

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 Winchester Courthouse Square HD
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by North St., & the alleys located to the east of Main St not for publication
city or town Winchester vicinity
state Indiana code IN county Randolph code 135 zip code 47394

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

[Signature] 11/21/01
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:) _____	_____	_____

Winchester Courthouse Square HD
Name of Property

Randolph 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
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
52	14	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
10	0	objects
62	14	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)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Fire Station
GOVERNMENT: Business
EDUCATION: Library
SOCIAL: Meeting Hall
RECREATION/CULTURE: Monument/Marker
DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Fire Station
GOVERNMENT: Business
EDUCATION: Library
SOCIAL: Meeting Hall
RECREATION/CULTURE: Monument/Marker
DOMESTIC: Multiple Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate
LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque
19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Classical Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
walls BRICK
STONE: Limestone
roof ASPHALT
other WOOD
METAL: cast iron

Narrative Description

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

Winchester Courthouse Square HD
Name of Property

Randolph IN
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

ART

Period of Significance

1875-1950

Significant Dates

1875

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Johnson, I.C., Taft, Lored; Wetmore, James
Gettinger, W.H.

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Ratio Architects, Inc.

Winchester Courthouse Square HD
Name of Property

Randolph IN
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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 14 acres approx.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	672800	4448780	3	16	672800	4448920
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	16	672520	4448920	4	16	672520	4448780

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 Julie Zent/Graduate Architect/Historic Preservation Specialist

organization Ratio Architects Inc. date 4/1/00

street & number Suite 100, 107 S. Pennsylvania St. telephone 317-633-4040

city or town Indianapolis state Indiana zip code 46204-3684

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

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

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1 Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District
name of property
Randolph County, Indiana
County and State

Narrative Description

The Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District (see District Map) encompasses the downtown commercial area. The grid street system defines the boundaries focusing around a central block containing the Randolph County Courthouse with eight surrounding commercial blocks. The district extends to the west down Franklin Street to include two more commercial buildings (Resources 13&14). It also expounds northeast to envelop three more commercial blocks (Resources 42-44, 52-57, 73) the Winchester Community Library (Resource 75) and Masonic Lodge (Resource 74). Indiana State Route 32 runs east/west through the district. There are seventy-six resources in the Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District featuring commercial, governmental, cultural and educational elements.

Commercial and governmental usage continues as the major functions since the inception of Winchester, itself. Few vacant buildings are found in the district. Also, the streetscape remains intact. Wide streets allow for angle parking throughout the district along with two lanes of traffic. Broad concrete sidewalks feature rhythmic plantings on the blocks surrounding the Courthouse Square. Integrity has been maintained through the retention of historic fabric, density, setbacks, massing, scale, height and materials. The overall masonry form of most buildings remains intact with the majority of alterations occurring to the fenestration or signage. The majority of the brick utilized in the district was locally manufactured¹ and many of the buildings feature a corbeled brick cornice (Photo13).

Various styles of architecture indicate different periods of construction. The centerpiece of the district is the Randolph County Courthouse (Resource 46) constructed in the Second Empire style popular between the years 1855-1885. The building has been highly altered but still exhibits the typical features of this style including projecting entry pavilions, quoining, hooded windows, a decorative cornice and beltcourses. The Italianate Style was popular from 1855-1890. Several buildings in the district sport the tall narrow arched windows with elaborated crowns and wide projecting cornices supported by brackets that are associated with the Italianate. Later Italianate buildings feature decorative moldings, dentils, upper story pilasters, beltcourses, flat lintels or cornice style window hoods and swag motifs. These decorative elements appeared in Winchester from 1880 to 1910. Other prevalent styles include Neo-Classical Revival and Art Deco, popular in the years 1895-1950 and 1920-1940, respectively.

¹ Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 159.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District
name of property
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County and State

Narrative Description

Washington Street – North Side

The contributing buildings on the north side of Washington Street (Photo 1) are in good condition. They retain their structural integrity and exhibit a modified version of their original appearance. The majority of the windows have been replaced or bricked in. However, the original openings remain intact. These buildings share many common characteristics adding a degree of uniformity to the district. Some of these similar elements include rock-faced limestone beltcourses, the use of brick and cast iron.

1. 122-124 (NC) Contemporary Commercial c.1990

The Randolph County Bank is a one-story square plan building composed of brick with limestone sills and an implied cornice of stucco. A low-pitched hip standing-seam metal roof caps the building with smoked glass windows and doors. This building is in excellent condition and remains unaltered since its erection.

2. 108-114 (C) Commercial c. 1890

This two-story building (Photo 1) features a rectangular plan, brick walls and limestone belt courses. The building is divided into five unequal bays by pilasters, with eleven windows in total at the second floor level. Three storefronts contain three windows each. Two remaining sections indicate the location of second story access stairs. These are situated between the western two storefronts and on the eastern edge of the building. This building is in good condition.

The first floor level retains its original form although many alterations have occurred in regard to materials. The storefronts have been updated with new signage and materials. The fluted cast iron pilasters remain. Ornamental floor tiles have endured in front of the 108 Washington Street address. The words "Bates and Taylor" have been laid out under a wood-shake awning reminiscent of the drug store that once occupied the space during the first third of the twentieth century.

The second floor level features one-over-one windows topped with decorative brick round-arches and a limestone beltcourse connects the windows at the springline. The pilasters punctuate a continuous limestone sill. Four of the original windows remain on the eastern portion of the building. A brick arch forms a blind tympanum with decorative carved panel in these four windows. A parapet wall rises

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Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District
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Narrative Description

above the second story with a limestone beltcourse indicating the change in levels. Protruding rectangular brick panels align with the windows below. Limestone coping tops the building.

3. 100-106 (C)

Commercial

c.1890

This corner building (Photo 1) at first appears to be two distinctive buildings. However, historic photographs and similar features identify them as the same building. The building was bilaterally symmetrical before the removal of the third floor from the eastern half. The Masonic Lodge was once housed in this portion of the building. They moved to their current location (Resource 74) in 1944 after a fire destroyed their hall. The current owner of the east half has attempted to distinguish the property from the west by the two shades of white paint covering the brick. The building features a rectangular plan, brick walls, rock-faced limestone beltcourses and a corbeled brick cornice. The building is divided into four storefronts. It is in fair condition.

The pedestrian level remains unaltered in regard to the overall configuration. However, the materials and signage have been updated. Fluted cast iron pilasters flank central doors existing between the first/second storefronts and the third/fourth. Each door retains its original transom. The eastern-most storefront features wide limestone pilasters and a limestone base. This differs from the brick and cast iron assemblies found on the other three storefronts. The majority of the first floor windows on the east side of the building are bricked in.

The second floor fenestration lies between two limestone beltcourses. The original windows no longer remain. The initial arrangement consisted of two outer bays, each of three windows, flanking central windows. This arrangement is repeated on each half. Replacement one-over-one windows with transoms have been used except for in the east bay of the west half. Here, vinyl siding fills the original opening. Two small one-over-one windows are situated in this area. The transoms on the western half of the building are filled with plywood. The original openings remain intact with decorative mullions falling between the windows on this half of the building.

The western third floor portion sports two large limestone round-arches both are bricked in. A centrally located window is also bricked in. Decorative corbeled brick divides the third floor level from the parapet above.

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Section 7 Page 4 Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District
name of property
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Narrative Description

4. 113 (NC) Contemporary

This one-story building has three large garage doors and a shallow gable roof. The exterior is clad in brick on the bottom with vertical metal sheathing above. Due to its low height and setback from the street, this non-contributing building does not detract from the district's overall appearance. The building is in excellent condition.

Washington Street – South Side

The south side of Washington Street includes the Courthouse Square. Therefore, the majority of the resources are in the form of monuments or markers (Resources 5-10); save for two commercial buildings (Resources 11-12) on the east side of Main Street, one of which is a converted residence.

5. The Spirit of the Doughboy (C) Cultural Monument 1928

This monument (Photo 2) was sculpted by E.M. Viquesney to honor Randolph County veterans of the World War I. A bronze figure of an infantryman raising his fist in defiance stands atop a granite base. Three bronze plaques are affixed to the base commemorating the sacrifice of the men who fought. The Winchester Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is credited with obtaining this sculpture, which were mass-produced in the 1920's.² The monument remains in excellent condition and has not been altered since its erection.

6. Lamp of Freedom (C) Cultural Monument c.1950

Two metal lamps rest atop a limestone block base. A functional lantern sits behind a metal sculpture of an old oil lamp. Carved into the base reads the quote: *Behold Friend - You Are on Hallowed Ground, For Here Burns Freedom's Holy Light*. The monument is in excellent condition and has not been altered since its erection save for the replacement of the gas-burning light with incandescent lights.

² Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 391.

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Section 7 Page 5 Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District
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Narrative Description

7. Randolph County Marker (C) Cultural Monument

This bronze plaque affixed to a limestone base is located to the north of the Soldiers & Sailors Monument (Resource 9). The plaque offers an account of the history of Randolph County with a focus on Winchester as the County Seat. The monument is in good condition.

8. Soldiers & Sailors (C) Cultural Monument 1892

The monument (Photos 3) sculpted by Lorado Taft followed his standard format of "a column surmounted by a standing figure . . . with four figures at the base, each representing one of the branches of the military service and . . . a battle scene around the base of the column."³ The monument is comprised of granite, limestone and bronze. It remains in excellent condition although minor alterations to its appearance have occurred over the years.

9. Lorado Taft Marker (C) Cultural Monument c.1936

This bronze plaque affixed to a limestone base is located to the east of the Soldiers & Sailors Monument (Resource 9). The plaque reads: *Lorado Taft 1860-1936. World Renowned American Sculptor of the bronze figures on this monument was educated in Paris. His sculpture is displayed at Gettysburg and prominent museums. This monument dedicated July 21, 1892, is one of his finest works.* The monument is in good condition.

10. School Consolidation Marker (C) Cultural Monument

This bronze plaque affixed to a limestone base is located to the south of the Soldiers & Sailors Monument (Resource 9). The plaque reads: *Randolph County: First in the nation with all rural consolidated high schools. Lee L. Driver, School Superintendent* followed by the names of 18 high schools. The monument is in good condition.

³ Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 6.

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Section 7 Page 6 Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District
name of property
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Narrative Description

11. 112 (C) Italianate Commercial 1907

This two-story building features a rectangular plan, limestone foundation, brick walls and cast iron storefront. The building is divided into three recognizable storefronts with nine second-story windows. The two eastern storefronts consist of three second-story windows each. A second floor access stair with second-story window above divides the western storefront that only has two second floor windows. The building is in good condition.

The first floor level retains its original configuration with cast iron storefronts. The majority of the transom windows have been infilled and painted to match the façade. New signage and inappropriate doors demonstrate the desire to update the building. The second story windows have been replaced with one-over-one units. Limestone sills and cast iron cornice-style hoods remain. A low-pitched gable roof tops the building with five visible chimneys.

12. 114 (C) Colonial Revival Residential c.1910

This two-story building does not promote the typical commercial façade, but does maintain the district characteristics by continuing the street frontage with similar setbacks, materials, massing and height. It has a rectangular plan, limestone foundation and brick walls that are found so often in the district. This building is currently utilized for commercial uses and is in good condition.

The façade is broken up into three bays with a central recessed door. Five replacement one-over-one windows with limestone lintels and sills surround the round-arched limestone entry. A bracketed metal cornice caps the austere building.

Franklin Street – North Side

The Courthouse Square contains three of the seven resources on the north side of Franklin Street. These are in the form of monuments or markers (Resources 17-19). The four commercial buildings contribute to the district by conforming to the composition of the streetscape in regard to scale, setbacks, massing, height and usage.

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Narrative Description

13. 224 (C) Commercial c. 1940

This sober one-story building (Photo 5) maintains street frontage of the district. It has a rectangular plan; brick walls and limestone details. The front façade contains four one-over-one windows with limestone sills. Two doors are located at the far ends of the building. A centrally located wood sign is situated under the metal coping. The building is in good condition and linked to the adjacent building (Resource 14) by a one-story brick connector.

14. 222 (C) Residential c. 1920

This two-story building (Photo 5) features a rectangular plan and brick walls. The first floor contains three doors and two one-over-one windows in an alternating pattern. Non-original shutters are affixed to each window. The second floor has four one-over-one windows each shielded by an awning. Each of the windows features a brick header lintel and sill. The building capped by metal coping, now houses a commercial enterprise and is in good condition.

15. 214 (NC) Residential c. 1925

This two-story building has a rectangular plan, brick walls and wood-shake shingles. The brick traverses the first floor level with two doors located at opposite ends of the building. The second story level has an implied mansard roof with four six-over-six windows. Horizontal wood siding forms a cornice with brackets supporting the gutter system. This building is in good condition and serves to continue the streetscape in regard to setback, materials, massing and height.

16. 210 (NC) Commercial c. 1945

This one-story building has a rectangular plan, vertical wood siding and an asphalt shed-roof. The building has the appearance of a double-pen house with two doors centered on each half. Paired one-over-one windows flank each door, except for the western most set of windows which is a trio of casement units. All of the openings possess a simple wood surround. This building is in good condition and also serves to continue the streetscape in regard to setback.

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Section 7 Page 8 Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District
name of property
Randolph County, Indiana
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Narrative Description

17. Old "44" (C) Cultural Monument c.1890

This monument is a bronze cannon set upon a concrete foundation with the words *Old "44"* inscribed in the base. The Civil War cannon was originally utilized by Captain Wright and the "Little 44" artillery outfit.⁴ Phelps, Parker and Company of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania manufactured the weapon in 1863.⁵ Members of the Winchester Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) decided that a cannon was needed in for parades, political campaigns and other patriotic celebrations. It was purchased from an Army Surplus Store in Chicago over one hundred years ago.⁶ This beloved monument remains in fair condition in the Courthouse Square.

18. Courthouse Bell (C) Cultural Monument 1852

This bell once hung in the Courthouse Tower. It was removed in 1954 when the upper portion of the Courthouse was removed. M.C. Shane and Company of Baltimore, Maryland manufactured the bell. The Randolph County Historical Society placed the bell on the Courthouse Square in 1956.⁷ This monument remains in excellent condition.

19. Revolutionary War Plaque (C) Cultural Monument 1987

This bronze plaque affixed to a large boulder rests to the south of the Courthouse Bell (Resource 18). The plaque reads *In Memory of Randolph County's Pioneer Revolutionary Soldiers buried in Unmarked Graves*. The efforts of the Winchester Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Randolph County Pioneer Society made this monument a reality.⁸ This monument is in excellent condition.

⁴ Joe Hamilton, editor. "Randolph's Civil War Monument of New Interest in Centennial Year." *Randolph County Historical Review* vol. 1, no. 3 (February.1961): 4.

⁵ Wayne Guthrie. "Ringside in Hoosierland." *Indianapolis News* (13.October.1949): 12.

⁶ Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 33.

⁷ "Clock Bell Project Completed." *Muncie Star* (22.February.1956).

⁸ Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 391.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 9 Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District
name of property
Randolph County, Indiana
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Narrative Description

Franklin Street – South Side

The buildings on the south side of Franklin Street (Photos 6-7) are in good condition. They retain their structural integrity and exhibit a modified version of their original appearance. These buildings share many common characteristics adding a degree of uniformity to the district. Some of these similar elements include rock-faced limestone beltcourses, brick, and the use of cast iron on the storefront.

20. 215 (NC) Commercial c.1920

This one-story building has a rectangular plan, buff-brick walls and a ceramic tile front façade. The storefront has a central recessed entry with plate-glass windows flanking it. An aluminum band divides the building into two horizontal halves. The upper half contains the words: *Ohio Valley Gas Corporation* articulated in the ceramic tile. A portion of the original brick building is visible at the northwest corner. The west elevation is sheathed in corrugated metal. The building is in good condition.

21. 119-123 (C) Neo-Classical Revival Commercial c. 1910

This former drygoods store is a two-story corner building (Photo 6) with a rectangular plan, limestone foundation, buff brick walls, limestone detailing and corbeled brick cornice. All windows, save for those of the storefront, have been infilled with vinyl siding. However, the opening size has not been altered and the limestone lintels and sills remain intact. This building is in good condition.

The storefront has been altered in regard to materials and signage, although the original configuration remains. Vertical wood siding surrounds a pair of central recessed doors with a second floor access door on the eastern edge of the building. Plate-glass windows angle out front the doors to confront the street edge. A broad band of plywood conceals decorative brick and limestone banding above the first floor fenestration. The east elevation features eleven window openings.

The second level has six window openings on the north elevation and thirteen on the west side. The cornice is a combination of limestone coping, corbeled brick and rectangular inset panels aligning with the fenestration.

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Section 7 Page 10 Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District
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Narrative Description

22. 117 (C) Romanesque Revival Commercial 1883

This building (Photo 8) is the former location of the W.E. Miller Department Store. The three-story building features a rectangular plan, brick walls, cast iron storefront and corbeled brick cornice. Bilateral symmetry dominates the façade where window trios flank the central bay. The building originally had only two-stories with a third being added on circa 1910. The building remains in good condition.

The cast iron storefront remains intact featuring decorative columns and cornice featuring a rectangular motif. The tile entry retains the Miller name. Only the recessed central doors and plate-glass windows with transoms have been replaced. The upper levels exhibit three windows on either side of the central bay surrounded by brick pilasters. Segmental-arched brick lintels top the fenestration with limestone sills below. Cast iron muntins, similar in design to the first floor columns, separate the windows. The windows are original to the building, however, many of them have been infilled with plywood. A decorative brick banding spans the building at the second floor level. Limestone coping caps the building with a corbeled brick cornice below.

23. 115 (C) Romanesque Revival Commercial c.1885

This three-story building (Photo 8) was also part of the Miller chain. The building has brick walls, terra cotta and limestone detailing. The building is in good condition.

The first floor displays an altered storefront to the original configuration. Plywood boards conceal transoms that would have aligned with those of the adjacent building (Resource 22). The outside cast iron columns remain intact. The upper levels feature a central pair of windows flanked by a single window on either side. Limestone lintels on the outside windows cap the second floor fenestration with a terra cotta segmental-arch above the central openings. The third floor fenestration has three terra cotta round-arched hoods. The windows have been infilled with plywood except for the decorative transoms that feature colored glass in small square-lights. An ornate terra cotta cornice tops the building.

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Section 7 Page 11 Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District
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Narrative Description

24. 113 (C) Commercial c.1905

This two-story building was designed to compliment the adjacent building (Resource 25). It features a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone detailing and beltcourses. The building (Photo 9) is in good condition.

The first floor storefront retains its original configuration although many of the elements have been replaced. The transom has been infilled with plywood and plate-glass windows remain intact flanking a recessed central door. The second level contains three replacement one-over-one windows with a continuous limestone sill and cornice-style limestone hoods. Three limestone beltcourses span the building at the second floor level. The building's height was elevated after its erection by the construction of a brick parapet wall above the original limestone coping.

25. 109-111 (C) "K"-Block Neo-Classical Revival Commercial c.1900

This two-story building (Photo 9) once housed a wallpaper and paint store. It has a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone detailing and beltcourses. This building coordinates with the adjacent building (Resource 24) in regard to materials and ornament. A later owner raised the height of the building by the construction of an infill brick parapet wall on either side of the pediment. The building is the one of the most recognizable buildings on the block and is in good condition.

The first floor level has remained intact retaining its cast iron columns, central second floor access doors and flanking storefronts. The transoms have been infilled with painted plywood. The doors and windows are original. The second floor level has five one-over-one replacement windows with transoms divided into three bays by brick pilasters ornamented with limestone plaques. The fenestration rests upon a continuous limestone sill and a limestone cornice-style hood tops each window. Three limestone beltcourses span the building. A central pediment in the parapet wall features an infilled Palladian window capped by a limestone lintel. The letter "K" formed of buff colored bricks appears in the arched portion with vents flanking it.

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26. 107 (C) Italianate Commercial c.1870

This three-story building (Photo 9) features a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone detailing and a corbeled brick cornice. Star shaped brick anchor bolts add to the ornamentation of this building. The building is in good condition.

The first floor storefront has been updated with contemporary materials although similar to other storefronts in the district; the configuration has not been altered. The door is located on the right, with a plate-glass window to the left. Also, a wood-shake shed-roof awning spans this building as well as the adjacent one (Resource 27). Plain brick pilasters divide the upper stories into four bays with a thick brick belt course between floor levels. The second level features three round-arched window openings with replacement windows. The coordinating windows of the third floor have retained their original four-over-four windows. All of these windows have a limestone sill and decorative brick round-arch lintel. The building is capped by a series of corbeled brick courses in various decorative patterns.

27. 105 (C) Italianate Commercial c.1880

This two-story building (Photo 7) has a rectangular plan, brick walls and limestone detailing. All detailing on this building is painted white. The building is in good condition.

A contemporary wood-shake shed-roof awning obscures the first façade. The awning also extends to the adjacent building (Resource 26). The storefront has been updated with a new plate-glass window on the left and door on the right. However, the overall configuration is intact. Three round-arched opening with limestone sills have decorative metal window hoods and elaborate keystones. A simple metal cornice supported by decorative brackets tops the building.

28. 103 (C) Italianate Commercial c.1880

This two-story building (Photo 7) features a rectangular plan, painted brick walls, limestone detailing and a corbeled brick cornice. Replacement materials do not detract from the building's integrity and it is in good condition.

A contemporary awning shades the first floor storefront. Plate-glass windows and central recessed door have been replaced, although the building's original configuration is still apparent. Three one-over-one

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replacement windows fill the round-arched second floor openings. Original limestone sills exist below the fenestration and new shutters flank the windows. An ornate corbeled brick cornice tops the building that has been painted white.

29. 101 (C) Italianate Commercial c.1880

This two-story building retains the majority of its original materials and is in excellent condition. The building (Photo 7) has a rectangular plan, brick walls and limestone detailing. Stucco applied over the brick has been articulated to give the appearance of stone construction. This is apparent along the first floor on the east elevation. Limestone window sills and ornamental diamonds plaques are dispersed along the facade.

The first floor storefront contains a plate-glass window on each elevation encased by one-story brick pilasters with limestone bases and capitals. Two entries are located on the north façade beneath a shed-roof awning. One-over-one windows parade down the east elevation terminated by a plate-glass window and door storefront. The second floor features one-over-one arched windows each with a decorative hood. The north façade has three windows while the east side has nine, each aligning with the first floor fenestration. The building is topped with a simple cornice held by decorative brackets.

30. 110 Hoosier Automobile Company (C) Art Deco Commercial 1918

This one-story building (Photo 10) began its career as an Automobile Showroom and is associated with the Davis Garage (Resource 72) located on Main Street. This simple building serves as an excellent example of the Art Deco style after World War I. It has a rectangular plan, limestone foundation and brick walls. The building retains all of its original materials, save for new plate-glass windows, and is in good condition

The façade is broken into three bays containing large plate-glass windows; the western most bay possesses a recessed entry. Painted transom windows exist over each bay. Limestone is found at the window sills, coping and detailing. The parapet wall features a central triangular pediment.

Ornamentation is simple and consists of buff-colored brick from the base to just above the windows; a darker red brick rises above this. Two plain pilasters are situated at the corners. A limestone band stretches across the building mid-window height that coordinates with limestone diamonds found on

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the façade and at the entry. Inscribed on a central limestone panel are the words *Hoosier Automobile Co. O.E. Davis 1918*.

Meridian Street – West Side

This street (Photo 11) faces the Courthouse Square with the contributing buildings in good condition. They have retained their structural integrity and offer a modified version of their original appearance. The non-contributing buildings (Resources 31, 32 & 40) are not individually significant. However, they perform an important function to the district's streetscape appearance. They maintain corners and/or define the edges of the district. The corners form essential visual connections and edges offer a tangible boundary terminations. These non-contributing elements thereby maintain the view sheds that define the commercial district.

31. 101-105 (NC) Commercial

This two-story building has a square plan. The first floor level is composed of either board-and-batten siding or storefronts between brick piers. The upper portion of the building is sheathed in aluminum siding with a metal sign suspended off the corner. The building is in good condition.

32. 100 (NC) Contemporary Commercial c.1975

This one-story bank building has a rectangular plan and concrete construction. Smoked glass curtain walls span areas between load-bearing concrete slabs. A drive-through teller is located on the south side of the building. The building is in excellent condition.

33. 108 (C) Late 19th Century Commercial c.1880

This two-story building (Photo 11) features a rectangular plan, brick walls and limestone details. The upper portion is painted off-white with a taupe color found on the details. The lower part of the building remains unpainted except for the columns. This former hardware store is in good condition.

The first floor façade is recessed behind three brick segmental-arches supported by four tall cast iron columns. The updated storefront is brick with two glass doors and one metal. The second floor level

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consists of three replacement one-over-one windows with limestone lintels and sills. A decorative brick rectangle protrudes from the parapet wall above which limestone coping caps the building.

34. 110-112 Pretlow Block (C) Italianate Commercial c.1900

This two-story building (Photo 12) formerly housed one of the many drug/grocery stores in the district. It has a rectangular plan, limestone foundation, brick walls, limestone detailing and an elaborate metal entablature. The upper portion is painted red with details articulated in a blue-green hue. This symmetrical building is in good condition.

The first floor storefronts have been updated and infilled with brick although the original outline remains. There are three doors in a central recessed bay. One-over-one replacement windows are situated on the slanted walls with large plate-glass windows parallel to the street. Vertical wood siding spans the space between the first and second levels with a large metal broken pediment affixed to the wood surface. An eagle proudly sits at the apex of the pediment.

The second floor level is broken into three bays divided by brick pilasters. Three one-over-one replacement windows exist in the outer bays with two in the center. All the windows have a limestone sill and a metal cornice-style hood. The hoods feature a swag motif. A row of corbeled brick indicates the start of the parapet wall that is crowned by a metal entablature. Scroll patterns appear in the architrave with brackets located in the frieze. The pilasters continue in metal with the central two rising above the simple cornice to form a rectangular projection in which the name of the building is inscribed.

35. 114 (NC) Commercial

This two-story building (Photo 11) has a rectangular plan and is sheathed in aluminum siding painted white. The first floor storefront has retained its original configuration with all new materials. Three one-over-one replacement second story windows appear smaller than what would have originally existed. Historic photographs indicate this building as once exhibiting an Italianate appearance. The building is in good condition.

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36. 116 (C) Italianate Commercial c.1875

This two-story building (Photo 11&13) features a rectangular plan, limestone foundation, brick walls, limestone detailing and a corbeled brick cornice. The building is in good condition.

The first floor storefront has been updated with contemporary materials. However, the two plate-glass window openings have retained their limestone sills. Two doors are located at either end of the façade. An asphalt shingle shed-roof awning shades the storefront. Four round-arch windows with limestone sills traverse the second floor level. Replacement two-over-two windows fill the openings with infill panels located in the arched portion. Decorative brick round-arches exist over each window. An entablature created from rows of corbeled brick caps the building.

37. 120 (C) Commercial c.1885

This three-story building (Photo 11) has been heavily altered with many window openings bricked-in or reduced in scale. A small central plaque above the third floor level reads *1910*. However, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps indicate that a building matching the current structure's characteristics has been located on the site since at least 1886. As this was a period of heavy construction in Winchester, it may be assumed that the building predates the plaque. The building has a rectangular plan, sandblasted brick walls and limestone detailing. It is in fair condition.

The first floor storefront retains its original configuration with all new materials. Double central doors are recessed with four flanking plate-glass storefront windows at the sidewalk's edge. The southern most storefront window is halved in size due to the existence of a second floor access door. Horizontal wood siding spans the distance between the first and second floors. The second floor has five replacement six-over-six windows with limestone sills. These windows appear to be a great deal smaller than the originals. All of the third floor windows are bricked in. The building has a central gable with flat-topped parapet walls flanking it. A metal cornice with finials tops the building.

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38. 122 (C) Italianate Commercial c. 1875

This corner two-story building (Photo 11) has a rectangular plan, limestone foundation, brick walls and limestone detailing. Replacement brick is apparent, as it has been poorly matched to the original. The building is in good condition.

The first floor storefront has been heavily altered with replacement one-over-one windows flanking a central door. A Colonial Revival door surround and lanterns have been applied to the building. The south elevation features two replacement one-over-one window units with limestone sills. The appearance of the brick indicates that the openings were once larger and two other openings have been bricked in completely. Three adjacent doors also are located on this façade. The outer two are situated in former window openings. The central door opening has been infilled with a smaller door.

The second-story features three one-over-one replacement windows with segmental brick arch lintels and limestone sills. The south elevation also has six windows of the same description aligning with the first floor fenestration. Second floor pilasters lead to a corbeled parapet with three circular attic vents articulated decorative brick panels. Atop of this is a bracketed metal cornice.

39. 200-202 Randolph Hotel (C) Neo-Classical Revival Residential c. 1910

This three-story building (Photo 14) features an L-shape, limestone foundation, brick walls, and Bedford limestone with metal and wood detailing. Currently apartments, it was stated to be one of the most prestigious hotels in the region, designed by architect W.H. Gettinger. One of the first buildings in Winchester to be lighted exclusively by electricity, it boasted numerous amenities not commonly found in this part of Indiana.⁹ The building is in excellent condition.

The corner building is stacked into three horizontal sections indicated by limestone beltcourses located at sill height. The first floor level brick has unfortunately been sandblasted. The south elevation is divided into five bays through the use of buttresses, with five bays also existing on the longer east elevation. The buttresses are elaborated with limestone blocks situated at sill and lintel height. All wood or metal elements on the building have been painted white to contrast with the red brick. The

⁹ Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 27-28.

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windows are all one-over-one replacement units. The majority of the transoms are infilled save for five on the east first floor elevation. Wood cornice-style hoods cap the fenestration unless otherwise noted. Corbeled brick located between each buttress tops the building with a continuous metal cornice rising above.

The south elevation pedestrian level features a glass and metal storefront on the west half with a central projecting round-arch entry and wood balustrade on the eastern portion. Trios of windows flank the main doorway. The right half of the first floor is infilled with vertical wood siding. Within this space there are three round-arch windows and a replacement door. An access ramp leads up to this door. Paired windows are located on the second and third levels above the main entry. Six single windows are found on second level with five on the third floor level. The fenestration aligns on each story.

The east elevation also sports a central projecting round-arch entry. This entry is smaller in scale than its coordinating element on the south façade. Two sets of paired windows are located closest to the corner with the remaining five windows being single units. A secondary door is also located on the northern portion of this elevation. Paired windows with two round-arch limestone lintels exist on the second and third stories above the entry. Eight single windows are found on both the second and third levels. Like the south elevation, the fenestration aligns on each story.

40. 216 (NC)

Commercial

c.1950

This two-story building has a square plan, concrete block walls and concrete tracery. The front façade consists of a recessed storefront with large plate-glass windows covered by a metal canopy. The upper portion of the building is divided into three square panels each filled with an unusual assembly of decorative concrete blocks. This building terminates the southern boundary of the district by continuing the street frontage with similar setbacks, massing and height. It is in fair condition, however, work to renovate the building is currently in progress.

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Meridian Street – East Side

The Post Office (Resource 41) is the only building that fronts the east side of Meridian. The rest of the streetscape is maintained by side elevations or the Courthouse Square.

41. 130 Post Office (C) Neo-Classical Revival Governmental 1932

This one-story building (Photo 15) bears a striking resemblance to many a Post Office in Indiana, thus indicating a standardization of design in federally owned buildings. It has a rectangular plan, limestone walls and an asphalt roof. The building has symmetrical façades with visible cellar windows aligning with the first floor fenestration. A projecting band of limestone is located over the windows above which the wall continues for a short distance before the low-pitched hip roof begins. Decorative dentils are located above each set of windows and a shell pattern is found in the front door surround. Designed by James A. Wetmore, this building is in good condition.

The west elevation consists of a symmetrical façade with replacement double doors. A series of steps lead to the entry with flanking bronze light poles. Six original metal-frame window units are dispersed equally on either side of the doors. The windows are paired six-over-six with two four-light transoms above. Each window has a limestone sill. Fluted limestone pilasters exist between each element of fenestration. The words *United States Post Office* are inscribed in the stone over the entry. The north and south façade each contain three windows matching the description given above. The east elevation features five bays and a central loading dock with a metal roof.

Main Street – West Side

This streetscape contains some of the most significant buildings in the district including the Randolph County Courthouse (Resource 46). The northern end features three large-scale buildings (Resources 42, 43 & 45) that exemplify the opulence of Winchester in its Golden Era. These buildings have since suffered the deterioration of time. However, their grandeur is still evident. The southern end of this street contains small less significant buildings (Resources 48-51) that serve to maintain the streetscape in regard to setbacks, scale, massing and height.

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42. 129 I.O.O.F. Hall (C) Italianate Commercial c.1875

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Number 121 built and occupied this three-story corner building (Photo 16&17) until mid-twentieth century. The first floor level has always been dedicated to retail, a tradition that continues today. The building has a rectangular plan, limestone foundation, brick walls and a metal cornice. The first floor level has been painted brown with the top two stories in white. A simple metal cornice with corner finials divides the first and second floors. The southern section of this metal cornice is missing. One-over-one windows are found on the second floor while all of the third floor windows are infilled with plywood. The second floor windows feature segmental brick arches while the third floor windows are grouped in sets of two or three with large multi-coursed segmental arches located above. The third story blind arches on the west elevation maintain decorative brick in the form of chevrons and a central oculus. A decorative brick band separates the third and second stories. An elaborate metal cornice caps the building where the brick pilasters are continued in the form of ornate brackets that terminate above the roofline. A corbeled table arcade formed by brackets supports a simple cornice. The building is in fair condition.

The west façade is broken into four bays by brick pilasters on the upper levels; these are translated into support poles at the pedestrian level. The recessed wood storefronts remain mostly intact with few alterations such as new signage and doors. The second and third levels contain three windows in each bay except for the second bay from the right that only has one window. This indicates the upper level access door and also provides a focal point where a plaque reading *IOOF no. 121* is affixed to the wall above the third story.

The north elevation is divided into seven bays by brick pilasters each containing two windows on the upper levels. The first floor level presents a blank brick wall with four small windows puncturing the surface. These windows feature a segmental brick arch with a limestone sill. Two doors are located at the eastern end of the building.

43. 127 Kizer Block (C) Italianate Commercial 1894

The Kizer Block was constructed during the Gas Boom. It features large uninterrupted square footage that can accommodate a multitude of commercial functions and it has. Over the years, the Kizer Block has housed everything from the Post Office to a grocery store to an automobile showroom to apartments. This two-story building (Photo17) has a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone detailing,

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metal cornice and corbeled brick. Second floor windows are visible on the south elevation due to the one-story adjacent building (Resource 44). There are six one-over-one replacement windows and two six-over-six windows, each with a limestone sill. This symmetrical building is in good condition.

The pedestrian level features two storefronts flanking a central recessed area with three doors, the centermost providing second floor access. Many of the original features remain intact including the cast iron pilasters and overall configuration. A limestone band separates the first and second levels. Eight original one-over-one windows each with a transom rest upon a continuous rock-faced limestone sill. The fenestration is broken into three bays by brick pilasters. Decorative limestone blocks with inscribed rosettes are located at the base of each pilaster. Three rock-faced limestone beltcourses traverse the building, one at mid-window height, one at lintel level and one above that. Between the upper two beltcourses limestone infilled blocks are situated aligning with the windows below. A row of corbeled brick indicates the start of the parapet wall. An elaborate metal cornice with two rows of dentils features a centerpiece rising above the roofline on two ornate capitals that support a fan motif within a segmental pediment. A rectangular panel in this region reads *W.D. Kizer, 1894*.

44. 117 (NC) Commercial c.1950

This small one-story building features an L-shape, concrete foundation, limestone and brick walls. The west elevation exhibits an irregularly coursed limestone façade with large plate-glass windows and limestone sill. A single door exists on the southern end of this elevation. The limestone turns the corner to the north elevation, containing one window. The rest of the exterior walls are brick. Limestone coping caps the building. It is in good condition.

45. 109-113 (C) Neo-Classical Revival Commercial 1901

This four-story corner building (Photo 18) once housed a movie theatre and the Redman's Lodge occupied the third floor space until the mid-twentieth century. This building, like several other large commercial spaces came about during the Gas Boom. It has a rectangular plan, brick walls and limestone detailing. The second floor one-over-one windows are replacement units and have a limestone sill similar to the rest of the fenestration. All fenestration aligns from floor to floor. The building is in fair condition.

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The west elevation contains pedestrian level storefronts that have been altered with contemporary signage and materials. However, the original central doorway arch of rock-faced limestone remains. This element features a round-arch topped by rock-faced limestone voussoirs forming a Mannerist arch. The double doors are original and the transom is filled with plywood. Rusticated limestone pilasters indicate the location of the original storefronts; the northern two have been infilled with new material while the southern two are obscured under a shed-roof awning. Two central replacement plate-glass windows flanked by two new doors are located in this area.

The upper floor levels contain thirteen windows each. Limestone beltcourses indicate level changes. Over the central door, paired units followed by flanking trios of windows flank two smaller transomed windows with a dividing colonette. The southern end contains the extra bay with paired windows. The fourth floor adds a level of complexity with the addition of oculus and square windows. A brick round-arch with limestone keystone is situated over the central door at the fourth floor level. The limestone plaque in the tympanum reads *IMP O.R.M.* Above this on the parapet wall a second limestone plaque gives the construction date of the building as *1901*. Four swag motif inset panels flank the date.

The south elevation presents a less ornate appearance and features windows with segmental brick arch lintels. A large opening on the eastern edge is been bricked in. Three small windows are situated on the first floor level, with four windows each on the upper levels. A fire escape offers access from the third floor.

46. 100 Randolph County Courthouse (C) Second Empire Governmental 1875

This building is the Randolph County Courthouse (Photos 19-20) located in the central block of the district. The building rests in the only greenspace found within the district's boundaries. The Courthouse has undergone many changes since its erection the most significant being the elimination of the clock tower, turrets and mansard roof in 1954. The County Commissioners who ordered their removal deemed these features unsafe.¹⁰ The tower bell (Resource 18) rests in the corner of the Courthouse Square. This building is in excellent condition.

¹⁰ Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 8.

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The Courthouse has a complex beaux-arts inspired plan, rock-faced limestone foundation, brick walls and limestone detailing. The main entries are located on the east and west elevations. The building is bilaterally symmetrical. Limestone bands encircle the perimeter with a rock-faced watertable and elaborate beltcourse dividing the floor levels. The galvanized iron entablature caps the building featuring dentils and modillions (Photo 20). Limestone quoins are located at every corner.

The north and south facades are broken into five bays with seven windows on each level. The three projecting bays at the ends and in the middle each contain one window each while the recessed areas have two. The first floor one-over-one windows have limestone sills and an elaborate pediment hood except for the center window that sports a round-arch with vermiculated voussoirs. Two stacked replacement one-over-one windows form the second floor windows with a vent in-between. These windows feature limestone round-arch surrounds with vermiculated keystones.

The east and west facades are broken into five bays with a central door. A limestone entry portico on the east façade is supported by four columns and two pilasters features three-pointed arches. Access to the portico is gained via either of two sets of stairs running parallel with the façade. The replacement double doors are situated within a limestone round-arch with vermiculated voussoirs. There are four windows on the first floor and the five windows on the second floor matching the descriptions given above.

47. Army Tank (C) Cultural Monument 1958

A Korean War-era army tanks rests on concrete slab. A bronze plaque on the front reads *In Commemoration of the Veterans of World War II and Korean Conflict – Randolph County – Dedicated May 30, 1958*. The tank is in good condition.

48. 208 (C) Italianate Commercial c.1890

This two-story building (Photo 21) features a rectangular plan, painted brick walls, limestone details and a corbeled brick cornice. The brick has been painted blue with white details. The building is in fair condition.

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The first floor storefront has been altered with a new door and two flanking windows. As these elements are smaller than the previous, vinyl siding and plywood have been used to infill the original openings. Three one-over-one replacement windows are located at second floor level with limestone sills and segmental brick arch lintels. A corbeled brick cornice caps the building.

49. 210 (NC) Commercial c.1925

This one-story building (Photo 21) has a rectangular plan, concrete foundation and brick wall. The recessed storefront is comprised of wood with a wood-shake shed-roof awning above. Glass plate windows flank an original door. The building serves to maintain the streetscape at pedestrian level. This building is in good condition.

50. 212 (NC) Commercial c.1940

This two-story building (Photo 21) has a rectangular plan, concrete foundation, brick walls and asphalt roof. The first floor storefronts are altered. There are two doors and two multi-light windows with plywood infilling the original openings. A cloth awning is situated over the south storefront. Three twelve-over-one windows are located on the second floor with soldier brick sills and lintels. A decorative rectangular comprised of soldier bricks can be seen in the original parapet wall. The brick gable section with central vent was after the building's erection. The building is in good condition.

51. 214 (C) Commercial c. 1890

This corner building served as a small "Mom & Pop" grocery store until the 1930s with the shopkeepers most likely living in the apartment above the store. The building currently houses a law office. This corner building (Photo 21) has a rectangular plan, limestone foundation, painted wood walls and tin detailing. A two-story wood porch was likely added soon after its construction. The building is painted white with green porch details. The building is in good condition.

The first floor has a circa 1900 storefront with a central door and flanking plate-glass windows. The walls are board-and-batten wood siding. The second floor features two two-over-two windows with a central door entering on to the porch. All of the fenestration has plain wood surrounds. Horizontal and angled wood siding is located on the second floor level. The parapet wall is composed of tin molded into a stone appearance with a central diamond-shaped vent. A broad plain cornice tops the building.

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Main Street – East Side

This street contains five blocks of continuous commercial buildings facing the Courthouse Square. It is the longest span in the district with only one non-contributing resource (Resources 58). This building is important, as it is located on a corner and maintains the district's streetscape. This street also contains some of the oldest buildings in the district, many of which are excellent examples of the Italianate Commercial style. Overall, the buildings situated on the east side of Main Street are in good condition. Alterations are confined to window replacement and some minor storefront changes.

52. 220 (C) Italianate Commercial c.1880

This corner building (Photo 22) features a rectangular plan, painted brick walls limestone details and a corbeled brick cornice. The gray painted building is in fair condition.

The pedestrian level storefront has been altered with all new materials and signage. Vinyl siding spans the east façade with central door and flanking plate-glass windows above which a wood-shake shed-roof awning exists. The second floor contains three replacement one-over-one windows. The original openings are still apparent although smaller window units have been installed. Each opening has a limestone sill, round-arch brick lintel and awning. A corbeled brick cornice caps the parapet wall on the east façade.

The south elevation features five smaller replacement one-over-one windows at the second floor level. Each opening has a limestone sill and segmental arch brick lintel. The east portion of this elevation has a one-story built on addition that is sheathed in wood and vinyl siding. A shed roof entry projects from the façade.

53. 216-218 (C) Commercial c.1890

Originally built as commercial retail space, this building was converted into an automobile garage around 1914. It is one of many automobile related structures in the district and currently functions in conjunction with the adjacent building (Resource 54). This building (Photo 22) has a rectangular plan, concrete foundation, brick walls, limestone detailing and a metal cornice. The brick is painted gray with door and window details in blue. The building is in good condition.

The first floor is divided into halves, the north containing recessed plate-glass windows that reach the

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floor. The south half has a garage door next to a plate-glass window with an inset door. The second story level has seven one-over-one windows. Three are situated on the north half of the building and feature limestone sills and segmental arch brick lintels. The four on the west half also have limestone sills with flat arch rock-faced limestone lintels. A metal cornice with dentils and finials caps the building.

54. 210 (C)

Art Deco Commercial

c. 1920

Most likely built as an expansion to the adjacent building (Resource 53), this structure has always functioned as an automobile showroom, garage and office. This building (Photo 22) has a rectangular plan, concrete foundation, brick walls and limestone details. New signage reading *Winchester Chrysler Plymouth Dodge Jeep* has recently been affixed to the parapet wall. The building is in good condition.

The front façade has a series of large plate-glass display windows located between alternating entries. A garage door is located at the southern end. A row of soldier bricks forms a beltcourse above the fenestration. This element has been painting blue matching a decorative band of brick. A course of soldiers brick is below the limestone coping. The parapet wall steps up in the center of the façade. The south elevation features two garage doors, plate-glass windows and a door. An enamel and glass addition is centrally located with the right portion of the building being obscured by Resource 73.

55. 130-132 (C)

Italianate Commercial

c.1910

This three-story corner building (Photo 23) features an L-shape, limestone foundation, brick walls and limestone detailing. This building is divided into two distinct portions with a wider two-story portion on the north with the three-story section to the south. All of the upper story windows have been infilled with corrugated fiberglass. The building is in good condition.

The original configuration of the first floor has been maintained. However, the storefront contains contemporary materials. The north portion has four bays under a metal shed-roof awning. A replacement door is located in the third bay from the left with the other bays containing plate-glass windows. The southern storefront has been infilled with vinyl siding. The south storefront has two new six-over-six windows to the left and a recessed door to the right.

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The second floor level has four tall window openings with limestone sills and segmental brick arch lintels on the northern portion. The southern section has three shorter window openings of the same description on both second and third floor levels. A limestone plaque centered on the south parapet wall reads *Smith Bros.* Limestone coping caps the building with corbeled pilaster masses situated at the ends and middle.

The north elevation features six windows openings on the first level and five window openings on the second floor. A replacement door is located at the east end of the building. The original opening has been bricked in with the wider segmental brick arch still apparent above the door.

56. 128 (C) Italianate Commercial c.1890

This two-story building (Photo 23) originally accommodated the town undertaker, who later moved to the more austere building (Resource 55) next door. The building has a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone details and a corbeled brick cornice. The building is in good condition.

The first floor storefront retains its original configuration. However, replacement storefront windows have been installed. The façade is broken into three bays by four pilasters with exaggerated limestone capitals. The pilasters support a limestone lintel that spans the building. A set of double doors is situated on the right side of the building. These appear to be original. Two plate-glass windows are located in the bottom half of the other two bays with the upper half having plywood infill panels. The second floor has three window openings filled with corrugated fiberglass. Each window opening has a brick round-arch and limestone sill. An ornate series of corbeled tables runs above the windows, and a limestone coping caps the parapet wall.

57. 120 (C) Commercial c.1920

This corner two-story symmetrical building (Photo 23) features a rectangular plan, brown brick walls, limestone detailing and corrugated metal siding. The building is in good condition.

The pedestrian level features an altered storefront with recessed plate-glass windows flanking a central brick column. A broad limestone sill is located below the windows. Replacement doors are located at either end of the building. Vertical wood siding is located above the first floor fenestration featuring the company's name. Two rows of protruding soldier bricks flanked by limestone squares separate the

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stories. The second floor has four window openings with corrugated metal infill panels. Each opening features a limestone sill. A row of soldier bricks forms the perimeter of the windows with the corners highlighted by limestone squares. The top of the building is formed by a row of soldier bricks above which a limestone coping caps the parapet wall. The south side of the building features corrugated metal siding.

58. 112-114 (NC) Contemporary Commercial c.1965

This corner one-story building has a rectangular plan, limestone foundation, irregularly coursed limestone front façade, brick sidewalls and glass block clerestory windows. Two large plate-glass windows are situated at the right corner with an adjacent door. A second door is located further south on the façade. The glass block is on the east elevation only, a portion of this has been replaced /covered with vertical wood siding that extends a short distance on the south elevation. Projecting eaves are composed of red metal panels. The building is in good condition.

59. 108-110 (C) Italianate Commercial c. 1875

This two-story building (Photo 24) features a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone walls and detailing. The building has been painted a tan color with dark brown painted details. In the early nineteenth hundreds, a Vaudeville Theatre was situated in this building which remains in good condition.

The first floor has been completely altered. The storefront has been bricked in, and the central entry was enclosed in a protruding wood box. An asphalt shed-roof awning separates the first and second stories. Seven round-arch window openings are found on the second level. Each has a limestone sill and an ornate round-arch metal hood with elaborate keystone and springers. The windows have been infilled with corrugated fiberglass panels. The upper story walls are comprised of alternating courses of dressed and rock-faced limestone block. End wall pilasters feature decorative metal capitals. A decorative metal cornice with paired brackets caps the building.

60. 104 (C) Italianate Commercial c. 1875

This three-story building (Photo 24) features a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone detailing and a metal cornice. The building has been painted a taupe color with off-white details. The building is in fair condition.

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The storefront retains its original form, although many alterations have occurred in regard to materials. Transom windows and one of the central plate-glass windows contain plywood panels. A recessed door is located on the right and an upper story access door flush with the sidewalk is situated on the left. The second floor has three replacement one-over-one windows in round-arch openings with limestone sills and hoods. The third floor has three segmental arched window openings that have been infilled with corrugated fiberglass. These windows also feature limestone sill and hoods. A decorative metal cornice with paired brackets caps the building. The cornice is identical to the one on the adjacent building (Resource 59).

61. 102 (C) Italianate Commercial c.1875

This two-story building (Photo 24) has a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone details and a corbeled brick cornice. The entire building has been painted white. The building is in good condition.

The first floor storefront retains its corner pilasters, although a wood-shake shed-roof awning and new signage has been added in an attempt to modernize the building. Two plate-glass windows are located on the left of the slanted wall with a door on the right. The second floor contains three openings with smaller replacement one-over-one windows. Each has a limestone sill and round-arch hood that coordinate with those on the adjacent building (Resource 60). An ornate corbeled brick cornice tops the building.

62. 100 (C) Italianate Commercial c.1875

This two-story corner building (Photo 24) rectangular plan, painted brick walls and limestone detailing. The storefront has been dramatically altered. It has an angled bank of shop windows and a flat metal awning suspended above the storefront. The upper level on the east façade has been paneled with wood concealing all ornament and fenestration. However, the longer south elevation is reasonably intact. It features a corbeled brick cornice and one-over-one shorter replacement windows in multi-coursed brick round-arch openings with limestone sills on the second floor level. The building is in fair condition.

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63. 101-103 (C) Commercial 1897

This three-story corner (Photo 25) once housed Waltz Drugs and Soda Shop, a favorite locale for local teenagers after school. The building features a rectangular plan, brick walls and limestone details. All upper level window openings have a limestone sill with a segmental brick arch lintel. The building is in good condition.

The east façade has two storefronts that have been altered in regard to material and signage. The general storefront configuration remains the same, however, new brick fills the bottom half of the plate-glass window areas and an asphalt shed-roof awning spans the building as well as the adjacent one (Resource 64). A centered upper level access door is centrally located. Plate-glass windows and recessed store entries flank the door. On the second floor, there are six original one-over-one windows flanking a central six-light window with transom. This window appears to have once housed a door. The third floor features seven original one-over-one windows aligning with the second floor fenestration. The three-part curvilinear parapet wall is reminiscent of Spanish Mission architecture with a row of dentils below the coping. A centrally located circular patch of darker brick indicates the location of a former window or plaque. Historic photographs from the 1950s indicate that the circular item was removed before this time. A gable roof is located behind the parapet wall.

The north elevation contains a bricked-in entry on the first floor level to allow for a smaller door. The segmental brick arch is still visible above. A black band has been painted between the first and second floor levels. There are five windows of similar description on the second level and six on the third. The fenestration aligns from floor to floor.

64. 105-109 Hirsch-Hiatt Block(C) Commercial c.1910

This two-story building (Photo 25) features a rectangular plan, brick walls and limestone detailing. The building is broken into five bays on the upper level with three storefronts below an asphalt shed-roof awning continued from the adjacent building (Resource 63). The building is in good condition.

The first floor has been updated in regard to materials and signage. However, the original pattern remains unaltered with alternating recessed doors and plate-glass windows facing the street. The second floor level is symmetrical, with the number of windows diminishing from the center. Three windows are in the middle bay, followed by two then one. The replacement one-over-one windows

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have limestone sills and are topped by multi-coursed yellow brick flat arches. Brick pilasters with limestone bases and capitals create the five bays. A band of limestone spans the building over the windows indicating the beginning of the parapet wall. The building has limestone coping with decorative bands of protruding bricks below. Two limestone plaques are located in the second and fourth bay on the parapet. These read *Hirsch Block* and *Hiatt Block* from left to right, respectively.

65. 111 (C)

Commercial

c.1895

This two-story building (Photo 25) has a rectangular plan, yellow brick walls, limestone detailing and a corbeled brick cornice. This building is in good condition.

The storefront consists of two doors on the left with a plate-glass window to the right. A band of corrugated metal divides the levels. Three replacement one-over-one windows span the second floor. Each possesses a limestone lintel and sill. A decorative band of brown brick is located over the windows indicating the start of the parapet wall that is capped by brown brick corbeled cornice. Above the limestone coping, a centered rectangular projection rises between two brown brick piers.

66. 113 (C)

Colonial Revival Commercial

c.1900

This two-story building (Photo 26) is one of two structures in the district with Colonial Revival characteristics. This building does not possess the typical storefront façade. However, it coordinates with the adjacent buildings in regard to materials and scale. It has a rectangular plan, brick walls and metal cornice. The building is in good condition.

The first floor contains a central entry recessed behind a segmental brick arch with an articulated keystone. Plate-glass windows with white cornice-style surrounds flank the arch. The second floor has four six-over-six windows with brick sills and flat arch brick lintels. A white metal cornice is situated above the windows. The parapet wall contains four vents that align with the second floor fenestration. The outer two vents have been bricked in. Limestone coping caps the building.

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67. 115 (C) 20th Century Commercial 1924

A movie theatre once entertained the citizens of Winchester in this building that presently contains a jeweler and insurance broker. This two-story building (Photo 26) has a rectangular plan, brick walls and limestone details. An asphalt shingle shed-roof awning obscures the storefront. This building is in good condition.

The first floor storefront has a deeply recessed central entry with plate-glass windows slanting to meet the street. There are four second-story six-over-one windows with limestone sills and a continuous row of soldier bricks acting as lintels. Each window possesses a pair of non-original shutters. Decorative rectangular brick patterns with limestone accents and rows of soldier bricks are located in the area above the windows. A parapet wall is capped by limestone coping. A central rectangular pediment contains a circular limestone plaque that gives the construction date of the building.

68. 117 (C) 20th Century Commercial c.1925

This two-story building (Photo 26) features a rectangular plan, brick walls and limestone detailing. The building is in good condition.

The storefront features two sets of recessed double doors symmetrically placed. The façade has modest Arts & Crafts element and the glass storefront has been completely modernized with all new materials. The remainder of the wall is comprised of plate-glass windows. A wood band with signage is located above the first floor fenestration. A simple metal cornice rises above this. The second floor features three paired multi-light casement windows with limestone sills. Decorative blind brick round-arches cap the windows. The tympanum brick is laid in a basket-weave style and above this, four limestone diamond details are situated between the fenestration. Brick pilasters extend upward to the limestone coping that caps the building. Rows of soldier bricks add to the simple ornamentation of this building.

69. 119 (C) Italianate Commercial 1891

This two-story building (Photo 26&27) has a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone with wood and metal detailing. The upper level is painted green with details painted white. This building is in fair condition.

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The first floor storefront has been completely bricked in save for a small opening on the right side that contains a contemporary door. A metal cornice indicates the start of the second floor. There are four three-over-one windows; two center ones are paired flanked by the other two. The central window has a pedimented window hood with decorative corner blocks while flat cornice-style hoods with elaborate keystone and corner blocks are found above the other windows. Each window has a limestone sill. A decorative metal entablature tops the building, it includes brackets, raised panels and an open central pediment infilled with pressed metal diaper work. Pressed metal plaques below this reads *Davis Bros. 1891.*

70. 121 (C) Italianate Commercial 1888

The Knights of Pythias utilized the upper floors of this building in the late 19th and early 20th century. This three-story corner building (Photo 26) features a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone details and a metal cornice. All windows have limestone sills and brick arch lintels except those on the first floor north elevation. These have both limestone sills and lintels. A simple metal cornice elaborated by brackets tops the building. The building is in good condition.

The east façade storefront has been updated with Carrera glass and glassblock. The recessed door is located on the right portion of the façade. The second floor contains three one-over-one windows with segmental arches while the three third floor one-over-one windows have round-arches. This pattern is carried on to the north elevation that has ten third-story windows and ten second-story windows matching the corresponding descriptions given above. The north elevation first floor features four small windows followed by alternating doors and one-over-one windows with segmental arches. A fire escape is also located on the north façade.

71. 201-209 Davis Building (C) Art Deco Commercial 1927

This two-story corner building (Photo 28) features an L-shape, limestone foundation, yellow brick walls and limestone detailing. Limestone coping tops the building and decorative soldier bricks encapsulate every opening. Each of the six pedestrian level storefronts features a plate-glass window with recessed entry. There are four storefronts on the east elevation leaving two on the north. Metal awnings are situated over the second floor windows on the east elevation. The building remains in excellent condition with all of its storefronts intact.

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The east elevation features a balanced façade with eight second story windows flanking the middle bay. The center bay contains a second floor access door on the first floor, two four-over-one windows separated by a metal column on the second and a rectangular parapet pediment with a limestone plaque that reads *Davis 1927*. A blind brick round-arch is located over all of the second floor fenestration. A decorative herringbone brick pattern in the tympanum is found in all but the center window arch that contains a limestone plaque.

The north elevation has a similar appearance to that of the east. An oculus window is located above the right doorway on the first floor level. The center is indicated by the same elements as found on the east except for the limestone plaque. Six second floor windows flank the middle bay.

72. 211-215 Davis Garage(C)

Commercial

c.1900

This two-story building (Photo 29) is originally held a bowling alley but was later converted into a automobile garage. It was associated with the showroom that is located at 110 Franklin Street (Resource 30). The building has a rectangular plan, brick walls, limestone detailing and corbeled brick. It is divided into three bays by brick pilasters. The building is in good condition.

The pedestrian level used to consist of three garage door entries; these openings have since been infilled with new materials to contain storefronts. A door and plate-glass window is located in each bay. An asphalt shed-roof awning indicates the change in floor levels. The second floor has also been altered. The former window openings have been infilled with new windows surrounded by vinyl siding. A different window configuration is located in each bay. A limestone sill remains and a band of limestone is located over the openings. Limestone coping with a crenellation pattern caps the building with a corbeled brick cornice below.

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North Street – North Side

This street only contains two resources including the only house (Resource 74) in the district. The bungalow has become a significant element in the commercial district as it houses the Masonic Lodge, the location for numerous community meetings. In 1944, a fire on the north side of the square destroyed the original location of the Masonic Lodge (Resource 3). The members relocated into this large house on the east side.¹¹ The house is located on the fringe of the district and does not detract from the overall streetscape but aids in relating the library (Resource 75) to the district.

73. (C) 20th Century Commercial c.1920

This plain one-story building (Photo 30) features a rectangular plan, concrete foundation, brick walls and limestone detailing. The simple façade has a central opening with a new door and sidelights concealing the original recessed door. Two plate-glass windows exist to the left and right of the door. A garage door is located at the right end. Decorative brick patterns composed of soldier bricks forming a rectangle with square limestone corners are located above the fenestration. The parapet wall is topped by a limestone coping and features a raised parapet section that spans the middle three bays. This building is in good condition.

74. 125 Masonic Lodge (C) Craftsman Bungalow c.1925

This two-story bungalow (Photo 30) has a rectangular plan, limestone foundation, brick walls, stucco walls, limestone detailing and a metal roof. The fenestration features limestone sills and wood surrounds. Wood stickwork attempts to illustrate the building's structural system and oversized wood brackets support the overhanging eaves. The building is in good condition.

A deep porch featuring a brick half-wall is capped by limestone coping the first floor. Four piers support the red standing-seam metal roof, which has a centered gable. The columns feature simple corbeled brick and limestone capitals. Trios of craftsman windows flank the central door with sidelights. A central gable stucco dormer projects from the roofline and features two multi-light windows.

¹¹ Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 97.

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The east and west elevations feature brick on the lower level with stucco above. Most of the basement windows have been infilled with plywood. The east elevation has the majority of its windows infilled with either plywood or stucco while the west elevation windows remain unaltered. A decorative limestone plaque in the shape of a diamond within a cross is located in the gable on both elevations. The north elevation features a shed roof dormer.

East Street – West Side

The library, while not a commercial building, is the only resource located on this street. This building forms an important relationship to the commercial district as a tangible sign of Winchester's success. The former location of the Free Public Library was in a residence. However, through the persistence of many residents and a \$12,000 donation from Andrew Carnegie the Neo-Classical library was erected.¹²

75. 125 Winchester Community Library (C) Neo-Classical Revival

1906

This one-story building (Photo 31) sits on a raised basement and features a rectangular plan, limestone foundation, brick walls, copper gutters and a hipped standing seam metal roof. A limestone watertable separates the basement from first floor. A rectangle of header bricks with square limestone corners and a central limestone block is a common element on all facades. This decorative component is situated under all of the windows and also appears on the 1992 addition. Elmer Dunlap built the Carnegie Library, which is in excellent condition.

The east elevation features a symmetrical façade. A central entry bay projects from the elevation with steps rising to a set of double doors with decorative transom. A decorative limestone surround with a full entablature topped by an arched pediment encompasses the door. The word *Library* is inscribed into the limestone in a pediment with limestone located above the door. There are four paired one-over-one basement windows that align with the round-arched first floor windows. The first floor fenestration features limestone elements including the sill, keystone and springers and multi-coursed brick.

The north and south elevations are divided into three bays each with three round-arch windows located

¹² Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 180.

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in recessed sections. Paired one-over-one windows align with the first floor windows. The library board added a central entry pavilion on the north elevation at a later date. The pavilion features a curvilinear outline culminating to multi-light door flanked by Doric columns. A limestone entablature caps the pavilion.

In 1992, a 14,000 square foot addition was attached to the original building by a glass connector entry on the west side. The simple rectangular addition is composed of brick with limestone details that coordinate with the original library. The addition houses all library functions with the Carnegie Library being used as a public meeting space and storage.

Franklin Street – South Side

76. (NC) Commercial c.1960

This two-story building is easily overlooked as it is set far back from the street and abuts the residential section of Winchester. The building features a concrete block front façade with a single door located on the left side. A decorative zig-zag pattern is centrally located on this façade. The east elevation consists of brick walls and loading docks. The building is in good condition.

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Statement of Significance

The Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District meets National Register Criteria A and C. Winchester has been the governmental center of Randolph County since its founding in 1818. Railroads brought prosperity to Winchester and made the town the economic heart of the county. Although the town developed far beyond expectations, the original plat, a traditional square surrounded by a grid of streets, remains intact. The architecture of the courthouse square expresses the development of Winchester as the commercial and governmental center of the county. As merchants prospered, they replaced older frame buildings with finely detailed masonry commercial blocks. The county commissioners ordered the construction of the ornate courthouse (Resource 46) in 1875. The later addition of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument (Resource 8, Photo 3), sculpted by master artisan Lorado Taft, also gives distinction to the courthouse square. Despite the loss of and alterations to some buildings, newer additions maintain the massing, scale and setbacks of the older structures. Winchester retains the traditional image of an Indiana county seat.

Winchester was the first town established in Randolph County. Located near the center of the county, the County Commissioners designated it to be the county seat from its onset in 1818¹, the same year the county was formed. The town was laid out in 1819 by the county commissioners and a team of surveyors in a "backwoods fashion."² It is stated that when the small group was investigating the site, one of the surveyors stuck his staff in the ground and said "'Here shall be the northeast corner of the public square,' and there it was, and there it is."³ Winchester consists of a traditional public square encapsulated by a grid of streets named North, Washington, Franklin, South, West, Meridian, Main and East.⁴ The original plat of the town is included in the Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District (see District Map). The official record of the plat occurred in 1833 with the town being later incorporated in 1838.⁵

¹ *Founder's Day Celebration, Winchester, Indiana: 1818 - 1962. Official Souvenir Historical Booklet.*

Winchester, Indiana: Winchester's Founder's Day Association, July 1962, 7.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Tucker, E. *History of Randolph County with Illustrations and Biographical Sketched of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers.* Chicago, Illinois: A.L. Kingman, Lakeside Building 1882, 297.

⁵ Tucker, E. *History of Randolph County with Illustrations and Biographical Sketched of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers.* Chicago, Illinois: A.L. Kingman, Lakeside Building 1882, 298.

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The railroad was the major impetus that initiated Winchester's success as a business district. Economically, "... up to 1830, Winchester as a town, was not much of a success."⁶ "The growth of Winchester; though slow up to 1845 began to pick up with the coming of the railroad. Business began to improve, new houses were built, streets were made better and the entire attitude of its citizenship became more progressive."⁷

"In 1853, the first railroad, the Bellefontaine was completed through Winchester. Following its arrival, more light industries developed and grain elevators were built. However, it was not until the Civil War that Winchester experienced its greatest growth. By the end of the war, a 1865 plat map shows that the perimeter of the Courthouse Square was completely developed with commercial buildings."⁸ After the Civil War, a boom of construction occurred throughout the United States, with the railroad acting as the driving force.

In the subsequent years, Winchester accepted numerous arrangements to lay additional railroad lines.⁹ The Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railroad (Bee-Line Railroad) traveled east/west, while the Grand Rapids & Indiana Road (Shoo-Fly Railroad) took a north/south route.¹⁰ In 1889 the Bee-Line Railroad was incorporated into the Cleveland Cincinnati Chicago & St. Louis Railroad (Big Four) and in the 1930's the Big Four joined the New York Central system, thus increasing Winchester's reach. In the early 1900's, an interurban line connected Winchester to other local communities. This added to Winchester's commercial success, as people from small towns ventured to the large county seat to spend their hard-earned money and to partake in social activities not available

⁶ *Founder's Day Celebration, Winchester, Indiana: 1818 - 1962. Official Souvenir Historical Booklet.*
Winchester, Indiana: Winchester's Founder's Day Association, July 1962, 7.

⁷ Ared Maurice Murphy. "The Big Four Railroad in Indiana." *Indiana Magazine of History* vol. 21, no. 2 & 3 (June & September 1925):138.

⁸ *Randolph County Interim Report, Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory.* Indianapolis, Indiana: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, June 1998, 55.

⁹ Tucker, E. *History of Randolph County with Illustrations and Biographical Sketched of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers.* Chicago, Illinois: A.L. Kingman, Lakeside Building 1882, 301.

¹⁰ *Combined Atlas of Randolph County, Indiana Including 1865 Wall Map by C.A.O. McClellan and C.S. Warner; 1874 Atlas by Griffing, Stevenson and Company; 1909 Plat Book published by Northwest Publishing Company; and Historical Appendix Information from Early Gazetteers and Old Photographs and the 1876 Indiana Atlas.* Knightstown, Indiana: The Bookmark, 1980, 112.

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where they resided.

Winchester became a prime location for commerce offering low costs and efficient transportation. Due to the differing railroad companies and differing track widths, Winchester also became a transfer point for both goods and people. The trains traversing through Winchester allowed products to be transported to all points of the compass, be it north, south, east or west. Also, roads radiated out from Winchester linking it to the local surrounding communities. Trains offered residents access to a cornucopia of products previously not available. The railroad lines, in combination with the roads, significantly increased the standard of living in Winchester. The rail lines led to merchants to settling in Winchester, as commerce became a guaranteed and profitable practice. While the roads and interurban guaranteed a lucrative market base in Randolph County's largest city. Stores such as the W.E. Miller Department Store were no longer one-of-a-kind entities but chains. Miller had a total of thirty-one stores set up in the local region.¹¹ Also, businesses like Litschert Jewelry Store, 1879-1954 offered amenities not available elsewhere in Randolph County.¹²

The Gas Boom in the 1890s to 1900s contributed to Winchester's commercial success. This inexpensive fuel source led to the creation of many industries in the town such as Woodbury Glass Company and Overmyer Mould Company. Winchester did not have its own natural gas supply, but imported the fuel from nearby towns along the rail lines. After the short-lived gas supply was exhausted, local Winchester companies continued to flourish and keep the economy strong. This was unlike the many towns that relied on natural gas as their major source of income. The Woodbury Glass Company, since renamed Anchor Hocking, still plays an important role in Winchester's economy.

The Gas Boom led to an improved economy and subsequent escalation in construction. Many of the structures built between the years of 1890 and 1910 reflect an opulent interpretation of the Italianate and Neo-Classical styles. Two non-commerce oriented buildings in the Neo-Classical style, the Randolph Hotel (Resource 39, Photo 14) and Carnegie Library (Resource 75, Photo 31), were resultant of the superior economic market. Also, large "block" commercial structures appear at this time. These structures offer a variety of interior arrangements, as large single-function spaces may be divided into

¹¹ Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 91.

¹² *Ibid.*, 95.

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multiple areas. The Kizer Block (Resource 43, Photo17), Pretlow Block (Resource 34, Photo12), "K"-Block (Resources 24&25, Photo 9), Hirsch-Hiatt Block (Resource 64, Photo 25) and 109-113 Main Street (Resource 45, Photo 18) were all built during this time period and share similar characteristics in regard to materials, size, scale and ornament, often including a highly elaborated cornice.

Winchester embraced the advent of the automobile in the early twentieth century, incorporating various auto-related businesses into the downtown area. As the largest city in Randolph County, Winchester became the prime place for purchasing an automobile during this time period. Its central location aided to this as well as State Route 32, a major thoroughfare linking Winchester to both the east and the west. US Route 27, the major north/south link, formerly ran down Main Street until heavy traffic forced it to be rerouted just outside the city. Architecture was transformed as older structures were converted into garages and showrooms (Resource 43, 53, 55 & 72) while others were built anew specifically designed to cater to the car (Resources 30&54). Presently, only 210-216 Main Street (Resources 53&54, Photo 22) continues to function as a car dealership.

Public government-oriented buildings were constructed due to the success of the town. These include the public library (Resource 75, Photo 31) and United States Post Office (Resource 41, Photo 15). These two Neo-Classical Revival buildings, located on the fringe of the commercial district, represent a surplus in local government monies combined with federal or private funds that allowed for the construction of these impressive public structures. Andrew Carnegie donated \$12,000 for the construction of the library.¹³

The success of Winchester can be seen through population statistics. In 1870, the populace was 1,456. By the year 1876, approximately 2,500 people lived in the community. The Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District's period of significance began with an enormous increase in the number of inhabitants. This was a direct resultant of the increase in commerce brought in by the railroads, which led to an increase in construction utilizing superior materials. The Gas Boom era also denotes a rise in population. The 1890 census places approximately 3,850 persons in the Randolph county seat. This number increases to 4,500 by 1910. The 1920 census showed a slight drop in population, however, statistics generally increased at a steady pace after that time. Winchester retains its title as the commercial mecca of Randolph County. The United States Census Bureau shows that \$70 million in

¹³ Ibid., 180.

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retail sales occurred in the year of 1992, with a total population of 5,086,¹⁴

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Winchester, Indiana from the years of 1882 to 1947 illustrate a strong commercial base that has endured through the years. A survey of the businesses located in the district indicates that commerce has been continuous. Relatively few vacant buildings have existed in the district at any given time, a trend that continues today. This is exemplified by plans to inhabit empty structures with new businesses.

The Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District envelopes the downtown business sector and features a significant collection of late nineteenth and early twentieth century structures representing a period of economic growth brought about by the construction and influence of the railroad. The architecture of the district has maintained its integrity and offers a modified illustration of the past.

The district is made cohesive by the uniformity of materials, massing, height, setbacks, scale, density and usage. Abutting structures form continuous walls enclosing a central greenspace creating the commercial streetscape. The district is primarily composed of brick buildings reaching two/three stories in height with limestone or brick detailing (Photo 13). Cast iron was utilized as an inexpensive material to add ornamentation to a structure and can be found throughout the district (Photo 27). Shopkeepers have updated without substantially altering the overall feeling or spatial configuration of the buildings. The downtown continues to act as the central business sector with commercial operations continuing in nearly all of the resources. The formula of construction can be clearly distinguished from the surrounding residential areas in regard to density and building types.

The Courthouse Square has remained a public gathering space and the core for county governmental activity since the inception of Winchester. Two other courthouses existed before the current Second Empire structure (Resource 46, Photo 19) was built in 1875. The extant courthouse represents a period of prosperity created by the railroad. Its superb craftsmanship surpasses its predecessors. The first courthouse was a mere log structure built at a cost of \$254.¹⁵ The second was a plain square two-story brick building with a hipped roof and cupola. The current structure cost \$100,000 and was designed by

¹⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, United States Department of Commerce. *1992 Economic Census - Area Profile: Randolph County, Indiana*. <http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/92profiles/county/18135.TXT>. April 2000.

¹⁵ Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 8.

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J.C. Johnson of Ohio.¹⁶ By 19th century standards this was a large sum of money. Johnson imported limestone from Ohio and used fabricated galvanized iron in the cornice and coping (Photo 20), a cutting-edge technology for this time period.¹⁷

The Second Empire style was popular in Indiana from 1850 to 1885. It represented the pinnacle of taste associated with the leaders of culture, the French. Due to the oversized scale of the ornament, builders did not intend to use this style on small structures. The Courthouse is considered one of the prime examples of this style in Indiana, even though it has been drastically altered. County officials voted to remove the tower and mansard roof in 1954. Even with these missing elements, the Courthouse still commands a powerful presence as one of the oldest and grandest buildings in the district. This is also the only example of Second Empire styling in the district, also adding to its distinction.

The Italianate style is well represented in the district. These buildings are featured on all blocks surrounding the Courthouse Square. The Italianate style was popular between the years 1855 and 1890. "Italianate buildings were especially well-suited to commercial areas in crowded downtowns, where citizens could appreciate their showy detail."¹⁸ This time period reflects an increase in economy once again due to the introduction of the railroad. The wood frame buildings of early times gave way to more substantial structures constructed of brick, limestone and cast iron. The buildings located at 107, 105 and 101 Franklin Street (Resource 27-29, Photo 7) are an excellent example of this style retaining the majority of their original fabric. The Romanesque Revival Style was also popular during this time period and exhibits characteristics similar to those of the Italianate Style. The old W.E. Miller Department Store (Resource 22, Photo 8) is a superb example of this style. The buildings remains relatively unaltered.

The Neo-Classical Revival style was popular from 1895 to 1940. This style was commonly used for

¹⁶ *Combined Atlas of Randolph County, Indiana Including 1865 Wall Map by C.A.O. McClellan and C.S. Warner; 1874 Atlas by Griffing, Stevenson and Company; 1909 Plat Book published by Northwest Publishing Company; and Historical Appendix Information from Early Gazetteers and Old Photographs and the 1876 Indiana Atlas.* Knightstown, Indiana: The Bookmark, 1980,112.

¹⁷ Winchester Community Library, Geneology Division, Clipping Files: Business, Public Buildings, Winchester Community Library.

¹⁸ Paul C. Diebold, ed. *Historic Indiana: Indiana Properties Listed in the National Register of Historic Places 1999-2000.* Indianapolis, Indiana: State of Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, 1999, 66.

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government and public buildings. However, large commercial structures constructed during the Gas Boom also adopted this style (Resources 21, 25&45). The Neo-Classical characteristics present a more permanent and substantial appearance implying honesty and integrity. This is clearly illustrated with the three structures that exist on the fringe of the commercial realm. The Winchester Carnegie Library (Resource 75, Photo 31) was built in 1906 while the Randolph Hotel (Resource 39, Photo 14) was constructed in 1910 and the Post Office (Resource 41, Photo 15) appeared in 1932.

Continuing the timeline, Art Deco graces the scene coinciding with the advent of the automobile. Designers attempted to "reflect the needs and aspirations of 20th century society without relying on past styles, while retaining a decorative tendency."¹⁹ The Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District offers a restrained version of this style with its finest examples appearing on automobile related structures such as the former Hoosier Automobile Company (Resource 30, Photo 10) and the car dealership located at 210 Main Street (Resource 54, Photo 22).

A variety of structures do not exhibit the features of any one style and fall into the realm of commercial vernacular (Resources 2 -3, Photo 1). Local builders created sound, but conservative shops for local merchants. They often borrowed elements of high style buildings in unique combinations of ornamentation.

Contemporary structures also exist in the Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District. The continual construction in the district maintains the visual integrity, as the urban fabric remains a cohesive whole. The newer structures have respected the scale, massing and setbacks of the district whilst utilizing materials and characteristics that reflect the time in which they were built.

The Courthouse Square is the location for monuments, markers and public art in the town of Winchester. While not a one-of-a-kind, The Spirit of the Doughboy (Resource 5, Photo 2) illustrates the era of mass-production in the 1920's. E.M. Viquesney sculpted the original that led to a multitude of cast bronze figures.²⁰ The Spirit of the Doughboy can be seen on Courthouse lawns throughout the state of Indiana as well as the nation.

¹⁹ Ibid., 72.

²⁰ Historical & Genealogical Society of Randolph County, Indiana. *Randolph County, Indiana: 1818-1990*. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1991, 391.

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The Randolph County Courthouse exhibits a large mural in the first floor hallway. In 1977, local artist Roy Barnes painted a large mural featuring a pictorial history of Winchester. It depicts the history of Randolph County including the second Courthouse and former Indiana Governor James P. Goodrich, a native of Winchester. A few years later, Barnes painted a second mural located in the Courthouse. This is a representation of the present Courthouse's original appearance, with mansard roof and clocktower.²¹

James Moorman began the drive for a Civil War monument by bequeathing \$2,000 upon his death in 1888.²² Four years later the impressive sculpture designed by the renowned artist Lorado Taft. "The Randolph County Soldiers & Sailors Monument was the first of its kind to be erected in the state and is said to be second in size only to the Soldiers and Sailors monument on the Circle in Indianapolis."²³

The Soldiers and Sailors Monument (Resource 8, Photo 3) is a work of art created by sculptor Lorado Taft (1830-1936). Taft was born and raised in Illinois and received his formal education at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, France. Afterward, he established himself in Chicago. "In the late nineteenth century the two principal fields which were open to American sculptors were Civil War Monuments and grave memorials."²⁴ Taft avoided cemetery art and went on to create approximately a dozen monuments. The one in Winchester is noted as being one of the largest and most impressive.²⁵

The Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District has retained a vital downtown commercial usage during its period of significance (circa 1875-1950), which has persevered to present day. The majority of the structures in the district were constructed in the period of significance. They have retained their integrity with approximately 85% of the resources fall into the contributing status. The remaining buildings that fall into the non-contributing status serve to maintain and define the edges of the district. These buildings create tangible boundary termination points and contribute to the district as a whole. The citizens of Winchester value their resources and future plans include several restoration projects.

²¹ Ibid., 10.

²² Joe Hamilton, editor. "Randolph's Civil War Monument of New Interest in Centennial Year." *Randolph County Historical Review* vol. 1, no. 3 (February, 1961): 2.

²³ Ibid., 5.

²⁴ Ibid., 6.

²⁵ Ibid.

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Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the northeast corner of the intersection of North and East Streets, the boundary proceeds one block south along the west side East Street to the alley north of Washington Street. Here, boundary turns 90 degrees to the west proceeding along the north side of the alley north of Washington Street until it reaches the alley west of Main Street. The border makes a 90-degree turn to the south at this juncture. It continues down the west side of the alley east of Main Street for three blocks until it meets the alley south of Franklin Street. Here, the border turns 90 degrees to the west. The boundary traverses along the north side of the alley south of Franklin Street for three blocks until it reaches the alley west of Meridian Street. The border makes a 90-degree turn north at this juncture. The boundary proceeds along the east side of the alley west of Meridian Street for one block until it meets Franklin Street. Here, the border makes a 90-degree turn to the west. It proceeds along the north side of Franklin Street to West Street. At the northeast corner of the intersection of Franklin and West Streets the boundary makes a 90-degree turn to the north, proceeding along the east side of West Street to the north property line of the buildings located at 222 and 224 Franklin Street (Resources 13&14). The boundary makes a 90-degree turn east at this point. The boundary proceeds down the north property line of 222 and 224 Franklin Street until it meets the alley east of Meridian Street, at which point it angles 90-degrees to the north. The border travels north up the east side of the alley west of Meridian Street until it intersects Washington Street. Here, the boundary turns 90 degrees to the east traveling along the north side of Washington Street until it meets the west property line of the building located at 101-105 Meridian Street (Resource 31). The border makes a 90-degree turn north at this juncture. The border proceeds north up the west property line of 101-105 Meridian Street until it intersects the alley north of Washington Street. Here, the boundary turns 90 degrees to the east and travels along the south side of the alley north of Washington Street until it meets Meridian Street. The boundary makes a 90-degree turn north at this juncture. The boundary traverses north along the east side of Meridian Street for one block until it intersects with North Street. Here, the border turns 90 degrees to the east. It travels east along the south side of North Street for one block until it intersects with Main Street. The boundary makes a 90-degree north turn at this juncture. The border continues north up the east side of Main Street for one block until it meets Pearl Street. The border angles 90 degrees east at this point. It traverses east along the south side of Pearl Street for one block until it connects with the alley east of Main Street. Here, the border makes a 90-degree turn to the south. The border proceeds down the west side of the alley east of Main Street for one-half block until it meets the alley north of North Street. Here the boundary turns 90 degrees to the east. The border continues east along the south side of the alley north of North Street until it reaches the east property line of the building located at 125 North Street (Resource 74). At this juncture, the boundary makes a 90-degree turn to the south continuing along the east side of 125 North Street's property line until it intersects with North Street. Here, the

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Verbal Boundary Description

border angles 90 degrees to the east. The border continues east along the south side of North Street to the northeast corner of the intersection of North and East Streets. This is the point of origin for the boundary and thus encloses the perimeter of the Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District.

Boundary Justification

The perimeter of the Winchester Courthouse Square Historic District is based on the cognate nature of the buildings and streetscapes included. These serve to form a cohesive whole of concentrated commercial development with shared characteristics that differ greatly from the neighboring residential areas. The boundary includes the original plat of the town set up in 1819 as well as areas extending beyond these limits to include regions that illustrate subsequent commercial growth (Resources 13-14, 52-54&73). The boundary encompasses the significant commercial and governmental buildings that have maintained their integrity as well as the Winchester Community Library (Resource 75) and Masonic Lodge (Resource 74). These two buildings have been permitted within the perimeter as they continue the business district's viewsheds and are direct resultants of the prosperity of the city as well as being in close proximity to the Courthouse Square.

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Photographs

1. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Washington Street, north side (Resources 2-3).
 Camera looking northeast.

2. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Washington Street, south side – Courthouse Square. Spirit of the Doughboy (Resource 5).
 Camera looking southeast.

3. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Washington Street, south side – Courthouse Square. Soldiers and Sailors Monument
 (Resources 8-10).
 Camera looking northeast.

4. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Washington Street, south side (Resources 11-12).
 Camera looking southwest.

5. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Franklin Street, north side (Resources 13-14).
 Camera looking northeast.

6. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Franklin Street, south side (Resources 21-29).
 Camera looking southeast.

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Photographs

7. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Franklin Street, south side (Resources 21-29).
 Camera looking southwest.

8. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Franklin Street, south side (Resources 22-23).
 Camera looking south.

9. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Franklin Street, south side (Resources 24-26).
 Camera looking south.

10. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Franklin Street, south side. Hoosier Automobile Company (Resource 30).
 Camera looking south.

11. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Meridian Street, west side (Resources 33-38).
 Camera looking northwest.

12. 3.) Julie Zent
 4.) April 2000
 5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
 6.) Meridian Street, west side. Pretlow Block (Resource 34).
 Camera looking west.

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Photographs

13. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Meridian Street, west side. Detail of corbeled brick cornice (Resource 36).
Camera looking west.
14. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Meridian Street, west side. Randolph Hotel (Resource 39).
Camera looking southwest.
15. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Meridian Street, east side. United State Post Office (Resource 41).
Camera looking southeast.
16. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, west side. I.O.O.F. Hall (Resource 42).
Camera looking southwest.
17. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, west side. I.O.O.F. Hall and Kizer Block (Resources 42-43).
Camera looking northwest.
18. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, west side (Resource 45).
Camera looking southwest.

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Photographs

19. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, west side – Courthouse Square. Randolph County Courthouse (Resource 46).
Camera looking southwest.
20. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, west side – Courthouse Square. Randolph County Courthouse detail (Resource 46).
Camera looking north.
21. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, west side (Resources 48-51).
Camera looking southwest.
22. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, east side (Resources 52-54).
Camera looking northeast.
23. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, east side (Resources 55-57).
Camera looking southeast.
24. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, east side (Resources 59-62).
Camera looking northeast.

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Photographs

25. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, east side (Resources 63-65).
Camera looking northeast.
26. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, east side (Resources 66-70).
Camera looking southeast.
27. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, east side. Detail of cast iron cornice and window hoods (Resource 69).
Camera looking east.
28. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, east side. Davis Building (Resource 71).
Camera looking southeast.
29. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) Main Street, east side. Davis Garage (Resource 72).
Camera looking east.
30. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) North Street, north side. Masonic Lodge (Resources 73-74).
Camera looking north.

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Photographs

31. 3.) Julie Zent
4.) April 2000
5.) Ratio Architects, Inc.
6.) East Street, west side. Winchester Community Library (Resource 75).
Camera looking west.
-

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