unless noted otherwise in the following description.

The front facade is divided into three parts both horizontally by the twin towers and center bay and vertically by stone cornices. The main level of the center bay has three stone capped gabled entry portals that are identical with the exception of a stone cross at the peak of the center portal. The portals have four concentric recessed arched openings in varying widths of brick beginning at a single brick pilaster to the outside of each portal; these and the receding arches are set on tall red granite bases with five angled sides on the inside two and three angled sides to the outside. A pair of elaborately carved eight panel wood doors with carved cross dividing the upper panels are located in each entry portal. The pilaster capitals are carved in stone in high-relief and continue as a band of stone stepping back with the splayed jambs until it becomes an engraved lintel over the entry doors. The pilaster capitals have an angel and acanthus leaf at their outside corners, with the acanthus leaf repeated on the corner of each concentric capital until the innermost arch which has a ribbed scroll motif with acanthus leaf. The lintel over the doorway has a chevron pattern with raised dots within the triangular insets. Above the lintels are half-circle stained glass windows in each portal. The gabled parapet wall to each entry has a raked stone cornice with a carved stone circle and dripping bracket flanking the inside entry portal at the base of its raked cornice. Two carved stone triangular blocks below the cornice step up with it as it angles toward a peak. A single carved triangular block is below the peak of the raked cornice. A sloped stone tiled roof covers the entry portals as the main facade of the center bay steps back approximately three feet from the twin towers; the entry portals having their front pilasters flush with the face of the twin towers.

The middle part (vertically) of the center bay is dominated by a large rose window set slightly above center on the facade. This middle part begins above the entry portals' roof with a stone belt course followed by a row of four square stained glass windows centered on the facade, separated by brick piers. This row of windows is flanked by a recessed brick panel equal in size to the windows with a brick cross pattern raised in its center. The brick panels are separated from the windows by a brick pilaster that continues upward on the facade separating the remaining face of the middle part into

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three sections with the outside two being tall and narrow. Above each brick panel is a taller, rectangular recessed brick panel with an elongated raised brick cross in their centers. Above these panels and separated by additional raised brickwork, are rectangular recessed brick panels with a brick arched recessed area with stilted brick arch set on corbelled base blocks. Equal in elevation with the top of these top recessed brick panels is a wide-sprung corbelled brick arch across the face of the center part of the facade with a corbelled rectangular pattern in a wide keystone appearance at its top. Descending from this keystone is raised brick detailing that goes to the top of the rose window's brick surround. The surround is constructed of splayed jambs. Each jamb is laid in alternating soldier and rowlock course with one course having a dentil pattern. The base and north and south edges of the surround has raised brick work extending to the side frames of the vertical row of recessed panels to each side or to the row of windows at the base of the middle part creating four semi-triangular brick fields with raised brick crosses in the center of the lower two. A stone cornice with horizontal outside legs and a wide-sprung center arch creates the top of the middle part of the center bay. This cornice line continues horizontally across the face of the twin towers also. The upper part of this center bay is essentially just the gabled parapet front wall which has a top cornice that steps in horizontally slightly before beginning a raked cornice. The peak of the raked cornice and center of the front facade has a carved stone Latin cross on a tapered base on its peak. Below the peak in the gabled brick wall is a low-relief carved stone panel. Just below this panel is a niche with its slightly projecting curved stone base resting on the cornice of the middle part below. The niche has a curved brick wall flanked by stone columns with Corinthian capitals. Forming a low-relief engraved stone frieze in line with the capitals, the stone band creates the base of the partial dome of the niche, which is also in stone. To the outside of the capitals are acanthus leaves in high-relief forming the base of a wide brick arch with stone cornice over the niche. A band of low-relief engraved stone forms the immediate inside surface of the niche's partial dome.

The bell towers are identical. Each has at its main level a stone base and wide stone trimmed corners that are connected by a stone cornice with a tall base forming a rectangular brick field on their main level. The brick field has a single window opening in its center with a stone sill and brick arched hood that has corbelling forming a dentil detail in brick. Low-relief carved stone panels are located in each of the tower's corner stone trim in line with the entry portal capitals. These are engraved with the Vesica Piscis emblem. The stone cornice at the top of the main level is in line with the base of the raked stone cornice on the entry portals of the center bay. This cornice is carved in an ogee profile. The middle part (vertically) of the twin towers has a stone base interrupted at its center by a tall, recessed bay extending nearly the full height of the middle part. The recessed bay has splayed jambs to a pair of small rectangular windows in its

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base and a tall rectangular window above. The pair of windows has a stone lintel across the face of the recessed area and half-circle transoms above each with flush brick arches. The pair of windows has a thin stone raked cornice with small block detailing below its rake. Above the raked cornice is brick corbelling forming a deeper recess in the vertical recessed bay. Above this is a stone lintel for the stained glass window above. The stained glass window is divided into two elongated pointed arched topped sections with a rose window above. The splayed jambs forming the recessed bay step in four courses with one course in a dentil pattern. The upper, outside corners have carved stone blocks. A brick belt course, two courses tall, is above the recessed bay and continues around the entire tower. Approximately two feet above this is a stone cornice topping the middle part of the tower. The cornice has an ogee profile at its base, projecting flat-face and chamfered top edge; it is in line with the cornice over the middle part of the center bay.

The upper part of the twin towers is the belfry area and begins with a stone base above the cornice line. Brick pilasters set on stone bases, stepping out from the stone base, are on each corner of the tower and continue upward to a narrow cornice line. In the lower part of the area between the pilasters is a brick and stone balustrade with outside brick piers followed by two inside stone balusters, and then followed by a center brick pier. This balustrade has a stone cap that continues on the outside of the pilasters. Above this balustrade, between the pilasters, are two tall brick arched openings to the belfry with wide metal louvers in each. The openings are separated by a brick pier; the brick arches are corbelled with a dentil course and the base of the arches rest on a band of projecting brick design. Above these openings is a thin stone belt course that extends between the pilasters. Simple stone capitals are in line with this belt course with the pilaster continuing upward, but with a low-relief engraved stone at its center connecting the capital to the stone cornice above, forming a frieze on the facade. In the frieze between the pilasters, is a row of vertical recessed slits in the brick work. A stone cornice with flat-face and chamfered top edge is above the frieze and steps out with the pilasters. The brick pilasters continue above the cornice and terminate with an arched top copper cornice with copper face. Extending down from the center of the copper face is a low-scrolled stone bracket. A brick arched-top opening with wood infill is centered between the pilasters with the cornice below acting as a sill. The opening has a corbelled brick hood with dentil course and the base of the arch rests on brick corbelling extending between the pilasters. From the copper cornice capping the pilasters, the cornice steps in horizontally slightly before becoming a raked cornice coming to a peak aligned with the center of the arched opening below. Between the top of the brick arch hood and the underside of the raked cornice is a raised brick cross. The four ridges of the copper roofs of the twin towers come together in the center and are crowned by a large copper Greek cross. Each of the four sides of the belfry is identical in detail.



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The north and south facades of the church are mirrored. At the east end of the front facade are the respective north and south facades of the twin towers, followed by the nave which has four vertical bays divided by brick pilasters with a tall arched window opening in each bay. The transept has a high gable-front parapet wall with large rose window. West of the transept are two more brick bays separated by pilasters with the westernmost bay being the end of the building. A five sided, single story period extension is on the northwest corner of the north facade. The north and south facades of the twin towers are identical in detail to their front facades with the exception of a door opening at the base of the main level with a stone surround and stone lintel being the sill for the single window above. The door is a steel door.

The nave portion of the facade is divided into four vertical bays by brick pilasters that step in about six feet above the window openings. This is capped with a stone cap with an angled top, forming a water shed. The facade has short rectangular openings into the basement level which are filled with glass block in each bay. These are in line with the tall arched top window openings of the nave. The window openings have brick arch hoods with four concentric receding brick courses, which continue down each side of the opening. The windows have stone sills. Just above the brick hoods is a tall row of raised brick extending between each pilaster. Above this are four courses of brick corbelling between each pilaster to terminate the top of the bay. Approximately two feet of brick continues up before reaching the eave of the roof which has copper guttering. The transept facade has chamfered brick pilasters at its outside corners that are capped at the base of the gabled parapet with carved stone blocks. A large window opening is centered in the transept facade with a rose window in the upper two-thirds and a row of rectangular windows below the rose window, within the same brick opening. The opening has a stone sill and large brick arch hood over the rose window. To the outside east and west edges of the rose window the detailing of the large arch hood turns and creates a horizontal band of projecting brick that continue across the face of the corner pilasters. In line with the top of the brick arch, brick corbelling begins at the pilasters and continues horizontally, then steps up and then across again forming a recessed appearance for the rose window below. This is approximately the base of the gabled parapet wall. The brick is flush in the gabled parapet wall with the top course of corbelling, but has a pattern of recessed brick arched openings over recessed square brick panels. The arched recesses become taller with the slope of the parapet. The parapet has stone coping with a simple concave face and has a stone Greek cross at its peak. The remaining two bays west of the transept match the detail of the nave including the masonry openings, but have a matching window in the east bay and brick in the west bay with a raised brick cross design. A tall, octagonal cupola made of copper with vented sides and spire with cross is located at the crossing of the transept and nave on the roof.

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The five sided period single story addition at the northwest corner of the north facade has a low-sloped segmented roof following the shorter angled walls. It has a low stone base and glass-block windows on the northwest and northeast angled walls from the basement level. The main level has two short arched window openings on the south end of the west wall with 1/1 metal framed windows set on stone sills. The windows have brick hoods with a dentil course and raised brick cross in the tympanum. This window is repeated in the center of the angled walls on the main level. A tall masonry chimney is also located on the northwest corner of the north facade of the main building.

The rear (west) facade has a tall gabled end wall dominated with a tall semi-circular apse in the center of the facade. The apse has two tall arched top window openings at its sides near its intersection with the main facade. The openings have stained glass windows set on stone sills. The arch is formed by three corbelled courses of brick rowlocks set on a corbelled base. Two brick belt courses separated by a single course of brick wrap around the apse just above the window openings. Approximately four feet above this is four courses of corbelled brick with the remainder of the facade flush with the top course of corbelling. The belt courses and corbelling detail continue around the apse and onto and across the main facade of the building. The apse roof is a half-conical, low sloped roof with copper guttering. A utility opening is located at the basement level on the outside (front) edge of the apse and has a metal louvered panel in the opening. A single window is located on the main facade centered between the apse and outside corner. The windows match those of the windows on the five-sided single story addition. Basement level openings are also below these, with glass block infill. The main facade is terminated with copper fascia angled with the rake.

5302 Hohman Avenue. St. Joseph Rectory. C. 1915, contributing. Photo 0011, & 0025, right  
Religious dwelling/Romanesque Revival with Free Classic styling

The front facade of the building steps back from the sidewalk, behind the line of the front facade of the church on its south side. It is located on the corner of Russell Street and Hohman Avenue, but faces Hohman. It is surrounded by lawn and mature landscaping with its rear yard enclosed with a chain link fence. The building is a two and one-half story dark orange brick rectory with a high hipped roof covered in red clay tiles with copper flashing and guttering. The building has some stone detailing, mostly around window openings. Most windows are 1/1 wood windows. The building appears mostly square, with the northeast corner stepping in a fair amount to the entry on the main level. A single story deep front porch has a flat roof with wide copper fascia supported by six large brick piers and two stone columns. The porch is accessed on its north end by six stone steps flanked by limestone walls with caps. The base of the porch is also limestone block while a short stone base is located on the remainder of the house. A single story flat-roof porch is located

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on the rear (west) facade of the building, but has been enclosed with wood siding.

The front facade has the raised, single story open porch that is supported by brick piers on its northeast and southeast corners and an additional pier to create a pair of brick piers flanking the entry steps at its north end. The porch has two stone columns with smooth shafts and Corinthian styled capitals evenly spaced between the brick piers on the front facade. Two more brick piers are evenly spaced along the north side of the porch as it returns to the entry door. The brick piers sit on tall stone bases and have stone capitals with volutes at inside corners only. The top of the pier bases form a line equal to the top of the solid stone wall/balustrade with stone cap set between piers, but supporting the stone columns on the front of the porch. The porch floor is concrete. The flat porch roof has a tall fascia with some raised profile making it appear like a cornice with the copper guttering at its top. A curved, two story brick window bay penetrates the flat roof and stops just below the building eave on the front facade's south side. The window bay has three 1/1 wood windows, with the center window being slightly wider, each trimmed with stone with two horizontal stone bands between the windows and a continuous stone band at the top, forming the bottom trim to wood transoms over each window below. A heavy stone lintel forms a continuous line around the top of the windows and window bay. To the north of the window bay is a single window opening with a 1/1 wood window and wood transom trimmed with stone matching the detail of the window bay, with stone blocks stepping out from the vertical trim giving it the appearance of quoining. The north corner of the front facade steps back considerably and has a pair of wood doors covered by metal grille work. Above the doors is a stone panel set on a stone base with low-relief carving in the center of the panel.

The second level of the front facade duplicates perfectly the front facade on the lower level, without the porch and with a single 1/1 window and stone trim in place of the entry doors. The brick window bay has a low sloped, semi-cone shaped roof with copper flashing with an ogee profile at its top edge. The top of the second level has a continuous brick band, just below the eave's soffit line. The primary hip to the roof begins at the entry door's wall, creating a lower hip projecting forward over the remaining front facade. This forward hip has a window dormer extending from the facade below breaking the eave line at its center. The window dormer has a Palladian window configuration with the center window, being slightly wider than the outside two, having stone trim on each side that continues into an arch over a separate half-circle transom window. A projecting stone keystone is located at the top of the arch. The three windows comprising the base of the Palladian configuration are each 1/1 wood windows with stone lintels and narrow brick pilasters between bracketed stone window sill extends below the Palladian configuration, in line with the hipped roof's eaves. A field of radiating brick laid in rowlock coursing corbels outward from the stone arch. The window dormer has a parapet front and is capped by a Palladian styled cornice with

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stone trim at its base and the remaining cornice being metal with a scrolled bracket projecting from the face of the top of the cornice and a cross projecting up from the top of the cornice.

The north facade, facing Russell Street, is less formally arranged with asymmetrical placement of window openings. The east side has its corner cut away, forming the forward hipped gabled roof and front porch returning into this recessed area, which has no window openings on its main level. The remaining north facade has three short openings at the sidewalk level into the basement. One is located east of center and the other two are located west of center on the facade. They are filled-in with glass block and have stone lintels. The main level has four window openings with stone lintels and narrow stone sills. Two are separated only by a piece of stone trim with continuous lintels and sills. These two are in the center of the facade and are small square awning windows. A 1/1 window is located east of the awning windows and two 1/1 windows are located west of the awning windows. A midlevel window is located in the center of the facade and has a narrow stone sill and a high-relief carved simple pedimented window hood above. It has a raised floral motif on its face and finial at its peak. The window has an upper sash with mullions creating a row of four pointed arches, over a single sash below. The second level, above the stone hood, has its brick recessed to the base of a stone sill for an arched, stained glass window. Three courses of brick rowlocks form the arch for the window opening and penetrate the stone belt course at the base of the soffit. A stone keystone is located at the top of the arch. The remaining second level windows also have stone lintels and narrow sills matching those on the first level. A 1/1 window is aligned with the westernmost window on the main level below and is equal in size. Smaller 1/1 windows flank the recessed brick area with the eastern window being slightly further away than the western one.

Above the eave line of the north facade are three window dormers with gabled parapet fronts. These are all identical, but two are joined together east of the center of the facade and the third stands alone over the west half of the facade. Each dormer has a small 1/1 window flanked by brick piers that step in creating a recessed brick surround that continues up forming an arch over the window. The arched opening is filled in with brick. The brick piers have stone bases with a row of stone trim at the base of the arch forming a lintel for the window below and continuing across the face of the window dormer. The dormer's gabled parapet has stone coping for a cap. A thin copper downspout and small roof scupper are located between the two joined dormers. The hipped roof has a round-topped clay tile finial at each hip corner of the ridge, with two on the primary, taller roof.

The rear (west) facade has on the main level the enclosed single story porch with a horizontal row of equally sized windows wrapping the porch and a metal framed door on its north end. The second level has four window openings with stone lintel and sills. The outside two have 1/1 windows. The

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second opening from the south is positioned near the center of the facade and is a slightly smaller 1/1 window. The fourth opening is a door opening with a full-glass metal framed door to the porch roof. The rear elevation has three window dormers spaced equally above the eave line; these match those on the north facade.

5272 Hohman Avenue. 1939/c. 1985, non-contributing. Photo 0012 & 0025, far left  
Commercial/contemporary

The masonry single story corner building has two principal facades, one on Hohman Avenue and the other on Russell Street. The building had extensive renovation in about 1985 which removed its historic storefront and added the mansard canopy. Originally the storefront was composed of glass storefront windows set on slightly raised and recessed bases; the storefront windows and their bases curved at the corner and at recessed entry. The Hohman Avenue (east) facade has a terra-cotta tile block northern pier with non-historic brick infill in the storefront bay. The new storefront has a series of narrow window slit openings with aluminum framed windows. The entry door is located in the center of the front facade. Above the storefront is a wood shake covered mansard canopy that wraps around the southeast corner of the building and extends above and covers the parapet wall.

The Russell Street (south) facade has non-historic brick infill and mansard canopy wrapping from the front to approximately four feet on the east end of the south facade (photo 0012). Beige terra-cotta tile blocks cover the west end of the south facade, creating its own identifiable storefront from the remaining part of this facade. The blocks are laid in stacked bond coursing with this part of the facade capped with flat-faced terra-cotta tile coping. This portion of the south facade has a recessed entry with a pair of steel doors separated by a piece of vertical wood trim. On the west side of the pair of doors the storefront bay has a steel frame display window in a 9 pane configuration set on a terra-cotta tile block base facing the street. On the east side of the pair of doors the storefront bay has a set of three casement windows in metal frames facing the street with wood infill around them, set on a tile block base. To each side of the doors the storefront area angles inward with a steel framed three-pane window configuration set on tile block base on the west side and wood infill set on a tile block base on the east side. A wood shake mansard canopy extends across the storefront and above the parapet line.

The remaining south facade, east of the secondary storefront bay, steps down slightly in height. It has a terra-cotta tile block base laid in stacked bond coursing with tan brick above to the parapet cap. The parapet cap is terra-cotta tiles in a ribbed pattern. At the west end of this slightly shorter part of the south facade is a single recessed doorway opening with a wood door and sunburst pattern window set in wood jambs. To the east of this doorway, resting on the tile block base are two window openings filled with glass block. The window openings are separated by a brick pier

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and each opening has nine glass block rows, four courses high.

5268 Hohman Avenue. 1939/c. 1975, non-contributing. Photo 0013  
Commercial/commercial vernacular

The single story masonry parapet front building has a wide single storefront bay opening with aluminum trim covering its outside piers. It appears to be a continuation of the building to its south with storefront alterations made in about 1975. The storefront bay has a central aluminum storefront door and transom window recessed from the sidewalk. Three storefront display windows are set in aluminum frames on a scored plywood base on each side of the entry door. The display windows are angled back gradually from the sidewalk line to the recessed entry door. False veneer brick is located above the display windows and entry door and a large interior lit sign board extends above the storefront bay opening. The parapet wall is faced with large beige terra-cotta blocks in a stacked bond pattern. The parapet is capped with black tile coping.

5266 Hohman Avenue. LaSalle Hotel (aka Hotel Mee) 1908, contributing. Photo 0014 & 0015, left  
Commercial/Neoclassical with Chicago Style elements

The five story dark red brick building is divided into three equal bays by brick and stone pilasters. The three storefront bays are separated by stone pilasters with stone bases. Window bays have stone bases in the middle and south bays and a low ashlar stone base on the north bay. The south bay has a deeply recessed center entry with a pair of wood doors with full windows and aluminum framed display windows; one on each base and one on each return side into the recessed entry. Aluminum framed transom windows are located over each display window and entry on the south bay. The middle bay has a group of three aluminum framed storefront windows with a single recessed aluminum entry door on its north end. A metal canopy supported by heavy chains attached to the upper levels covers the middle and south storefront bays; its fascia has a vertically staggered plank design. The north bay has a storefront display that gradually angles inward toward the recessed pair of wood doors with full length windows. There are two aluminum framed storefront windows on an ashlar stone base, with ashlar also on the outside return wall at the north end. Stone block extends above the north bay to the top of the storefront level. Early metal plaques are located on each of the stone pilasters flanking the storefront bays, with historical information on name and date of construction.

The upper four levels are virtually identical with the brick pilasters separating the building facade vertically into thirds. The pilasters have stone bases resting on a flat-faced stone belt course at the top of the storefront level, and highly carved stone Ionic capitals at the top of the fifth level. Each level has a single masonry window opening in each bay with stone sills and terra-cotta lintels

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continuous between pilasters. The stone sills are flat-faced with a raised partial sphere design on the top of the sill. The lintels have flat-faces with a sharp chamfered top. Window openings on the second level have a grouping of three 1/1 wood windows in each. Window openings on the third, fourth and fifth levels have groupings of three 1/1 wood windows in each outside bay and two window openings with two 1/1 narrow wood windows in the middle bay; the middle bay's two openings are separated by a narrow brick pilaster. The fifth level windows also have wood transoms above each, but are now covered with plywood. The terra-cotta lintel above the fifth level windows continues across the entire front facade creating a short cornice over the pilaster capitals below. This cornice has a raised dimple detail on the block at each joint. The brick parapet rises above the cornice with recessed brick panels over each bay below, followed by a more formal stone cornice with dentils at its base followed by short brackets supporting the upper part with ogee profile on its face. The brick parapet continues slightly above the stone cornice with stone blocks creating a cap in line with the pilasters below.

The hotel changed its name in about 1940 which resulted in a new, art deco inspired sign, attached to the northeast corner of the front facade with "HOTEL" in a vertical field with a top curved inward, over a horizontal base with "LaSalle" written in script with the outside top edge curved downward. It is in red and white on metal skin and frame. The north and south sides of the building are highly visible due to the single story adjoining buildings. Each side is constructed of concrete block and slightly projecting reinforced concrete vertical and horizontal framework. 1/1 windows are regularly spaced across the side facades and the walls have a clay tile parapet cap. The south facade has a recessed area in the approximate middle of the building, the full height. "HOTEL LASALLE" is painted on the top of both the north and south facades.

5260-62 Hohman Avenue. 1924, non-contributing. Photo 0015

Commercial/commercial vernacular

The single story masonry parapet front building has three equal storefront bays flanked by piers clad in white structural glass. The structural glass was a later alteration to the building, c. 1950. The center storefront bay has a very low concrete base and a group of eight display windows, four above four, set in clear aluminum frames. Each outside bay has a recessed entry with terrazzo floor and pressed clear aluminum ceiling, toward the inside of the building. The storefront doors are aluminum and glass with a single transom window above. The aluminum storefront appears to date to c. 1950. Each display area has a very low concrete base with two windows, side by side, facing the street. Two additional side by side windows are located in the storefront display area return to the entry door.

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A flat roof aluminum canopy extends over the southernmost storefront with clear aluminum fascia and a matching canopy extends over the middle and northernmost storefront slightly lower than the first. Above the storefront openings is an approximately 7' parapet wall covered in aluminum panels set vertically across the façade; they appear to date to about 1980. The parapet is capped with metal and membrane flashing.

5254-5258 Hohman Avenue. 1925, contributing. Photo 0016. Commercial/commercial vernacular. The two story light brown brick building has two former storefront bays and a wide, low pedimented parapet front. The storefront bay openings have been extensively remodeled with stucco/aggregate panel infill with wood battens. An aluminum entry door is slightly recessed on each end and in the center of the facade. Two narrow window slit openings with aluminum framed windows are located between the center and outside entries. A vinyl awning extends above the entire storefront level. These renovations appear to date to about 1985; the historic storefront material appears to have remained in place through the 1960's based on photographs. A stone cornice is directly above the awning, although painted to match. It has a flat, lower face and angled top forming a water table.

Above this cornice are the stone sills for the second level windows. The window openings are flanked by narrow brick pilasters in stacked bond coursing. Window openings have brick rowlock sides, stone sills and lintels. The stone sills have a raised ribbed design at each joint and carved floral motif in a raised square stone at each end, as a base and top to the rowlocks. The lintels form a continuous line across the facade, capping the brick pilasters, with a chamfered base, flat face and lightly carved top edge. There are three window openings on the second level, with the center being a single metal framed rectangular window and the outside two openings having a group of three windows. The windows are metal framed and are equally sized with the center window having a short awning window at its base. The windows are aluminum framed c. 1980 replacements; based on historic photographs the original windows appeared to be wood and remained in place through the 1960's. Above the continuous lintel is a short horizontal field of brick with small carved gargoyles over each of the larger window openings below. A bracketed cornice is above this, forming the base of the parapet wall. The cornice has an ogee profile crown molding at its base with a lightly carved pattern across the base of the profile. Above this is a tall ogee profile interrupted by brackets with carved faces. The cornice has a flat-face upper third flush with the brick parapet extending above. The low pedimented parapet stops to the inside of the outside corners of the building, steps down slightly and across horizontally, then steps up slightly before stepping back down and continuing horizontally a short distance to the outside corner. The parapet is capped with stone coping in a sharp chamfered edge at the top and bottom over a brick rowlock course. This is



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continuous across the entire parapet except at the outside corners where it steps up to form a rectangular block. Within each of these outside corners' rectangular blocks are carved stones with a flower motif and a narrow block below each also carved in a floral motif. In the brick field, at the center of the pedimented gable, is a carved stone medallion in a flower motif.

5252 Hohman Avenue. OK Building. 1913, contributing. Photo 0017  
Commercial/Colonial Revival

The two story corner building is constructed of reddish-brown brick with limestone details. Its northeast corner has an angled wall with formal entry facing the intersection of Muenich Court and Hohman Avenue. The building fronts Hohman Avenue with three storefront bays, but also has a formal Muenich Court facade with two storefront bays at the west end of the north facade.

The Hohman Avenue (east) facade has at its main level two storefront bays on its south two-thirds and the corner storefront bay on the north third. The southernmost storefront bay has a stone pier on its south side and the second bay to its north side. This bay has a deeply recessed entry door on its south side that is wood with a full length window. A transom opening, filled with plywood is located above the door. The storefront display is north of the recessed entry and set on a stone base. It has a single window in metal frame facing Hohman Ave. and a single window in metal frame turning back toward the entry door in the recessed area. The next storefront north has a deeply recessed entry in the center of the storefront bay. The entry door is a full glass and aluminum frame door with a short metal framed transom above. The storefront displays are set on stone bases and have wood trim to the window's outside edge with a single, fairly narrow window fronting Hohman on each side of the recessed entry. The display then turns inward toward the door, perpendicular to the front wall with two windows on the south side and one window on the north side. The storefront displays then step in and then back again toward the door, on stone bases, with a single, very narrow window on each face. The storefront display windows in this storefront bay also are set in metal frames. Some wood infill is located above the front facing display windows and across the top of the recessed entry. To the north of this second storefront bay is a slightly recessed entry with a pair of aluminum storefront doors with a tall aluminum framed transom window above.

The corner storefront bay has four equal windows set on a low concrete base, in aluminum frames with a metal panel in the lower half. A narrow wall returns into the angled entry wall, with a very narrow window set on a low concrete base, in aluminum frame with a metal panel in its lower half. This pattern of four windows followed by a single narrow window is mirrored on the Muenich Court corner storefront facade. The corner entry has a pair of aluminum storefront doors with aluminum framed side-lites and a single, large transom over the pair of doors. The side-lites also

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have a metal panel in their lower half. A vertical band of stone creates the west edge of the corner storefront's Muenich Street facade. The upper part of the storefront bays are covered by vinyl awnings on the two Hohman Avenue storefronts and canvas awnings on the corner storefront. These awnings cover the lower part of a stone cornice that is continuous on the entire building. The storefronts' aluminum and large glass windows are early renovations appearing in historic photographs by the 1950's.

The Muenich Court main level facade has the corner storefront bay wrapping around on its east end. Immediately west of the corner storefront bay a stone base continues to the west end of the building, interrupted by door openings and storefront bays. Above the base, at the east end, west of the corner storefront are three square window openings set well above the sidewalk elevation. The three openings are equally spaced and separated by brick. The openings have a continuous, heavily projecting stone sill that is supported by square stone brackets under each window's bottom corner. These openings have plywood infill. To the west of these openings is a tall narrow door opening now filled in with plywood. The west half of the Muenich Court main level facade has two storefront bays that are matching. These are located just west of the tall door opening that is filled in, to the west corner of the building, each flanked by a brick pilaster on stone base. The storefront bays have a narrow center opening with transom opening above. The eastern bay has an aluminum storefront door with transom covered with plywood. The western bay has a stone base with recessed panel with remaining opening covered with a metal panel and the transom opening covered with plywood. Each center opening is flanked by narrow stone pilasters. To the outside of each center opening are display window openings, covered by metal panels, set on stone bases with recessed panels. The transom openings over the display openings, are covered with plywood. The stone cornice set above the storefronts is fully exposed on the Muenich Court facade and has a narrow ogee base with fillet returning to a flat-face then stone water table stepping out. The cornice top has a tall, flat-face flush with the brick masonry that becomes the sills for the second level windows.

The second level has stone quoining at its south and west corners, corners of the angled entry wall and another row of quoining to the south and west of the quoining of the angled wall corners on the other side of a narrow window. There are eight equally spaced wide window openings on the Muenich Court facade (west of the narrow opening) and three equally spaced wide window openings on the Hohman Avenue facade (south of the narrow opening). These wide window openings all have a large wood framed window in their upper three-quarters with a set of two wood windows in their lower quarter flanking a center venting panel. The windows on the north facade have tall brick jack arches with projecting stone keystones. The windows on the east facade are more elaborate with stone keystones and angled corner stones with brick laid at an angle between creating the

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overall affect of a jack arch, but above the brick are two brick courses that are corbelled that turn down at the outside corners creating a brick hood affect. The corbelling is punctured by the keystone and corner stones. The keystone is carved in high-relief with radiating keystones stepping outward. The narrow window openings flanked by quoining to the west and south of the angled, corner facade have projecting brick rowlocks with stone keystones at the base and top of the rectangular opening. The opening has a single wood window divided into twenty-one individual panes by narrow mullions.

Brick corbelling is located just above the second level window's keystones with two courses, followed by two flush courses, then three corbelled courses, then brick dentils topped by a brick sailor course, which is topped by a flat-faced stone cornice. This stone cornice is supported by stone brackets that are aligned over each row of quoining. The low brick parapet rises above the stone cornice and is capped with a narrow stone coping. Above the cornice, aligned with the brackets below, are brick pilasters that have an additional stone cap above the continuous line of coping. These stone caps have a triangular projection at their centers.

The angled, corner wall has a single second level window opening matching in width and window configuration to the other second level windows. However, it has a ribbed stone surround with stone keystone and angled stones creating the appearance of a jack arch, but without brick. This is topped by a stone pedimented window hood supported by stone brackets under the outside ends with a return, broken cornice on its face and rake cornice that is crowned with a large, exaggerated high-relief keystone at its peak. Within the face of the pediment is raised lettering with "OK BUILDING", each word on its own line. No brick corbelling or stone cornice is located on this angled facade; a brick panel in the center, at the top steps out with single brick supports under each corner. The wall is capped with stone coping in line with that of the sides.

5248 Hohman Avenue. Hammond National Building (aka Ruff Building), 1911, contributing.  
Photo 0018, left. Commercial

The three story corner building is constructed of buff colored brick with some variation of orange colors. It has a single storefront bay accessed at the corner of Muenich Court and Hohman Avenue and an original pedimented entry at the north end of the building on the front (Hohman) facade. The storefront bay wraps around the corner of Muenich Court and a massive brick pier on a stone base supports the outside, south corner of the building. The storefront is constructed of display windows set in metal frames on an ashlar stone base, turning inward toward the recessed entry. The storefront material and sign date to the 1960's. Storefront doors are aluminum and glass. The Hohman display window is divided into four parts while the Muenich Ct. display window is divided into two parts. A single display window returns on each side to the recessed entry. The north end

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of the storefront display area is terminated by the pedimented north entry while the west end of the storefront display (wrapping around on Muenich Ct.) is terminated by a brick pilaster on a stone base. A sign board extends across the entire facade from the north pedimented entry, over the corner brick pier and down the Muenich Court display area covering the transom area. Another display window on an ashlar base with two windows in metal frames is located to the west of the Muenich Street pilaster. It has small square historic glass block in its transom area. The pedimented entry was for upper level access; it is entirely stone with engaged, smooth shafted columns with Ionic capitals supporting a pediment with dentil detail following the rake of its pediment. The portal created by the entry has an arched top and aluminum storefront door and transom in the opening.

The main level is separated from the second level by a continuous stone water table extending across the Hohman and Muenich Ct. facades. The peak of the pedimented entry pierces the water table, but only slightly. The second level of the front facade has three equally spaced window openings with stone sills and brick trimmed surrounds with a stacked brick course to the outsides followed by a slightly projecting brick standing end to end vertically. This projecting course continues upward, stepping out at the top of the window opening, then up and across forming the appearance of a classical hood. Windows are in metal frames, with the northernmost window slightly narrower than the other two. The third level windows are flanked by projecting brick pilasters with a continuous stone base forming a sill/water table wrapping around both sides of the building. Angled stone blocks form supporting brackets below the pilasters. Narrow stone trim in a modified ogee profile creates a band at the top of the third level window openings, and continues around the entire facade interrupted only by the flanking brick pilasters. The third level window openings match the size of those below, but have scored plywood infill. The pilasters extend approximately two feet above the tops of the windows and are capped by a flat stone block, projecting outward from the pilasters like a capital. A single block caps the pairs of pilasters that are created between window openings. A brick dentil pattern projects out slightly from the building between pilaster caps, and continues on the Muenich Ct. facade. Above this pattern is a band of red brick, five courses high, that continues on both sides of the building. The parapet wall is slightly recessed above the red brick band creating outside corner pilasters that step up slightly above the center parapet wall. The outside pilasters and parapet wall are capped by narrow stone coping in an ogee profile. This also continues on the Muenich Court facade.

The Muenich Court (south) facade is relatively void of detail with regularly spaced openings, aligning on the second and third levels. The main level has a low stone base with two storefront bays near its west end. The westernmost bay has been filled in with natural stone and narrow slit window openings. A series of three aluminum framed windows with stone between is flanked by brick piers at the storefront bay's west end, followed by another single narrow window and stone infill to its

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east, followed by another brick pier and doorway opening with aluminum storefront door and transom to its east. The entire westernmost storefront has scored plywood covering the transom area to the stone water table above. The second storefront bay has a recessed entry with storefront display angled in toward the aluminum storefront door. The storefront display windows are set on brick bases with a single window in metal frame facing Muenich Court and a single window on the recessed entry wall. This storefront also has scored plywood over the transom area. Two equally spaced, short and wide window openings are located east of the second storefront, high above the sidewalk elevation. Each has a stone sill and two wood framed windows in each opening, but with the west window of the west opening filled in with wood and mechanical vents.

The second and third levels have eight window openings on each level and aligned with each other. The outside corner openings are narrower than the center six. The second level openings have stone sills while the third level openings have continuous stone sills and top trim wrapping from the front facade. The windows are covered with scored plywood except for the easternmost one on each level, which are 1/1 metal framed windows and the four immediately west of the easternmost window on the second level, which have groups of three in each opening, set in metal frames. The parapet wall steps down twice toward the west end of the Muenich Court facade, but has the continuous stone cap.

5246 Hohman Avenue. Adolph Hirsch Building. 1927, contributing. Photo 0018, right & 0019  
Commercial/Neoclassical

The five story masonry building has a dominating affect on the north end of the district with limestone cladding on its front facade wrapping around to its north facade a distance of approximately twenty feet. The building has reserved Neoclassical styling with limited detail and low relief carvings. The building has a single storefront bay that also wraps around the north side a distance equal with the stone cladding above. The original storefront display windows were removed about 1970 and the main level was essentially filled in. The existing storefront is similar to the original and was constructed within the last 10 years. The front facade of the main level has a wide, deep recessed entry at its south end with a single aluminum storefront door and aluminum framed side-lite divided into four parts with transoms above. The recessed entry is flanked by stone pilasters, with stone on its recessed walls. A hefty steel framed canopy covers the recessed entry, supported by large turn-buckles. To the north of the recessed entry the storefront is divided into three parts on the front facade by slender pilasters with simple bases and capitals extending slightly higher than the top line of the recessed entry. Between the pilasters are display windows set in metal frames on low wood-framed bases. This pattern is continued on the north facade of the storefront with a window bay on the east end followed by a pair of aluminum storefront doors at its west end. The doors have a canvas awning above them and wood infill above that to the top of the storefront

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opening. Above the storefront is a field of stone block approximately three feet tall and capped by a continuous band of low-relief carving in a fan motif more related to the Art Deco style. This forms the separation between the main and upper levels.

The upper levels of the building are nearly identical with the front facade being divided into four vertical bays with the southernmost bay slightly narrower than the other three. The stone clad portion of the north side is divided into two equal vertical bays matching the front. Each vertical bay is flanked by a low projecting pilaster. Each vertical bay has a window opening on each level with a carved stone recessed panel between each level in alternating raised circle and hexagon designs. Windows are 1/1 wood windows; the second level window openings are slightly taller with transoms now covered. The southernmost vertical band has glass block infill in its openings on each level. The top of the pilasters have an engraved elongated pentagon pattern with two engraved on slightly wider pilasters flanking the narrower southernmost bay and at the corners of the building's stone cladding. A floral motif and narrow cap form the pilaster capital. The building's entablature rests of the pilaster capitals with an architrave of a raised diamond pattern over the wider pilasters and raised circles over the narrower pilasters. Above the narrow southernmost bay is a large raised, circular design in the architrave and over each of the other bays is a low-relief carved panel with shield and floral designs. Above the architrave is a narrow cornice with a continuous dentil row at its base, stepping out to a flat-face and at the top a simple ogee profile. A row of short stone obelisks create finials across the top of the cornice.

The remaining north facade and the south facade is constructed of buff colored brick with no window openings on the south facade and very regularly positioned window openings on the north facade. The remaining portion of the main level of the north facade has a narrow window opening followed by a wider opening immediately west of the stone cladding. Both extend to the sidewalk and have aluminum storefront windows in them. Four other window openings are located across the remaining north facade's main level, equally spaced, with the westernmost two being slightly narrower than the remaining two. These are set higher above the sidewalk grade and have pairs of 1/1 wood windows in the wider openings and a single 1/1 wood window in the narrower ones. The second through fifth levels have a tall 2/2 wood window immediately west of the stone cladding. The remaining windows on the second level are arranged with three pairs of 2/2 wood windows west of the aforementioned window, followed by two 1/1 wood windows to their west. The third, fourth and fifth levels have identical windows that are aligned with each other. A single, tall 2/2 wood window (mentioned previously) is at the easternmost side, immediately west of the stone cladding. This is followed (west) by three groups of 2/2 wood windows separated by a brick pilaster. These are followed (west) by two 2/2 wood windows aligning with the windows on the second and first levels below. Window openings have stone sills and stone coping terminates the

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parapet wall on the north facade, stepping down from the more ornate cornice at the east end of the north facade. (photo 0019, north facade)

*Hohman Avenue (East Side)*

5251 Hohman Avenue. Straube Building. 1916, contributing. Photo 0021  
Commercial/commercial vernacular, Neoclassical

The wide, three commercial bay two story brick building has white terra-cotta trim and aluminum storefront windows and doors in its historic openings. While some integrity is lost with the non-historic storefront and window infill added about 1995, the masonry facade is well preserved with character-defining detail intact. The brick is in two tones with alternating standard sized orange brick coursing with narrow dark brown Roman size brick coursing. The main level is divided into three bays set on a low concrete base with the center bay being wider than the outside two. Each bay is flanked by brick pilasters capped with low-relief stone panels for capitals with a circle design in each. The aluminum storefront is dark bronze with tall windows extending from the concrete base to rows of square transoms above. The outside storefront bays no longer have entrances; the center bay has a recessed entrance centered on the building. A continuous horizontal brick field extends across the tops of the storefronts with an inset building title block in terra-cotta set in the center with the words "STRAUBE BUILDING" in raised relief.

A terra-cotta belt course extends across the entire facade above this horizontal brick field. It has a flat lower half flush with the building and its upper half projects outward with a tall ogee profile at its top edge. This belt course creates a continuous sill for second level windows. The second level has nine window openings with the center opening being slightly wider than the others. Each opening has terra-cotta trim side and top surrounds with tiles having a repeating engraved pattern. The openings are divided by brick piers that have the engraved tile blocks at their bases and continue up from the sides of windows to create a panel above the piers. Centered within these pier panels is a diamond block surrounded by repeating angled brick courses. Above each window opening is a wide, short brick panel framed by engraved terra-cotta tile block. Window openings have a grouping of three aluminum storefront windows with 1/1 windows to the outside of a single window. A terra-cotta belt course forms a continuous line above the brick panels over the window openings and brick piers. The belt course is composed of blocks with chamfered bases stepping out to a ribbed top and bottom flat-faced block. The belt course steps up in a round-topped arch supported by small brackets over each brick pier with round medallions under the arches and raised keystones in the top of the arches. The keystones support a short finial with scrolled floral design on each side of the raised keystone.

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The top of the belt course creates the base of the brick parapet wall. The parapet wall has brick panels between each pier below; the panels are framed with rowlock courses of orange brick with brown Roman brick to the inside and outside of the rowlock courses. The parapet has orange brick soldiers, topped with rowlocks divided horizontally by brown Roman styled bricks. The row of brick coursing is terminated on each corner of the building with a short, wide engraved terra-cotta tile block with a scrolled ribbon and floral motif. A terra-cotta tile cap extends across the flat parapet wall. The tiles are flat-faced with a recessed rectangular pattern.

5261 Hohman Avenue. 1923/c. 1985, non-contributing. Photo 0022, left  
Commercial/contemporary

The two story building has modern stucco and insulation board covered front facade that is divided into two mostly equal parts. The north half has a wide recessed entry angled inward from the sidewalk on its north half and tall, 1 ½ story narrow slits for window openings on its south half. The south half of the building has a centered, deep recessed entry with double doors and three tall, single story, narrow slits for windows to each side of the entry. Doors and windows are aluminum storefront. The building's parapet has metal flashing for a cap.

5261 Hohman Avenue. C. 1900/c. 1980, non-contributing. Photo 0022, right  
Commercial/contemporary

The two story brick building was extensively altered by the addition of a dark brown brick facade on its street face. The facade has brick pilasters to its outside corners with a deeply recessed center, extending to the parapet. To the south of the north pilaster is a narrow vertical ribbon of aluminum storefront extending to the parapet. To the north of the south pilaster is a wider vertical ribbon of aluminum storefront also extending to the parapet, including the storefront entry door on the main level. The center of the building is absent any window openings or details. The parapet has metal flashing for a cap.

5265 Hohman Avenue. NIPSCO Building. 1926/1938/1948, contributing. Photo 0023  
Neoclassical

The four story, mostly large limestone block building has two principal facades facing Hohman Avenue on its west side and Russell Street on its south side. The building has low profile, wide stone pilasters stepping out only slightly on the facade, separating the building into six vertical bays on Hohman and three vertical bays at its west end on Russell Street before becoming buff-colored brick on its eastern two-thirds with an additional six bays fronting Russell Street. The building has a low gray granite base continuously around its limestone finished facades, creating the base to storefront openings and stepping up at stone pilasters. A stone cornice is located between the first and second levels and extends continuously around the entire building. The cornice has an ogee



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profile base and flat-faced Greek key engraved face. Between the third and fourth levels is an architrave with ogee profile stone trim at its base continuous around the entire building. The architrave face is stone where the main facade is stone, but is brick on the eastern two-thirds of Russell Street. Where the stone architrave is interrupted by the pilasters, a pilaster cap with raised circular medallion exists. A short dentilated cornice is above the architrave and continues around the entire building. Where the facade becomes brick on Russell Street the cornice has a tall ogee profile capping it. The fourth level facades are not divided by pilasters and are constructed of buff-colored brick with alternating raised soldier and rowlock coursing capped by three courses of horizontal brick corbelling forming the parapet wall. The brick coursing is divided by a series of vertical stone blocks with recessed rectangular panels. The southwest corner of the fourth level has brick stepped in to mimic the stone pilaster profile below. The parapet is capped with flat-faced stone coping. This detail continues around the entire building.

Storefront openings have silver aluminum storefront windows and doors with storefront openings divided into either six or nine windows depending on the width of the bay. Upper level windows are dark bronze aluminum framed, single-lite fixed windows. The storefronts and windows are recent renovations made within the last ten years. The storefronts had non-historic block infill as late as 1997. Second level window openings have continuous stone sills flush with the stone face of the building. Third level window openings have narrow stone sills with an ogee profile on the stone facades and brick rowlock sills on the remaining brick facade. Fourth level windows have the stone cornice as their sills. Window openings have no discernible lintels.

The Hohman Avenue (west) facade is mostly symmetrical and is divided into six vertical bays by pilasters with the outside two and inside adjoining two being wider than the remaining two. The main level has storefront glass in each of the wide bays with a recessed center entry in the middle, south bay. The narrow bays have a recessed entry with aluminum storefront door in the north, narrow bay and aluminum storefront windows in the south, narrow bay. The second and third levels have pairs of windows in the wide bays and single windows in the narrow bays on each level. The fourth level has the same window configuration with windows aligned with those below. Within the two narrow bays, between the second and third level windows, are located large circular medallions with low-relief carvings.

The Russell Street (south) facade has its western third covered in limestone block, matching the detail of the Hohman Avenue facade and its eastern two-thirds constructed of buff-colored brick. The stone portion is divided into three vertical bays with the center bay being narrower than the outside two. The main level has storefront glass in each of its bays. The second and third levels have pairs of windows in each of its wider bays on each level and a single window on each level in

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the narrow bay. The fourth level has windows aligned with those below. The brick portion of the south facade is stylistically similar to the stone portion with groupings of upper level windows and storefront openings matching wider and narrower bays but without pilaster divisions. The brick portion has a low limestone base and recessed brick panel design above the storefront openings where transom windows would normally be found. A wider storefront bay with aluminum storefront windows is at the west end of the brick portion, followed by a narrower storefront bay with aluminum storefront windows, followed by a deeply recessed entry with aluminum door. To the east of this recessed entry is a wide storefront bay with aluminum storefront windows and a recessed aluminum door at its east side, followed by another wide storefront bay with aluminum storefront windows. An enclosed glass and steel crosswalk is located directly above the westernmost entry into the third level from the Yale Building on the south side of Russell Street.

200 Russell Street. Yale Building (aka Lloyd Building), 1924/1987, non-contributing.

Photo 0024, right. Commercial/Neoclassical/Contemporary

The eight story building has had extensive remodeling in about 1987 covering nearly all of its Neoclassical details. The bottom two stories are most recognizably Neoclassical, with a symmetrical Hohman Avenue facade with former center entry flanked by tall engaged Ionic columns and square corner piers. The top of the second level has a dentil-detailed cornice before the remaining six stories of the building turn decidedly modern. The limited openings on the first and second level have chamfered sides, angled inward to aluminum storefront glass windows. Two window openings are located between the engaged columns on the Hohman Avenue facade's main level; four window openings are located on its second level with two also between the columns, above those on the first level. The entry to the building is off of Russell Street, at its west end, also with aluminum storefront doors. The entire lower portion of the building has had a cementitious application over the walls and columns. The upper portion of the building is divided into vertical bands of aluminum storefront glass and metal panels framed by modern stucco on insulation board bands. The top of the building has a metal screen wall with large circular openings; one centered on the Hohman Avenue facade and three on the Russell Street facade. A glass and metal second level walkway enclosure constructed in 1987 connects this building to the Russell Street facade of the NIPSCO building (as seen in the center of photo 0024).

The Masonic Temple, constructed in 1921 in the Collegiate Gothic/Tudor Revival style was located at 45 Muenich Court. (Photos 0002, 0003). It was demolished during the nomination process. The Masonic Temple was a large free-standing building constructed of reddish-brown brick with limestone detailing. It was four stories tall with two primary street facades on its south and west walls and its north wall bordering an alley. The principle facade fronted Muenich Court and was symmetrically organized. The secondary street facade (west) was divided into four parts and,

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although still formally organized, was asymmetrical. The building had a limestone base constructed of large, smooth blocks, about four feet tall with the top edge chamfered back to the brick. Main level windows and doors had been covered in plywood, as the building was vacant prior to demolition. Upper level windows had wood frames and jambs and sashes in varying divided-lite patterns, mostly double-hung windows. The roof was a flat-roof with only one external downspout observed on the northwest corner. The other street (west) facade was less elaborate with very limited openings (photo 0003). It was divided into four main parts, joined together by the continuous overall building base detail from the Muenich Court facade.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

The Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A because of its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history, specifically the growth and importance of commercial business districts in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and Criterion C because its architecture embodies distinctive characteristics of styles found during the period of significance, as well as high artistic value of certain resources within the district. Individual areas of significance for the district include Architecture as seen in the well executed details of certain styles and Commerce due to its range of resources constructed during a period of great wealth in the American economy.

The period of significance for the district is 1904-1956. This represents a 52 year period of time encompassing the date of construction of the earliest contributing resource (1904) through the date of construction of the latest historic resource (1956).

**Criterion A: History of Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District**

*Hammond Historical Overview*

Located in the far northwestern corner of the state, on the south shore of Lake Michigan, Hammond became not only a critical crossroads but also an important industrial center. The City of Hammond traces its beginnings to 1852 with its first settlers, Ernest and Caroline Hohman, after whom the community was originally named, "Hohmanville". The small village grew rapidly when George Hammond purchased a tract of land from the Hohmans and constructed a large meat-packing plant.<sup>1</sup> In 1869 the G. H. Hammond Company was established near the state line near the Grand Calumet River, beginning Hammond's industrial movement.<sup>2</sup> Railroads were soon constructed and the area became a hub of transportation in northwest Indiana. In 1875 Hammond's partner Marcus Towle platted a village nearby and named it "State Line" for its location on the Indiana side of the Illinois/Indiana state line. This name was later changed to Hammond and the community was established as a city in 1884.<sup>3</sup>

*Downtown Hammond Development*

The initial center of town was located along State Street and Hohman Avenue, with railroads criss-

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<sup>1</sup> Downtown Hammond: An Historical and Architectural Guide

<sup>2</sup> "Hammond, Indiana" villageprofile.com

<sup>3</sup> Downtown Hammond: An Historical and Architectural Guide

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crossing the center of the city; the Hohman Avenue district ultimately became considered the "downtown" with Hohman becoming an important main street in the city. Hammond saw steady growth through the early 1900's, but it was the 1910's through the 1920's that radically changed the architectural face of the city.<sup>4</sup> As an important confluence of railroad lines leading to Chicago and capitalizing on its shipping port Hammond expanded tremendously. With that growth wealth began to flow into the city with large, multi-story buildings being constructed in the downtown and new residential areas added with middle and upper scaled homes being constructed. These areas south of the downtown were serviced by an electric rail line that brought people up Hohman Avenue to the expanding commercial district.

The history of commercial growth can be divided into two parts in the Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District by the economic depression that began in 1929. Most of the district's buildings were constructed prior to the Great Depression from about 1904 to 1927 and it was during this period, the wealth of the city is best exemplified. Beginning with relatively modest construction of two duplexes at 47-49 and 53 Muenich Court in 1904 (photo 0004), the district's architecture soon began to reflect the scale of a metropolitan city with the construction of the five story LaSalle Hotel in 1908 (photo 0014). The 1910's issued in the construction of other considerably large-scale buildings including the Hammond National Building in 1911 at 5248 Hohman (photo 0018, left), the OK Building in 1913 at 5252 Hohman (photo 0017) and St. Joseph's Catholic Church and Rectory constructed between 1912 and 1915 at 5302-5304 Hohman (photo 0025) and the Straube Building, in 1916 at 5251 Hohman (photo 0021). The 1920's issued in the height of construction for the district with the construction of the impressive Masonic Temple in 1921 at 45 Muenich Ct. (photo 0002; demolished during the nomination process), the eight story Yale Building in 1924 at 200 Russell St. (photo 0024, right), the four story NIPSCO Building in 1926 at 5265 Hohman (photo 0023), and the five story Adolph Hirsch Building in 1927 at 5246 Hohman (photo 0019), it being the final contributing building constructed in the district before the economic collapse in 1929.

Two buildings were constructed after the Great Depression during the period of significance in 1939 at 5268 and 5272 Hohman Avenue (photos 0013, 0012, 0007-left, respectively) and are considerably smaller in scale than their commercial predecessors.

*Commerce*

The Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District has buildings with occupancy history representative of most urbanized areas. While the district is considerably smaller in footprint than

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<sup>4</sup> Downtown Hammond: An Historical and Architectural Guide

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the original concentration of commercial buildings comprising "downtown Hammond", those that remain and are located in the district have colorful histories representing a bustling downtown during the period of significance.

In terms of retail, dining and entertainment, shops and diners served not only the white collar workforce in the downtown but also the surrounding suburbs. Retail included Nelson's Drugstore (5252 Hohman), Hansen Brothers Florist (5324 Hohman), and Wextark Radio Stores (5262 Hohman). A number of groceries or food staples stores were located in the district including the Lake County Fruit Market (5268 Hohman), Austgen JJ Grocery (5272 Hohman), Mrs. Stevens Candy Shop (5314 Hohman), the National Tea Company (5253 Hohman) and Tittle Brothers Packing Company Meats (5261 Hohman). Women's clothing could be found at Rothschild & Hirsch Clothing (5246 Hohman), Bernat Frank's Women's Clothing (5252 Hohman) and Mitzi Frocks Women's Clothing (5258 Hohman). Two large retail establishments were also found in the district: Ruff Hardware at 5248 Hohman and the Northern Indiana Printing & Stationary Company (using an acronym of NIPSCO in an advertisement in the 1931 Hammond City Directory) at 5251 Hohman.

Lodging could be found at the Hotel Mee (later the LaSalle Hotel) at 5266 Hohman and two billiards parlors were in the district, one located in the Hotel Mee and the other was the Northern Indiana Billiard Hall at 5262 Hohman. Dining venues included Frank's Sandwich Shop (5314 Hohman), Gregory's Coffee Shop (5318 Hohman), the Blackhawk Grille (5259 1/2 Hohman) and Martin's Bakery & Lunch Room (5255 Hohman). The district does not boast any former theaters or opera houses; these were located further north on Hohman and on State Street.

Personal services were provided in the district and included the typical barber and beauty shops, laundry, and shoe repair. Beauty shops were located at 5324 Hohman and in the OK Building at 5252 Hohman. Barber shops were also located in the OK Building and at 5320 Hohman. Norman's Barber & Beauty Shoppe operated from 5260 Hohman. The Mark Sing Laundry operated at 5320 Hohman next door to the Emmerling Funeral Home and ambulance service at 5322 Hohman. Patrons to the downtown could have their shoes repaired at Modern Shoe Repairing (5316 Hohman) and shined at the Hohman Shoe Shine Parlor in Hotel Mee.

A number of professional services and medical services were provided out of the large multi-story buildings in the district. Attorneys' offices were found in the Hirsch (5246 Hohman), Ruff (Hammond National-5248 Hohman), OK (5252 Hohman), and Lloyd (Yale-200 Russell) Buildings.

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Doctors' offices were found in the Hirsch, Straube, OK, and Lloyd Buildings. The architecture firm of Addison Beery operated from the Ruff, also known as the Hammond National, Building at 5248 Hohman and Wainwright Wilkins & Company Architects operated from the Lloyd, also known as the Yale, Building at 200 Russell (5303 Hohman in early city directories).

The Northern Indiana Public Service Company operated their corporate offices from 5265 Hohman while Calumet World Press and the Standard Electric Company operated their corporate offices from the Straube Building at 5249-5251 Hohman. The Hammond Musical College operated from the OK Building while the Bohlinger Business College operated across the street at the Ruff Building.

Maybe most prolific in the district were services related to real estate, real estate development, banking, finance, mortgage and insurance industries. Most of these also operated out of multi-story buildings in the district. The Lloyd Building had real estate, life insurance and credit services offices operating from its location. The Straube Building was the location for the offices of Crumpacker Real Estate. The Hirsch Building had Jacobstein Real Estate, Metropolitan Life Insurance and a mortgage company operating from its location. The Personal Finance Building at 5258 Hohman had Bankers National Life Insurance and the Personal Finance Company of Hammond operating from its location.

The Lloyd Building was one of the largest commercial office buildings in the district and during the early 1930's had a number of vacancies. However, it appears that during the late 1920's and into the 1930's a number of municipal offices relocated from the building at 200 Russell Street. Included in the city directory were Hammond's City Engineer, Municipal Water Works, Building Inspector's office, and the city electrical and plumbing inspectors' offices. The Lloyd Building and the OK Building also housed a number of public constables' offices.

The social life of Hammond's residents during the period of significance is also represented in the district by virtue of social clubs that once existed and St. Joseph's Church and Hall that continue in use today. The Free Masons constructed their enormous lodge just west of Hohman at 45 Muenich Court (no longer extant). The Elks had their lodge building immediately west of the former Lake County Superior Courthouse (Rimbach & Hohman) at 142 Rimbach Street. The Boy Scouts met in the Ruff Building and the Lake Hills Country Club had a hall in the Lloyd Building. St. Joseph's Church, Rectory and Hall were constructed for religious observances by the area's catholic population.

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*Hohman District Today*

The City of Hammond continues to be an important part of a string of metropolitan areas in northwest Indiana bordering the Lake Michigan shoreline. Redevelopment along a number of its main thoroughfares is evident including some new commercial development immediately outside the Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District. Generally buildings in this district are still in use; while not heavily used for retail, a number of professional office and similar commercial activity is present. Buildings appear in moderate to excellent condition with some more recent renovation work being present at some locations.

**Criterion C: Architecture of Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District**

The architecture of the district represents styles found within the period of significance with well executed details reflecting the high style of many of the architectural styles represented. These styles are Neoclassical, Colonial Revival, Romanesque Revival and Collegiate Gothic. Several buildings exhibit no dominant style, except to display characteristics typical of commercial vernacular construction.

*Neoclassical Style*

The earliest style present in the district is also the most prevalent, the Neoclassical style. This is first found on the LaSalle Hotel, constructed in 1908 (photo 0014). The five story building features a front facade divided by brick pilasters with stone pilaster bases and Ionic capitals. The building also has a stone cornice with dentil detailing and a storefront cornice with egg and dart lower molding. This building was followed by the Hammond National Building (photo 0018, left) constructed in 1911 with fairly simple details but includes a pedimented stone entry with engaged Ionic columns and dentils along its rake. The building also has a brick pattern at the base of its parapet with the appearance of dentils and brick window hoods also in a classical pattern.

Two later buildings constructed in 1926 and 1927 exhibit Neoclassical details in purely limestone facades. The NIPSCO Building (photo 0023), constructed in 1926 and the Adolph Hirsch Building (photo 0019), constructed in 1927 are both larger scale buildings that incorporate classical details including pilasters dividing their facades into vertical bays, cornices with dentil detailing, and in these later cases stone panels with low-relief carvings. The Hirsch Building also incorporates stone finials equally spaced across the top of the building cornice. One other building of note constructed in the Neoclassical style is the Yale Building, constructed in 1924 (photo 0024, right). This building



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probably once exhibited the height of the style but with significant alterations lost its character defining details. The building is an eight story building with its first two levels having some remaining classical details including a dentilated cornice and making it most recognizably Neoclassical is the pair of engaged Ionic columns flanking a former entry on Hohman Avenue.

*Romanesque Revival Style*

The Romanesque Revival style is well represented by a single building in the district. Saint Joseph's Catholic Church (photo 0009), constructed between 1912-1914, exhibits the style by its stone banding in horizontal and low-arched cornices as well as in the stone detail, including balustrade, of the twin bell towers. The bell towers' roof lines and semi-circular apse at the rear of the building (photo 0010) exhibit the Romanesque Revival style. Arched window openings and the stone trimmed niche also give the building character defining stylistic features. This style was applied in a limited way to the other two buildings constructed by the Catholic Church in the district. The Saint Joseph Rectory (0011) and Saint Joseph Hall (0008) bring in architectural elements to compliment the style of the church. A semi-circular "apse" is located on the front of the hall, with low-sloped conical roof. A few of the window openings on the hall also have arched tops. The rectory includes a semi-circular window bay and also displays some stone trimmed arched openings.

*Colonial Revival*

The next style constructed in chronological sequence was the Colonial Revival style and it is found in two buildings in the district. The OK Building, constructed in 1913 and the building at 5322 Hohman Avenue, constructed in 1918. The OK Building (photo 0017) is the more developed of the two in this style and it is constructed with projecting stone quoining on its corners, jack arches with stone keystones over its second level window openings, and an impressive carved stone pedimented window hood over its corner wall's second level window. Tall, thin window openings just to the outside of the angled corner wall have stone finials at their top and bottoms and interpreted stone brackets support a stone cornice around the building, broken at the angled corner entry wall. The second building, at 5322 Hohman Avenue, (photo 0006, right) also has Colonial Revival detailing in its stone quoining around its second level windows and tall stone brackets supporting the outside corners of the cornice. A transitional building with limited detail adjoins this second building on its south side, also constructed in 1918 (photo 0006, left). The building has some lingering Italianate features in its facade design including bay spacing and limited corbelling, and with its tall bracketed metal cornice, but it also has brick jack arches with stone keystones over its second level windows.

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*Other mentionable styles of construction*

While not high styles, other construction styles are present in the district and warrant description. Two duplexes were constructed in the district on Muenich Court (photo 0004) in the Chicago-two flat floor plan. The duplexes have fairly limited detail but include fluted Corinthian columns, an asymmetrical facade configuration and a bracketed cornice near the parapet. This style is named for its city of origin, which due to proximity would have found influence in Hammond.

Another vernacular style is the simple gabled parapet wall commercial building. This is found on two buildings, a single story building at 57 Clinton Street constructed in 1918 (photo 0005) and a two story building at 5254-5258 Hohman Avenue constructed in 1925 (photo 0016). Both buildings are constructed in brick with their parapets stepping down at the base of the gable, then stepping up over the corners of the buildings. Both have stone coping following the rake of the parapet wall. The Hohman Avenue building is more elaborate with additional stone cornice, belt course and engraved blocks.

Two buildings have details indicating some level of sophistication to their facades, reflecting more Mediterranean Eclectic styles. The Straube Building (photo 0021) and a commercial building at 142 Rimbach Street (photo 0001) were both constructed about 1920 and utilized stone and terra-cotta banding or details on their brick facades. The Straube Building has a beautifully articulated second level with terra-cotta trim surrounding window openings and ornate capitals on brick pilasters. The Rimbach Street building has tall, thin engaged stone columns separating windows on the main level, stretching to the base of the building as well as larger engaged columns on each front corner of the building.

Commercial buildings constructed toward the end of the period of significance were less stylized with more modern influence being exhibited. This is evident in three particular buildings with the earliest being constructed in 1924 and the later two being constructed in 1939. The 1924 building is located at 5260-5262 Hohman Avenue (photo 0015) and the other two are located next to each other at 5268 and 5272 Hohman Avenue (photos 0012, 0013). All three of the buildings are single story and lack ornament, but have building materials consistent with their period of construction. The 1924 building is a simple parapet front, three bay commercial building constructed with a white structural glass paneled facade. The other two buildings are also single story in height and have their street facades constructed in simple rectangular terra-cotta block.

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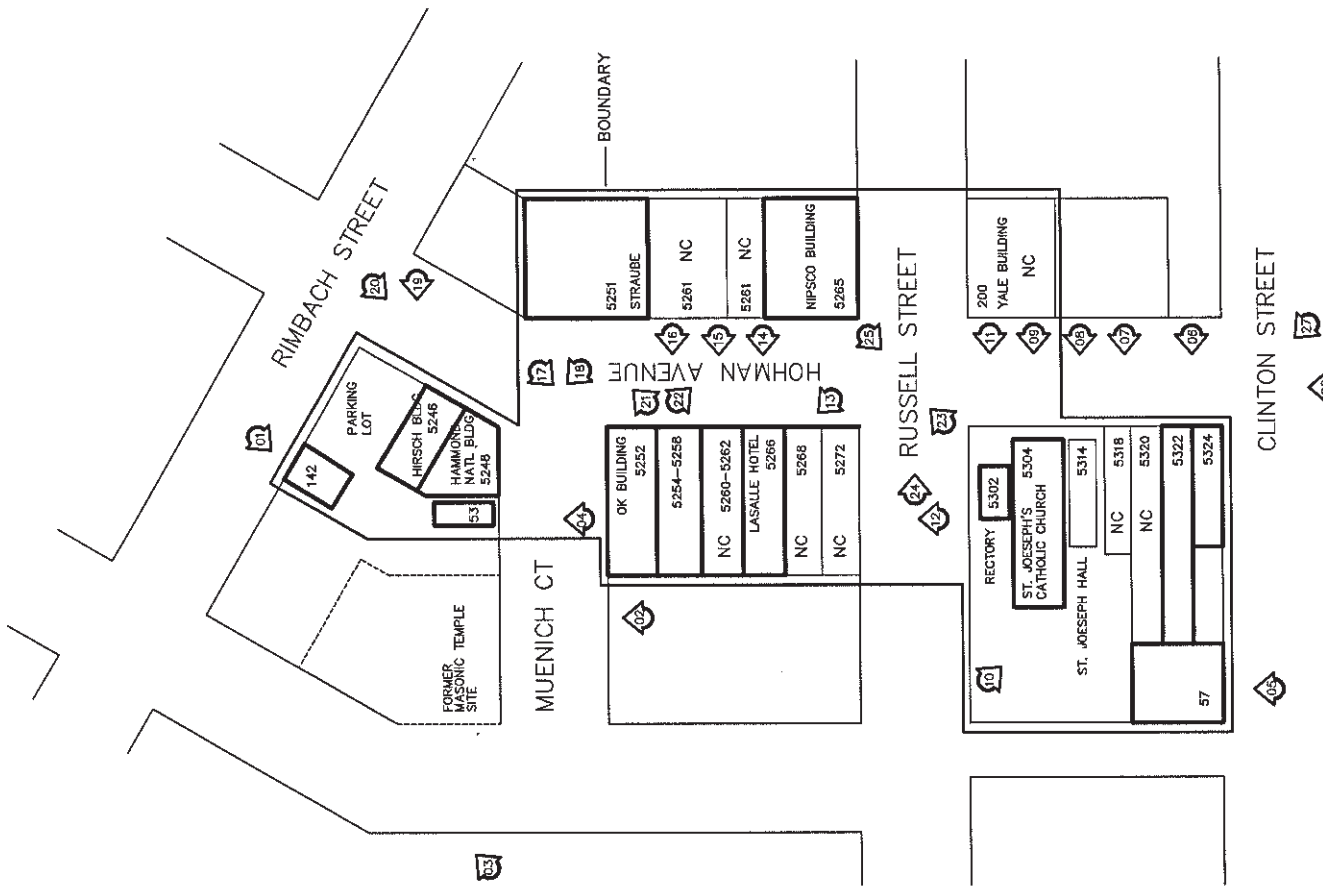
**10. Geographic Data**

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning on the south side of Rimbach Street, at the northwest corner of 142 Rimbach Street, follow a line southeasterly to the southwest corner of Rimbach Street and Hohman Avenue. Turn southwest and continue in a line southwesterly to a point of intersection with a line drawn west from the north property line of 5251 Hohman Avenue. Turn east and follow a line east to the northeast corner of 5257 Hohman Avenue. Turn south and continue in a line south, crossing Russell Street, to the southeast corner of the building at 200 Russell Street. Turn west and follow a line to the west side of Hohman Avenue. Turn south and follow a line to the northwest corner of Hohman Avenue and Clinton Street. Turn west and follow a line to the east side of the alley on the west side of the building at 57 Clinton Street. Turn north and follow a line to the south side of Russell Street. Turn east and follow a line to a point of intersection with a line drawn south from the west side of the building at 5272 Hohman Avenue. Turn north and continue in a line north to the south side of Muenich Court. Turn east and follow a line to the point of intersection from a line drawn from the west property line of 53 Muenich Court. Turn north and follow a line with the west boundary of 53 Muenich Court to the southwest corner of 142 Rimbach Street. Turn northeast and follow a line with the west boundary of 142 Rimbach Street to the south side of Rimbach Street, or the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is justified because within the described boundary are located the highest concentration of contributing buildings for the stated period of significance, including supporting structures to the development of the downtown area of the City of Hammond. These structures, including the Saint Joseph's Church properties, and duplex, along with the commercial structures complete a unified picture of development and architectural styles during the period of significance. The boundary has been recommended and approved by the Hammond Historic Preservation review board.



Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District  
 National Register of Historic Places sketch map

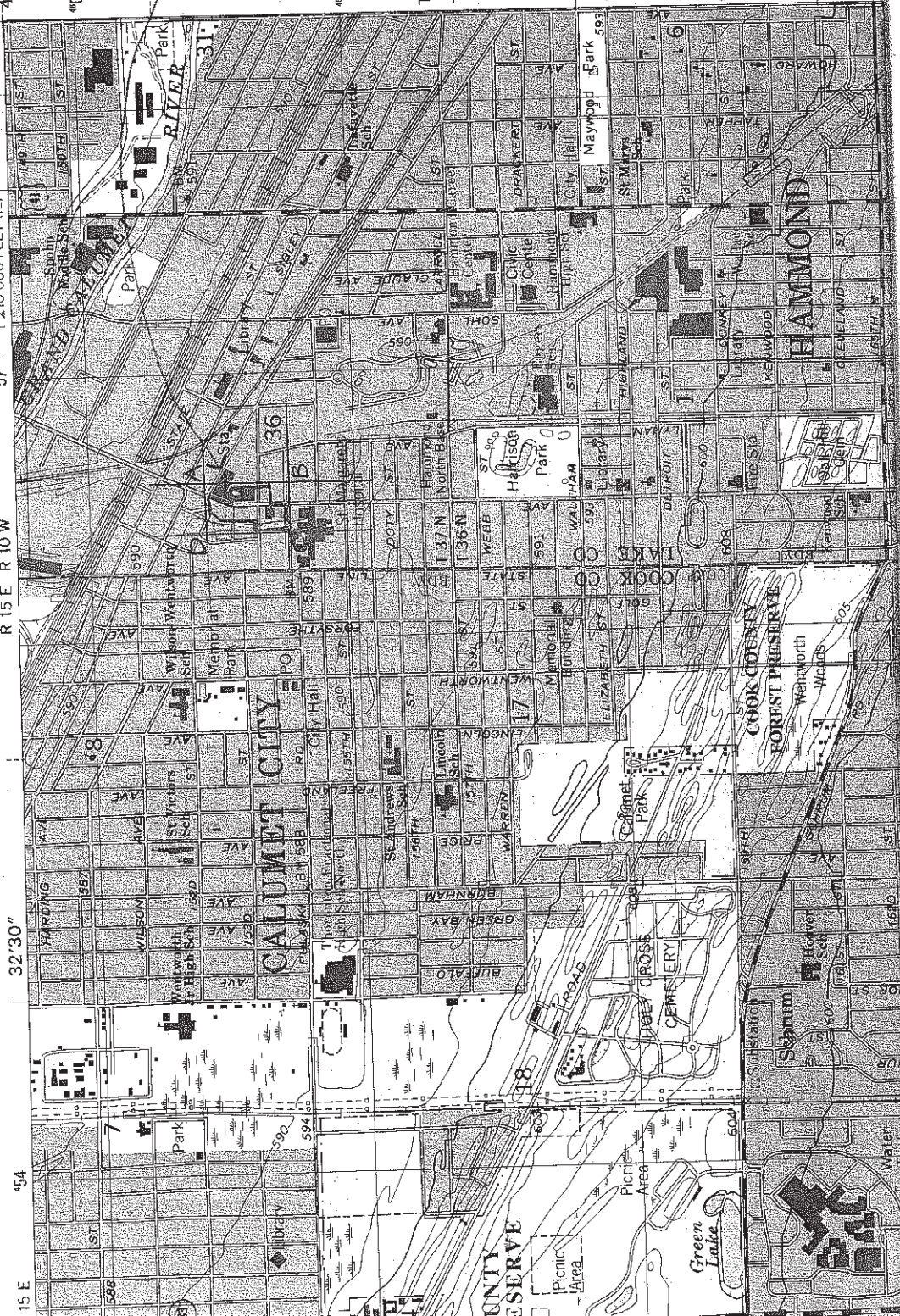
City of Hammond, IN  
 Lake County  
 North  
 [Symbol] = photographs  
 NC = non-contributing resources

**CALUMET CITY QUADRANGLE**  
**ILLINOIS-INDIANA**  
**7.5-MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)**

R 10 W R 9 W 87°30' 41°37'30"  
 R 15 E R 10 W 32°30' 58' 1' 210 000 FEET (ILL.)

*JOHNSON AVENUE  
 COMMERCIAL HISTORIC  
 DISTRICT  
 HAMMONDI IN  
 LAKE CO.*

1800 000 FEET (ILL.)  
 #06  
 A 456608 4607574  
 B 456575 4607260  
 C 456385 4607268  
 D 456413 4607576



#05