

FLW 2/14

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

Other names/site number: Topoligus Building

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

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

### 2. Location

Street & number: 403 North Walnut Street

City or town: Bloomington State: IN County: Monroe

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

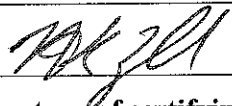
I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

\_\_\_A \_\_\_B XC \_\_\_D

	<u>1-29-2014</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

FUNERARY: mortuary

HEALTH CARE: medical business/office

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Two Thirds I-House

MID-19TH CENTURY: Greek Revival

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:

Bungalow/Craftsman

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

foundation: STONE: limestone

walls: BRICK

WOOD: weatherboard

roof: OTHER: cement board

other: ASPHALT

STONE: limestone

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The Millen-Chase-McCalla House is a two story Greek Revival and Italianate style, brick two-thirds I-house with a two-story brick wing and a wood frame addition. The house has an L-plan sited toward the east. (Photos 1, 2 and 5). The roof is side-gabled, the walls are American bond brick, and the foundation is limestone. The addition is single story and side-gabled, and extends north off the north wall of the wing. The primary facade of the main house faces east to North Walnut Street, the east

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property boundary. It is now a busy northbound corridor of mostly commercial or commercial-use buildings, but was an affluent residential area during the late 1800s and early 1900s. The house is further bounded by West Eight Street to the south, a paved alley to the west, and a paved parking area for the business immediately to the north. The interiors of both the main house and wing retain the details of the last construction period with minimal alteration, while the interior of the addition was altered numerous times over the decades and was completely altered again in 2011. The entire building has recently undergone rehabilitation for reuse as a restaurant and the north addition has been modified to house the restaurant kitchen and public restrooms. The building sits on a slight rise of land dominated by hard surfaces with more minimal areas allowing for planted space. The exception is a narrow section of lawn and new planted areas that wraps the southeast corner from the eastern street frontage to the southwest corner of the lot. The Millen-Chase-McCalla House is the contributing resource and was listed on the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures as the Topoligus Building in 1991.

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### Narrative Description

Construction of the Millen-Chase-McCalla House in Bloomington, Indiana, occurred during three periods—in 1844 what is now the ell was constructed as a double-entry I-house facing West Eighth Street; in 1854 the main house, a two-thirds I-house, was added facing North Walnut; and in 1871 the house was remodeled in a combination of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles.<sup>1</sup> The house is situated on the slight rise of a southwest-sloping city lot of .3 acres. It is bounded by a paved parking area for a contemporary commercial building on the north; three-lane, north-bound North Walnut Street to the east; one-way east-bound West Eight Street to the south; and a paved alley to the west. The rear of a contemporary commercial building is immediately to the west of the alley, and a contemporary restaurant is on the south side of West Eight Street. The northern boundaries of the Courthouse Square National Register Historic District (1990) are block south along Seventh Street, and the eastern boundaries of the Near West Side National Register Historic District (1997) are one block to the west along southbound College Avenue. The western edge of the North Washington National Register Historic District (1991) is one block east across North Walnut Street. The building is directly west across North Walnut Street from the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge,

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<sup>1</sup> Tax records show a substantial house was constructed on the property in 1844, with the value rising from \$600 to \$1,300. The value then rises to \$4,000 in 1855. But the \$4,000 value then plummets to only \$700 in 1861. It remains low until 1871, when it again rises dramatically to \$4,200. These records coupled with the house's various construction anomalies suggests that what is now the west wing was constructed in 1844 fronting Eighth Street as the original house, and that the house was further improved dramatically in 1854 with construction of what is now the main house fronting North Walnut. The drop in value suggests it was uninhabitable, but some improvement value remained. The house was later re-constructed and re-modeled in 1871. Newspapers of the period, which might help confirm a cause for the drop in improvement value, no longer exist.

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No. 446, built in 1938 in the Art Deco/Moderne style (Locally Designated; eligible, National Register of Historic Places).

Landscape features around the house are minimal, consisting primarily of paved areas, mulched planted areas, and a small section of lawn. The lawn begins south of the east entrance, wraps around the southeast corner of the lot, and concludes at the mid-point of the south facade porch. Two mature Silver Maple trees are on the property, one on the east lawn and another on the south lawn. An iron fence from a later period separates most of the lawn from the adjoining sidewalk, with large bushes completing the separation along the southwest section (Photo 1).

A new poured concrete patio area recently replaced a paved parking area and fills the northeast corner of the lot. It is surrounded by a new iron fence on the east side and a solid, wood and cement board privacy fence along the north boundary of the property. A new poured concrete, ADA-compliant ramp descends north from the southeast corner of the addition, and small bushes line the east foundation of the addition. The privacy fence concludes with a gate at the north side. Gravel fills the north side of the lot along the north side of the addition to the north boundary, and a small concrete pad supports air handling units on this side (Photo 5).

A poured concrete walkway leads to the east front door from a gate in the iron fence along the North Walnut Street sidewalk. A small area of plantings is at the southeast side of the front steps, while a large area of new landscaping fills the northeast area between the east public sidewalk and the patio. A walkway of poured concrete and herringbone brickwork leads from the West Eighth Street sidewalk to the south elevation enclosed porch. Large bushes line much of the south foundation, and smaller plantings surround the business sign at the southeast corner of the lawn area. A new area of mulched redbud trees and bushes fills the southwest corner of the lot as it slopes down gradually from the building's grade to street level. New poured concrete pads support air handling units at the southwest corner of the ell (Photo 2). A paved parking area and concrete delivery area covers the west part of the lot and small bushes line a new ADA-compliant ramp that descends north as it wraps the southwest corner of the addition (Photo 3). A new wood enclosure on a concrete pad surrounds the dumpster in the extreme northwest corner of the lot.

The North Walnut Street corridor was originally residential, primarily from the same late 1880s-era of construction as the North Washington National Register Historic District, and the homes of many prominent Bloomington businessmen and residents were located there. However, during the 1920s the corridor began to be infused with auto-related and other businesses. Likewise, the North College Avenue corridor originally housed the grand residences of prominent local businessmen and residents, including the 1894 home of local architect, John L. Nichols (National Register of Historic Places, 1984). But over time many of these homes have been demolished, either for new

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construction or parking lots. The corridors are now predominately commercial or mixed-use utilizing both adaptively reused historic residences and new construction, and both are experiencing ever increasing pressure for newer, high-density mixed-use construction.

#### Main House and Ell exterior

The exterior walls are American bond brick with soft mortar. The roof is side gabled and covered in asphalt shingles. Two chimneys in the south gable were removed at the roofline (but remain visible in the attic), while a third chimney in the center of the ell is covered with metal. The wide eaves house boxed gutters that drain to round, galvanized metal downspouts. A single star wall anchor is in each north and south gable. The foundation under the main house consists of very large dressed and beveled limestone blocks, while the ell reveals the first anomaly--smaller, rough cut, less uniform limestone block and rubble foundation walls. The latter type of foundation stone is more indicative of construction that occurred prior to substantial growth of the area's limestone industry which began in earnest in the 1860s. This suggests separate construction eras for the main house and ell. Likewise, there is an unusual row of header bricks centered on the west end of the ell directly above the foundation stones, another indication that later changes to the building occurred. Iron grilles for cellar ventilation are embedded in the foundation on all sides and a coal chute door is on the north side of the ell's foundation.

The brick house has twenty-nine windows and two visible exterior doors. All of the windows have limestone sills. Two additional anomalies that suggest separate construction eras between the main house and the wing are that all the windows within the wing have a row of header bricks forming a header above the limestone lintels, and the windows are all lower in height from those in the main house.

#### *East elevation*

The primary or east elevation of the main house has six openings, one of which is the elaborate main entrance at the northeast corner designed in the Greek Revival style (Photos 1 and 6). It is a raised, recessed, classical portico with a single door flanked by sidelights and a transom above. The glass has an etched and cut floral pattern, and the solid wood door has six panels in the Italianate style. Surmounting the opening a wide entablature spans between a square pilaster on either side, each with an electrified iron sconce. The recessed jambs and ceiling surfaces are paneled and display additional pilasters. Wide limestone steps lead to the single limestone slab stoop. At grade below the first floor windows are two cellar ventilation grilles with limestone lintels. The first and second floor windows are tall with two over two light sash and segmented arch upper sashes. Projecting, molded wooden hoods following the arch pattern are dominated by a large edge roll and scroll consoles with a sunken fillet. A segmental brick arch header supports each opening. Each window has a limestone sill.

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*South elevation*

The secondary or south elevation of the main house is dominated by nine windows (Photo 1). At grade below the first floor windows are four cellar ventilation grilles with limestone lintels. The first and second floor windows, four for each floor, are tall with two over two light sash and segmented arch upper sashes. Projecting, molded wooden hoods following the arch pattern are dominated by a large edge roll and scroll consoles with a sunken fillet. A segmental brick arch header supports each opening. Each window has a limestone sill. However, in order to accommodate the chimneys the layout leaves four windows grouped to the center and four closer to the outer corners. The gable window has the same segmented arch upper sash and arched hood, however, the sash is four over four light. The large veranda along the ell was originally open and only one story (Photo 2). It rests on a brick foundation. Sometime prior to 1892, the first floor of the ell's southwest corner was bricked-in and eventually accommodated a bathroom.<sup>2</sup> The enclosed space has one six over six window on the south elevation. Later the remaining first floor area of the veranda was enclosed with clapboard and a six over six light window and a transomed multi-light wood door were installed. The door is part of the recent rehabilitation and replaces a primarily solid wood door that had only two lights. The second level porch floor was built over the original veranda roof, retaining the box gutter and cornice molding. It has a shed roof. As part of the recent rehabilitation the framing for the screening was re-constructed in cement board and aluminum, and a low iron fence was installed on the inside for safety.

*West elevation*

An unusual row of header bricks is centered directly above the foundation stones. The foundation stones surround a cellar ventilation grille below one of the first floor windows. To the southwest corner, as part of the recent rehabilitation, a new poured concrete pad supports air handling units. To the northwest corner new poured concrete steps access the kitchen entrance. Above the cellar grille is a six over six light sash window and above the concrete steps is a two over two sash window. Both windows have limestone lintels and sills. The brick west wall of the former bathroom enclosure is without fenestration. The screened west end of the second floor porch is above the bricked enclosure. A half-round gable vent is the only remaining fenestration or ornament (Photo 2).

*North elevation*

At grade of the main house are two cellar ventilation grilles with limestone lintels. The grille at the northeast corner is in line with the second floor window, while the second is below the first floor window. A third opening at grade within the ell and below the first floor window, contains the coal delivery door. The symmetry of the north elevation of the main house is slightly broken by the absence of a window in the lower northeast corner of the main house due to the interior stairway.

<sup>2</sup> Sanborn Maps. [Bloomington]: Sanborn Map Company, 1892. Note: The map shows the change has occurred. This is the first year this section of the city is included on the Sanborn Maps.



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The symmetry of the north wall of the ell is broken by the north addition obscuring visibility of the northwest corner exterior door in the ell (Photo 5.) The north-facing windows in the main house and ell are six over six light with rectangular sashes and stone lintels and sills. Shutter hinge mounts remain attached to the casing. The north gable window is only four over four lights but also has a stone lintel and sill.

#### North Addition exterior

Extending from the northwest corner of the wing, the north addition is a single story, side-gabled frame structure on a concrete block foundation. Although the addition has been altered for various uses over the decades, in its present configuration it displays a simplified example of the Arts and Crafts style and is dated c.1935 (Photos 5 and 7.)

#### *East elevation*

The exterior walls are clapboard and the sill board is capped with a water course fillet. Fenestration on the east or primary elevation consists of five openings of two wood sash, six over six, windows and three doors. The three vertical light door near the south corner replaces a window to allow for patio access. The other doors, originally accessed by concrete steps to poured concrete stoops, have three vertical lights but are non-functioning. (A period three light door filled one of the openings and directed the style of the replacements. The original door is stored in the basement.) Above each doorway are gabled hoods with exposed rafters and large brackets. Board and batten fills the gables as well as the triangular wall space above the door. The roof has boxed eaves, asphalt shingles and large rooftop ventilation units for the current re-use.

#### *North elevation*

The exterior wall is clapboard and the sill board is capped with a water course fillet. A string course fillet is also at attic floor level. Fenestration consists of two wood sash, six over six, non-functioning windows, attic ventilation built into the peak, and a second rectangular vent cut into the wall at a later date. The roof slopes low to the west and has cornice returns (Photo 4.)

#### *West elevation*

As part of the recent rehabilitation, an extension to the north addition was built along the west elevation. The foundation is brick veneer over concrete block and the new extension is clad with cement board. The shed roof of the extension is of a lower pitch than that of the original addition and is set back from the north edge to differentiate the change (Photo 4.) A smaller, second extension at the northwest corner houses a walk-in refrigerator, the exterior of which is covered with metal panels. It has a brick veneer foundation and a flat roof (Photo 3.) New poured concrete steps on the west side lead to a solid metal door accessing the kitchen for staff and delivery access. A new ADA-compliant ramp of poured concrete and brick veneer was constructed along the west elevation of the

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addition. It wraps the southwest corner and concludes at a landing into another solid metal entrance door leading into the public restroom area. Poured concrete steps also access the landing.

### Main House and Ell interior

The interior plan is a stacked arrangement of four rooms deep, creating nearly identical plans between the two floors. The rooms are primarily situated to the south and west (rear), with the main stairway and hall along the north wall. The first floor includes paired parlors within the main house--likely a formal parlor nearest the front door and an informal parlor to its west; and a dining room and kitchen within the ell. The second floor has three bedrooms, each with an early closet, and a fourth room of unknown historical use. The walls are twelve inches thick and plastered, with crown molding capping the tall ceilings throughout the house. The floors are one and a half inch oak strips laid diagonally on the first floor, and parallel to the north and south walls on the second floor. Inspection from the cellar shows the first level floors are cross-bridged. The wood interior doors are six panel on the first floor and four panel on the second floor. However, all interior doors between rooms have been removed for the building's new use as a restaurant. The doors, as well as any window sash removed, are securely stored onsite in the cellar. All interior door openings have three-light, side hinged transoms and wide, paneled reveals.

### *First floor*

The highest style is found inside the hallway and parlors. The forty-six inch wide hallway is open through to the dining room (Photo 9.) The single flight of stairs to the second floor is open-string, with applied ornament under each tread nosing. The painted, turned balusters are capped by a wide, stained handrail, and the single bottom newel is of stained wood and is elaborately turned. A closet has been created under the stairs. A tiled entrance floor is at the base of the stairway at the east entrance interior, an alteration made during a previous renovation. A window is in the north wall past the staircase.

Within both the hallway and parlors the architrave moldings are seven inches wide and highly molded, dominated by a large edge roll like that of the exterior window hoods. The eleven inch-high baseboards are also highly molded (Photo 12.) In the parlors the windows reflect the segmental arch seen on the exterior, and the walls have a single recessed kick panel below each window (Photo 10.) Embrasure is found at each window opening along with wood sills. Pocket doors were likely originally within the large opening between the two parlors, their removal evidenced by the well-executed newer paneling that covers the reveals. These were the only two rooms with remaining fireplaces, both set up for coal. The elaborate mantel shelves and surrounds are made entirely of cast iron, decorated with panel insets and an applied scallop, an arched and openwork grille, and painted in a faux marbling of gold on black (Photo 11.) The outer hearths are painted bricks inset to floor level. As part of the re-use, in order to accommodate a bar area in the informal parlor, the mantel shelf and surround

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has been moved to the chimney breast in the dining room. Cabinetry, as part of the wrap-around bar of paneled wood and brushed steel, covers and preserves the original opening and hearth. A new, paneled wood cabinet is suspended from the ceiling above the bar to accommodate light fixtures.

One door from the informal parlor leads to the hallway, another to the dining room, and a third leads to the south porch. Half of the door to the porch has been retained to create a closable staff entry behind the bar. A door from the dining room also leads to the porch. Within the dining room the architraves are six and a half inches wide and not as highly molded, with a plainer face and a smaller edge roll. Likewise, the baseboards are only nine and a half inches high and are plain, with only a forty-five degree cut at the top edge. The chimney breast is centered on the west wall.

Within the kitchen the architraves are plain, squared boards while the window sills are much deeper at eight and a half inches. This is yet another interior anomaly of the ell that suggests an earlier construction date than that of the main house. The early floor-to-ceiling, paneled built-in pantry is in the southeast corner (Photo 14.) As part of the re-use, a short paneled wood partition wall has been installed in the kitchen at the dining room door to screen the bathroom hallway, and two inch-wide, engineered wood flooring has been installed in the kitchen. Centered at the west wall is a stacked, enclosed staircase, with a simple wood flight to the second floor and an open wood flight to the cellar. The door to the cellar has been retained.

The south enclosed veranda is accessed by either the dining room or kitchen. These two doorways are original to the earlier construction of the ell and present a strong indication that the house originally configured as a double pen that faced south. The enclosed space retains the three and a quarter inch painted wood floor and the paneled ceiling of the later veranda. Originally open and only one level, by 1935 the lower level had been enclosed with a frame exterior wall. A screen-enclosed, second level had been added by 1950. Sometime prior to 1892, the west end of the veranda was enclosed with brick exterior walls. It eventually housed a bathroom accessed from the kitchen. The bathroom has been removed and the room converted into a small dining space for the restaurant.

#### *Cellar*

The stairwell walls and ceiling into the cellar are plastered. The exposed foundation blocks are large, rectangular, rough cut limestone with minimal mortar. The small cellar was later expanded east by cutting through the block, load-bearing wall and digging out the soil. This work exposed the original coursed rubble foundation stone for a portion of the building. These expansion activities had greatly compromised the building's structural integrity, particularly witnessed by previous attempts at concrete remediation in the basement, and by the slump of a doorframe on the second floor. Recent renovations in the cellar for the new use include additional load-bearing structural supports and updated mechanical systems.

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*Second floor*

Following suit with the first floor, the hallway of the second floor reflects a higher style than inside the rooms. However, it is still subdued from the first floor (Photo 13.) Within the hall the six inch-wide architraves are molded, while inside the bedrooms they are plain, squared boards. Likewise, the tall molded baseboards of the hall transition to plain baseboards with a more decorative shoe molding in the rooms. The staircase balustrade curves around to the north wall with corner molding at the juncture. The original four inch-wide floorboards in the hallway have been exposed and painted as part of the recent renovations.

In more recent decades a room was created at the east end of the hall to house a bathroom.<sup>3</sup> It was most recently renovated in 2006, and has been further renovated for the re-use with removal of the shower and replacement of the flooring with tile. The bedrooms stacked above the first floor parlors have closets back-to-back against the hallway wall. The closet in the bedroom stacked above the dining room is within the southwest nook created by the chimney breast. A step down into this bedroom appears original to the 1854 construction of the main house, speaking further to the anomalies previously discussed concerning early construction of what is now the west ell of the house.

The second floor room at the west end of the ell has immediate access to the rear stairway through a transomed doorway in the southwest corner. During a previous renovation, portions of 1950s-era wood paneling were removed to expose the brick along the lower half of the north and south walls. During the recent renovations the brick of the entire east wall was exposed, uncovering evidence of previous wood stove access into the chimney breast. Some painted wood paneling, chair rail and plaster walls do remain from the 1950s era, and the floor is painted plywood. Additional recent changes in the room include construction in the center of partition walls for storage and wait staff spaces. Above the back stair in the northwest corner a closet hides a small, board and batten panel door accessing the attic. On the south wall a multi-light door was installed during prior re-uses to access the second floor porch.

During renovation to the screened porch, the plywood ceiling was removed and replaced with an angled, beveled board. The porch supports are wrapped in cement board and the outer wall fenestration is screened with aluminum framing. Metal railing was installed on the inside for safety. A

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<sup>3</sup> The highly molded trim surrounding the windows is more indicative to that found in the hall than in the enclosed, second floor rooms. Likewise, while the door and trim into the room are a nice match, the door height is much shorter and without a transom, the only such occurrence of both details in the house. Thus the doorway and possibly even the wall were likely not originally in place. Interestingly, even though from the exterior the north windows of the second floor bathroom are rectangular, on the interior they have segmented upper arches.

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second multi-light door has been installed on the east end of the porch, replacing a window, to provide access.

#### *Attic*

Access to the attic is by way of a built-in ladder beginning several feet from the floor--wood boards are mounted to a simple frame attached to the wall behind and set at a slight angle. Prior to the recent renovations the attic was open and unfinished, although it appears to originally have had flooring throughout. The space now houses air handling units and other mechanical systems and is accessible only to those servicing the systems. Common rafters without trusses support both the north-south and east-west roofs. A brick wall partially conceals the juncture between the east and west sections of the building, the configuration of which again indicates varying construction dates between the main house and ell. The remaining brick chimney in the dining room, covered with metal on the exterior, is visible in the west section of the attic. The remains of the parlor chimneys on the south wall are also visible.<sup>4</sup>

#### North Addition interior

Inside, on the north wall of the first floor original kitchen, a formal paneled, transomed doorway like the others in the house leads to the frame addition. All interior spaces of the addition have been changed, and include a new poured concrete floor and newly configured walls to accommodate public restrooms and the restaurant kitchen. From the main house the doorway leads into a hallway providing access to two ADA-compliant restrooms to the northeast, the new doorway to the exterior patio in the east wall, access to a commercial refrigerator at the west end of the hall, and a doorway to the southwest for access to the ADA-compliant entrance. Access into the kitchen is also from the hallway across from the exterior southwest door.

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<sup>4</sup> Note: Photographs were taken of the attic prior to the recent rehabilitation.

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## 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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1844 - c.1935

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1844

1854

1871

c.1935

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins with the earliest date of construction by William Millen and covers the subsequent dates of additional construction by Aaron Chase and John McCalla, the latter of whom

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added the brick building's current stylistic details. The period concludes through ownership by Arthur Day, to whom can be attributed the stylistic additions to the north addition (c.1935) and enclosure of the south porch. Although little is known about Aaron Chase, each of the house's other primary owners contributed to Bloomington's history during three different significant periods of the city's growth and development.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

None.

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Millen-Chase-McCalla House in Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, is a two story, brick two thirds I- house predominately displaying both the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The house faces east, fronting North Walnut Street, the major northbound artery through the city. A single story frame addition extends north from the wing of the main house. Construction of the house dates to three periods--1844 when the rear wing was built by Covenanter William Millen, Sr. as the original house facing East Eighth Street; 1854 when the house was added to with what is now the main house facing east by former New Yorker Aaron Chase; and 1871 when merchant and Covenanter John McCalla remodeled the house in a combination of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The Millen-Chase-McCalla House was listed on the State Register of Historic Sites and Structures in 1991 as the Topoligus Building, a name given to the house by the owners since 1947. It is eligible for the National Register at the local level. The property Criterion C under Architecture as both a good local example of a combination of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles, and as one of the oldest homes remaining in Bloomington which reflects the regionally distinctive I-house type.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

**NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERION C**

The Millen-Chase-McCalla House in Bloomington, Indiana, meets Criterion C under Architecture as a prominent reflection of the Greek Revival style as found in the classical east entrance portico, wide eaves, and cornice returns. The building is also significant as a rare intact, local residential example of the Italianate style popular in the United States during the later 1800s. As a combination of the



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two styles on one building, it is one of only three examples in Bloomington. However, it is the most outstanding example of the three when considering either integrity or stylistic display. The various construction dates of the Millen-Chase-McCalla House place it among Bloomington's oldest homes, constructed as a two-thirds I-house as reflected in the North Walnut Street elevation. Additional houses in Bloomington that demonstrate this floor plan are the c.1863 John East House at 417 West Sixth Street (105-055-64201), the 1866 Rogers-Dunn House at 401 South High Street (105-055-90117), the c.1870 Woodburn House at 519 North College Avenue (105-055-90170), and the c.1875 Stuart House at 321 North Lincoln Street (105-055-90033).

#### THE I-HOUSE IN BLOOMINGTON

First identified as a distinctive building type in the 1930s by historian Fred Kniffen, and so named because of its prevalence in the states of Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, the I-house type is actually found throughout the Midwest, Mid-Atlantic and Upland South. The characteristic form expanded upon earlier side-gabled single or one-and-a-half story homes with the addition of a full second floor and use of a constant basic layout: one room deep and at least two rooms wide. The most traditional layout is between three and five bays with a centered entrance. However, a variety of configurations can be found including double entry, center-gable, hall-and-parlor, and the side hall or two-thirds variation, the latter of which has three bays and is only one room wide with the entrance in one of the end bays.

Popular throughout the 1800s, the I-house's expansion on earlier forms reflected the growing prosperity of the agrarian community. The simplicity of the I-house's basic form lent well to stylistic applications and in doing so cast a greater degree of sophistication on its owner. Thus the I-house is often associated with prosperous farms throughout its range of popular use, and in Bloomington was also adopted by prominent businessmen and leaders. Of the thirteen I-houses now within the Bloomington city limits, it is one of only six within close proximity to the Courthouse Square. Those in closest proximity to the Millen-Chase-McCalla House are the c.1863 John East House at 417 West Sixth Street (105-055-64201), the 1869 Ambrose Moore House at 529 North College Avenue (105-055-90171) the c.1870 Woodburn House at 519 North College Avenue (105-055-90170), and the 1880-1920 Dr. E. Warner House at 425 North Walnut Street (105-055-90167). Of these only two, the John East House and the Woodburn House, are constructed in the same two-thirds I-house configuration as the Millen-Chase-McCalla House.

#### THE GREEK REVIVAL STYLE IN BLOOMINGTON

The Greek Revival style was one of the most popular of the romantic styles to dominate architecture during the 19th century in America. Desiring a cultural break from Great Britain, Americans sought a style that more closely reflected their new democracy and their aspirations for its future. Influenced by early news of 19th century archeological discoveries in Greece and the Greek War for Independence

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(1821-30), the bold designs of Greek temples suited the American landscape during a time of increased male suffrage and general political liberalization. Although the stylistic references to Greek temples are generally minimal--wide entablature moldings, broken cornice returns, and paneled entrances--high style classical porticos were also employed. In Indiana, the Greek Revival style was the first of the romantic styles to appear and was so popular that it was often employed on even simple, vernacular buildings.

The 2001 *City of Bloomington Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory* lists seventeen houses with the Greek Revival style. Three of the most outstanding examples of Greek Revival architecture in Bloomington are found in the five-bay I-house of the 1850 Millen-Stallknecht House at 112 North Bryan Street (105-055-90098; National Register of Historic Places, 2002), the 1853 Blair-Dunning House at 608 West Third Street (105-055-66005; Prospect Hill Historic District, National Register of Historic Places, 1991) and the 1856 Elias Abel House at 317 North Fairview Street (105-055-64391). However, four of the other houses listed as displaying the Greek Revival style are also those listed previously as examples of the two-thirds I-house--the John East House, the Rogers-Dunn House, the Woodburn House, and the Stuart House. Thus with regard to the Greek Revival style, it is with these four houses that the Millen-Chase-McCalla House compares with most favorably in its wide eaves, cornice returns, and paneled classical entrance portico.

#### THE ITALIANATE STYLE IN BLOOMINGTON

The Italianate style is an Americanized depiction of the Italian Villa style that came out of England in the early 1800s. However, builders and architects modified the Italianate style into a picturesque image of the Italian countryside for American tastes, becoming less complicated in both the basic form and applied flourishes. Symmetrical square or rectangular plans are typically capped with a low-pitched hip roof with wide eaves. But large brackets at the eaves, hooded and often arched windows, and long verandas on homes are also typical stylistic details. From the 1850s into the 1880s, Italianate was the most popular style in the United States and continued in popularity even as the Queen Anne style began to dominate the late 1800s. During the later period Italianate also dominated commercial buildings, often employing cast metal for the details. In Indiana, the style's popularity continued through the 1890s and coincided with the growth of the railroad and the state's ensuing prosperity. The rail lines also allowed transport of pre-fabricated ornamentation to a wider customer base, many of which would have been previously inaccessible.

In Bloomington, although there are a number of commercial buildings around the courthouse square reflecting the Italianate style, no residential buildings remain that display it in its pure form. This was even noted in 1977 when the city was first surveyed. But historic photographs convey the city's prosperity of the late 1800s, once found in the homes of its prominent citizens, many of which were constructed in the Italianate or Italianate Villa styles.

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The 2001 *City of Bloomington Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory* lists six homes with the Italianate style in addition to the Millen-Chase-McCalla House. The frame homes at 406 East Second Street (c.1890) (105-055-740031) and 114 East Seventh Street (c.1870) (105-055-900042) are both two-story rectangular plans with wide eaves. But both have been highly altered with fully enclosed porches and entrances, replacement siding and windows, and only window or cornice consoles remaining as tell-tale ornament. The 1869 Ambrose Moore House at 529 North College Avenue (105-055-90171) is a five bay, brick I-house with excellent integrity. It has rectangular six over six wood sash windows and stylistic eave consoles, but also displays elements of the Gothic Revival style.

With regard to the Italianate style, the Millen-Chase-McCalla House compares favorably with the 1880-1920 Dr. E. Warner House at 425 North Walnut Street (105-055-90167), a five bay, frame I-house. It is the only other building in the city with similar windows--segmented arch openings with small hoods. However, the mixed-use Dr. E. Warner House is dominated by a later Classical Revival portico and does not retain a high degree of historic integrity; it has been highly altered with additions, vinyl siding, contemporary porch railings, and replacement windows. The segmented arch windows of the Millen-Chase-McCalla House are the best preserved and most exuberant example with its larger hoods and original two over two sash. An additional feature of the style found on the house is the large, once-open veranda with a paneled ceiling.

#### MILLEN-CHASE-MCCALLAHOUSE

The 2001 *City of Bloomington Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory* lists only two houses as exhibiting both the Greek Revival and the Italianate styles, the c.1850 Cochran-Helton-Lindley House at 405 North Rogers Street (105-055-64379; National Register of Historic Places, 1976) and the c.1898 gabled-ell house at 209 South Dunn Street (105-055-82016). Interestingly, despite the prominent Greek Revival entrance portico of the Millen-Chase-McCalla House, it was not recognized for this feature in the inventory.<sup>5</sup> While the Cochran-Helton-Lindley House is also a brick I-house, it is the classic five-bay. Thus the Millen-Chase-McCalla House is the only brick, two-thirds I-house displaying both the Greek Revival and Italianate styles in Bloomington.

The Millen-Chase-McCalla House retains a high degree of stylistic integrity incurred over time. The rear ell, constructed in 1844 as the early house, retains the design restraint seen in similar Bloomington homes of the same settlement period. The 1871 application to the main house of Greek Revival and Italianate details appeared during a period of growth and prosperity for Bloomington, and also speaks to the prosperity and prominence of the home's owner at the time. Another stylistic change over time was

<sup>5</sup> Note: The application of the Greek Revival style is per the Historic Preservation Certification letter from Roger G. Reed, Historian, National Park Service, July 22, 2011.

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enclosure of part of the veranda with brick c.1890 to house a bathroom, and enclosure of the remainder of the veranda with clapboard c.1935. Renovation of the north addition c.1935 introduced elements of the Arts and Crafts style to the building through gabled, board and batten entrance hoods supported by large knee braces, and three-light entrance doors.

### **Developmental History/Additional historic context information**

#### **HISTORIC CONTEXT**

The Millen-Chase-McCalla House in Bloomington, Indiana, is associated with several early and prominent settlers of Monroe County. Occupation of the lot can be traced to the platting of the town of Bloomington and construction of the first brick house appears within the following twenty-five years.

#### **EARLY HISTORY OF BLOOMINGTON AND MONROE COUNTY**

The land that was to become Monroe County was surveyed by 1812 and in 1816 lands were made available for purchase. Named for recently elected President James Monroe, the county was officially formed in 1818 following the Treaty of St. Mary's Ohio, and in April that same year the county seat of Bloomington was platted. Originally wooded hills, the centrally located land on which the town was formed had already been converted over to farm fields by pioneers Robertson Graham and David Rogers. The few residents immediately set about constructing a log structure to house government functions, the school and the Presbyterian church. Only three years later a public library was constructed next door. Then in 1826 the first permanent courthouse was erected.<sup>6</sup>

Specific events in local history have led to Bloomington and Monroe County's growth and increasing prosperity since its founding. First was the 1820 decision by the Indiana Legislature to select Perry Township in Monroe County, immediately south of Bloomington, as the site for a state seminary. With the school's establishment in 1824, one direction of Bloomington's history was firmly established. The school became Indiana College in 1828, and the following year Dr. Andrew Wylie became its first president. Then in 1838 the college became Indiana University. Although later fires would prompt relocation of the campus to its present site east of downtown, the presence of the university has remained an important part of Bloomington's growth and history.

The second major event was the advancement in the state of the railroads. The New Albany and Salem Railroad (later part of the Chicago, Indianapolis and Louisville, or "Monon" line) arrived in Bloomington in late 1853, after first passing through adjacent Lawrence County to the south. The next year the railroad was extended through Ellettsville in western Monroe County. The Monon line was later

<sup>6</sup> This and the following paragraph based on: City of Bloomington Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. Bloomington: City of Bloomington, 2004.

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intersected by two additional railroads in neighboring communities, thereby creating an extensive rail network that greatly expanded the transport, both into and out of the county, of people and goods. Businesses previously consigned to local markets, such as the limestone industry, were suddenly open to a national market. And new businesses, like the Showers Brothers Furniture factory, could grow quickly into larger markets and help spawn complimentary companies locally whose products they used in their furniture. Thus during the period between the Civil War and the Great Depression, Bloomington experienced some of its greatest growth and prosperity.

#### HISTORY OF THE MILLEN-CHASE-MCCALLA HOUSE

The Millen-Chase-McCalla House is situated on the southeast corner of Out Lot 35, of the original plat of Bloomington.<sup>7</sup> At the time it was platted the lot incorporated all of the block that now reaches south to north from East Eight Street to East Ninth Street, and west to east from North College Avenue to North Walnut Street. Addison Smith, a land agent and Monroe County prosecuting attorney in 1818, along with his wife Nancy, were the first recorded owners of the property. They sold the land in 1827, which at the time included a house, to James Whitcomb, a lawyer from Kentucky who moved to Bloomington in 1824.

Whitcomb served as Monroe County's prosecuting attorney from 1826 to 1829, and was elected to the Indiana Senate in 1830.<sup>8</sup> He was appointed by President Andrew Jackson to serve as Commissioner of the General Land Office in Washington, D.C. in 1836. When he resigned his appointment in 1841, Whitcomb moved to Terre Haute and was elected governor of Indiana in 1843. Bloomington lawyer, Paris C. Dunning, whose grand brick home remains in Bloomington (105-055-66005; National Register of Historic Places, 1983) was his lieutenant governor. When Whitcomb was elected to the United States Senate in 1849, Dunning became governor.

During Whitcomb's ownership of Out Lot 35 he divided the parcel into north and south halves, and sold the north half to William and Laura Batterman, who had emigrated from Kentucky in 1819.<sup>9</sup> In 1834, Lewis Bollman, Indiana University's first graduate, purchased the north half of Out Lot 35. Then in April of 1836, Bollman and his wife, Harriet, purchased the southern half from James Whitcomb following the

<sup>7</sup> Monroe County, Indiana. Original Plat, City of Bloomington. Monroe County Recorder. Cabinet B/1, Book 1, page 4, lots 1-352.

<sup>8</sup> American National Biography; Dictionary of American Biography; Whitcomb, James. Facts for the People in Relation to a Protective Tariff. Indianapolis: G.A. & J.P Chapman, 1843.  
<<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=W000349>> Accessed online May 1, 2012.

<sup>9</sup> The Old Settlers of Monroe County. Bloomington, IN: Monroe County Historical Society. 1996.  
<[http://www.monroehistory.org/genealogy\\_library/old\\_settlers.htm](http://www.monroehistory.org/genealogy_library/old_settlers.htm)> Accessed online May 1, 2012.

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senator's appointment to Washington, D.C. They only retained the property for two months, however, selling it to William and Elizabeth Millen, Sr. in June.

The Millen family were members of the Associated Reformed Presbyterian Church whose members emigrated from South Carolina. These Scots-Irish, known locally as Covenanters, are most notable in history for their strong anti-slavery stance and participation in what has become known as the Underground Railroad. However, locally they were one of three early Presbyterian branches instrumental in the formation and growth of Monroe County, including Indiana University. Other locally prominent names within the church included Fee, Smith, Curry, Fullerton and Faris. William Millen, Sr. was one of two sons of Robert Millen of Ireland, the first Millen to settle in the Chester district of upland South Carolina. Around 1833, William and Elizabeth Millen along with their children and several nieces and nephews, the children of William's brother, John, had emigrated to Monroe County, Indiana.<sup>10</sup> One of these nephews included William Moffat Millen, who constructed the Greek Revival style Millen-Stalknecht House in 1850 at a rural location now within the city limits, just east of the core of the university campus at 112 North Bryan Street. (105-055-90098; National Register of Historic Places, 2002).

In 1844, Millen made substantial improvements--more than doubling the property value--on the approximately two acres that made up the south half of Out Lot 35. Such a dramatic rise in property values would be indicative of construction of a brick home. This fact coupled with the construction of other brick homes in the city during the same period by fellow Covenanters, suggests that Willam Millen constructed a two-story brick I-house that faced south and today serves as the ell of the main house.<sup>11</sup> Remaining physical evidence favorably compares Millen's house to the 1830 brick home of fellow Covenanter, Thomas Smith at 1326 Pickwick Place (105-055-90134).<sup>12</sup> Similarities include the double-entry form, the six over six sash windows with limestone lintels and sills, and the use of rough cut limestone block for the foundation. In 1846, ownership of the property was transferred to William and Mary McCrum who retained it until 1854. It was then sold to Aaron Chase and by the following year the property value had again more than doubled, suggesting the original house had simply been added to and that the new construction was also of brick. This information coupled with the building's physical

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<sup>10</sup> Millen/Moffat Family Genealogy. Vertical File. [Bloomington]: Monroe County Public Library.

<sup>11</sup> Monroe County, Indiana. Tax Duplicates. 1843-1845. Microfilm. Note: The value rises from \$600 to \$1,300. The deed records indicate a house was already on the property by 1827. But at the time Millen purchased the property the improvement value was only \$500.

<sup>12</sup> Steelwater, Eliza and Bloomington Restorations, Inc. *Images of America: Bloomington and Indiana University*. Chicago, IL: Arcadia Publishing. 2002, page 12.

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differences showing two eras of construction, suggests Chase constructed a two-story brick addition--a side hall I-house--that would become the new main house with its formal entrance facing North Walnut (originally East Main) Street.<sup>13</sup>

Originally from New York, Aaron Chase and his wife Deborah, brought their family to Bloomington between 1850 and 1855. Little is currently known about the Chases nor what brought them west, but the family resided in the house on Out Lot 35 until 1861. The house then apparently stood vacant and unused for the next nine years, as the property's value dropped by several thousand dollars to only \$700.<sup>14</sup> Aaron Chase died in 1864, and his family sold the Out Lot 35 property to John McCalla in 1871. By the following year McCalla had renovated the house in a combination of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles, and his family occupied the property for at least the next twenty-three years. McCalla's work on the property increased its value by nearly four times, evidence of which can be seen in the elaborate exterior and interior moldings and trim, and in the arched windows with their larger panes of glass.

John McCalla came to Bloomington in 1833 from the Chester district of upland South Carolina, with his siblings and widowed father Samuel, a prominent member of the Associated Reformed Presbyterian Church. In 1844, McCalla and his brother Thomas opened a general store in downtown Bloomington under the name McCalla Brothers. The partnership lasted until 1852 when McCalla bought out his brother's share, changed the name to McCalla & Co., and moved the store to the Wylie block on the west side of the square. There it flourished until McCalla retired in 1888 and sold the business.<sup>15</sup>

In 1894, McCalla deeded the Out Lot 35 property, by this time with the city address of 267 North Walnut Street, to his son-in-law and daughter, Professor Charles and Mary Harris, who retained it for the next five years while continuing to live in Ohio. This was likely the time period in which John and Elizabeth McCalla left Bloomington to reside with their daughter and her family in Ohio. The year following John

<sup>13</sup> Monroe County, Indiana. Tax Duplicates. 1854-1855. Microfilm. Note: The value rises from \$1,600 to \$4,000.

<sup>14</sup> In 1861, the tax records show the value of the property dropping from several thousand dollars to only a few hundred. It remained at these low values for nine years. Given the remaining current existence of the exterior walls of the earlier construction periods, one possible explanation for the drop in value is that the house suffered a fire in 1861 and was later reused and renovated. The tax records show that at the time McCalla purchased the property it was valued at \$1,100, and by 1872 it had risen to \$5,100.

<sup>15</sup> McCalla's father remarried after arriving in Monroe County. John McCalla's half siblings were Henry, Samuel, Mary and Margaret McCalla. Each became prominent local citizens in their own right. However, Margaret's significance reached statewide as she was the first female school superintendent in Indiana. The McCalla School, a former grade school now re-used by Indiana University, was named in her honor.

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McCalla's 1899 death the house was sold to Redick McKee Wylie and his wife Madeline A. Thompson Wylie.

Redick McKee Wylie was the second youngest son of Dr. Andrew Wylie, IU's first president. In addition to being his business partner and owner of the building to later house McCalla & Co. store, Wylie was also John McCalla's brother-in-law.<sup>16</sup> When not in town during the winter, Redick and his family lived on the Wylie family farm south of Bloomington where he farmed the land. It was there many years earlier, while chopping wood, that Dr. Wylie suffered the injury that led to his death in 1851. Redick later expanded his business involvements to include stockman and merchant and became a partner with his brother-in-law, John McCalla, in some of these endeavors. His wife Madeline was widowed in 1904 but continued to live at the North Walnut Street house, eventually along with her widowed daughter, Madeline Sentney, until 1924.

In 1926, Arthur Day, proprietor of Day Funeral Home, purchased the house at what was by then its current address of 403 North Walnut Street. His funeral home was just south located at the former Fee home (demolished), in the Italianate Villa style at 302 North Walnut Street.

Arthur Day began directing funerals in 1913, and became the owner of his own mortuary in 1924 when he purchased an already established Bloomington business, Modern Funeral Home.<sup>17</sup> Mary (Brenton) Day, a registered nurse, moved to Bloomington the following year to accept a position at Bloomington Hospital. The couple was married in 1928, at which time Mary resigned her nursing position to work full-time beside her husband. In later years their son Odus would also join them in the business.

Upon their marriage the couple began residing in an apartment on the second floor of 403 North Walnut Street. The following year the Days opened the first floor of the home as a funeral chapel. An ad in the 1929-30 City Directory for the first time advertises their "New Funeral Chapel--Corner of Eighth and Walnut" as well as their "20th Century Ambulance Service." However, the house served as the Day's funeral chapel only until 1934, as the Great Depression years created a strain in maintaining business in two locations. By 1936, the Days had also moved their residence to their funeral home. Arthur Day died in 1947, at which time Mary sold the funeral business and all associated properties. However, the business continued in operation in Bloomington under the Day name. James N. Topoligus Sr. bought the 403 North Walnut Street property from the Days in 1947 for use as his physician's office.

<sup>16</sup> John McCalla married Dr. Andrew Wylie's only daughter, Elizabeth, in 1856. Numerous family letters, held in the Wylie House Museum archives, and written by Elizabeth, provide details of their lives and John's business dealings.

<sup>17</sup> Family Living: Day Funeral Home." Courier-Tribune [Bloomington] October 3, 1968, page 6.



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The Topoligus family, including young son James, immigrated to the United States from Asia Minor during the Turkish War for Independence in the 1920s.<sup>18</sup> The family settled in Gary, Indiana, where work was found in the steel mills. James N. Topoligus, Sr. later moved to Bloomington to attend Indiana University and was one of the first to graduate from the School of Medicine's newly established obstetrics and gynecological department. While in Bloomington, Topoligus met and married Catherine Poolitsan, the daughter of another Greek family in what was always a close-knit community in Bloomington centered around their ancestral background.

After owning the Greek Candy Kitchen on the east side of the square, the Poolitsan family would become most well-known for operating the Gables restaurant in Bloomington from 1932 until 1968.<sup>19</sup> The restaurant's location had previously been known as the Book Nook, a luncheon and soda shop in the 1914 building designed by local architect, John L. Nichols, and operated by cousins of the Poolitsans, the Costas brothers. Locally the Book Nook first gained fame between 1927 and 1931 as the site of the "Book Nook Commencement," a mock, costumed graduation ceremony that included the involvement of Herman B Wells, then a professor who would become Indiana University's famed president in 1937.<sup>20</sup> More recently the site has received statewide recognition as the location where music composer and Bloomington native, Hoagy Carmichael, spent time in the 1920s and wrote much of his hit, "Stardust" (Historical Marker, Indiana Historical Bureau, 2007).

Shortly after the birth of his son, James Jr., Topoligus was drafted into service as a surgeon during the Second World War. Upon his return and after purchasing the building, Topoligus gave it its present name, the Topoligus Building. He performed general surgery and saw OB/GYN and general practice patients on the first floor. The second floor was the home of Charlie and Ruby Poolitsan, one of Catherine (Poolitsan) Topoligus' four brothers with whom she operated the Gables restaurant. The frame addition to the north was occupied by Dr. George Poolitsan, one of Catherine's nephews who used it for his family medical practice for many years.

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<sup>18</sup> For this and the following Topoligus and Poolitsan family history: James Jr. and Cheryl Topoligus, interview with Danielle Bachant-Bell, February 2, 2011. The Greek Candy Kitchen was opened and operated by George and Angelika (Zaharako) Poolitsan. Her family is well-known for the ice cream and soda fountain they operated in Columbus, Indiana.

<sup>19</sup> "Restaurateur Nick Poolitsan dies." Herald-Times [Bloomington] November 15, 1998, page C2.

<sup>20</sup> Steelwater, Eliza and Bloomington Restorations, Inc. *Images of America: Bloomington and Indiana University*. Chicago, IL: Arcadia Publishing, pages 92-94. Note: Wells did not use punctuation for his middle initial, thus the absence of a period is considered historically correct in this instance.

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In 1974, James N. Topoligus, Jr. joined his father's medical practice in the building. After the elder Topoligus retired his son continued to use the building as his medical office until the early 1990s, when James Jr. moved to a new surgery center south of Bloomington. The building has since been utilized for a variety of small businesses and offices and as living space, while still being owned by the Topoligus family. It has most recently been rehabilitated for reuse as a restaurant called "Topos," that is owned by the Topoligus family.

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Millen-Chase-McCalla House

Monroe County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository: Monroe County History Center

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 105-055-90166

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** less than one acre

Use the UTM system

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

1. Zone: 16	Easting: 540282	Northing: 4335701
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

Millen-Chase-McCalla House

Monroe County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property boundary is the south half of the southeast quarter of City of Bloomington Outlot 35. It is bounded by a fence on the lot line along the north, a public sidewalk to the east and south, and a public alley to the west.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries encompass the full extent of the city lot on which the building stands as the lot is currently configured and occupied. This is the historic and currently registered legal boundary.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Danielle Bachant-Bell, historic preservation consultant

organization: Lord and Bach Consulting

street & number: 605 West Allen Street

city or town: Bloomington state: IN zip code: 47403

e-mail: lordandbach@gmail.com

telephone: 812-336-6141

date: May 6, 2012

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Millen-Chase-McCalla House

Monroe County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 13, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Southeast corner with view of the east and south elevations, at the corner of North Walnut and West Eighth Streets; photographer facing northwest.

1 of \_14\_.

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 13, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Southwest corner of the wing with view of the south and west elevations, at the corner of West Eight Street and the alley; photographer facing northeast.

2 of \_14\_.

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 13, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: West elevation with view of new construction to rear of north addition; photographer facing east.

3 of \_14\_.

Millen-Chase-McCalla House

Monroe County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 13, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: North elevation with view of new construction to rear of north addition; photographer facing south.

4 of \_14\_.

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 13, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Northeast corner with view of north and east elevations, north addition, and new patio and plantings areas; photographer facing southwest.

5 of \_14\_.

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 13, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Detail of east entrance facing North Walnut Street; photographer facing west.

6 of \_14\_.

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 13, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: East elevation of north addition; photographer facing west/southwest.



Millen-Chase-McCalla House

Monroe County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

7 of \_14\_.

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 22, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Interior first floor hallway and staircase to second floor; photographer facing northwest.

8 of \_14\_.

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 22, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Interior first floor formal parlor; photographer facing south.

9 of \_14\_.

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 22, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Detail of mantel shelf and surround in first floor formal parlor; photographer facing south.

10 of \_14\_.

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 22, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Detail of interior door moulding and baseboard in first floor formal parlor; photographer facing north.

Millen-Chase-McCalla House

Monroe County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

11 of 14

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 22, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Detail of built-in cabinet in kitchen; photographer facing southeast.

12 of 14

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 22, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Second floor hallway; photographer facing east/southeast.

13 of 14

Name of Property: Millen-Chase-McCalla House

City or Vicinity: Bloomington

County: Monroe State: Indiana

Photographer: Danielle L. Bachant-Bell

Date Photographed: March 22, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Second floor middle bedroom; photographer facing south/southwest.

14 of 14

**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.460 et seq.).

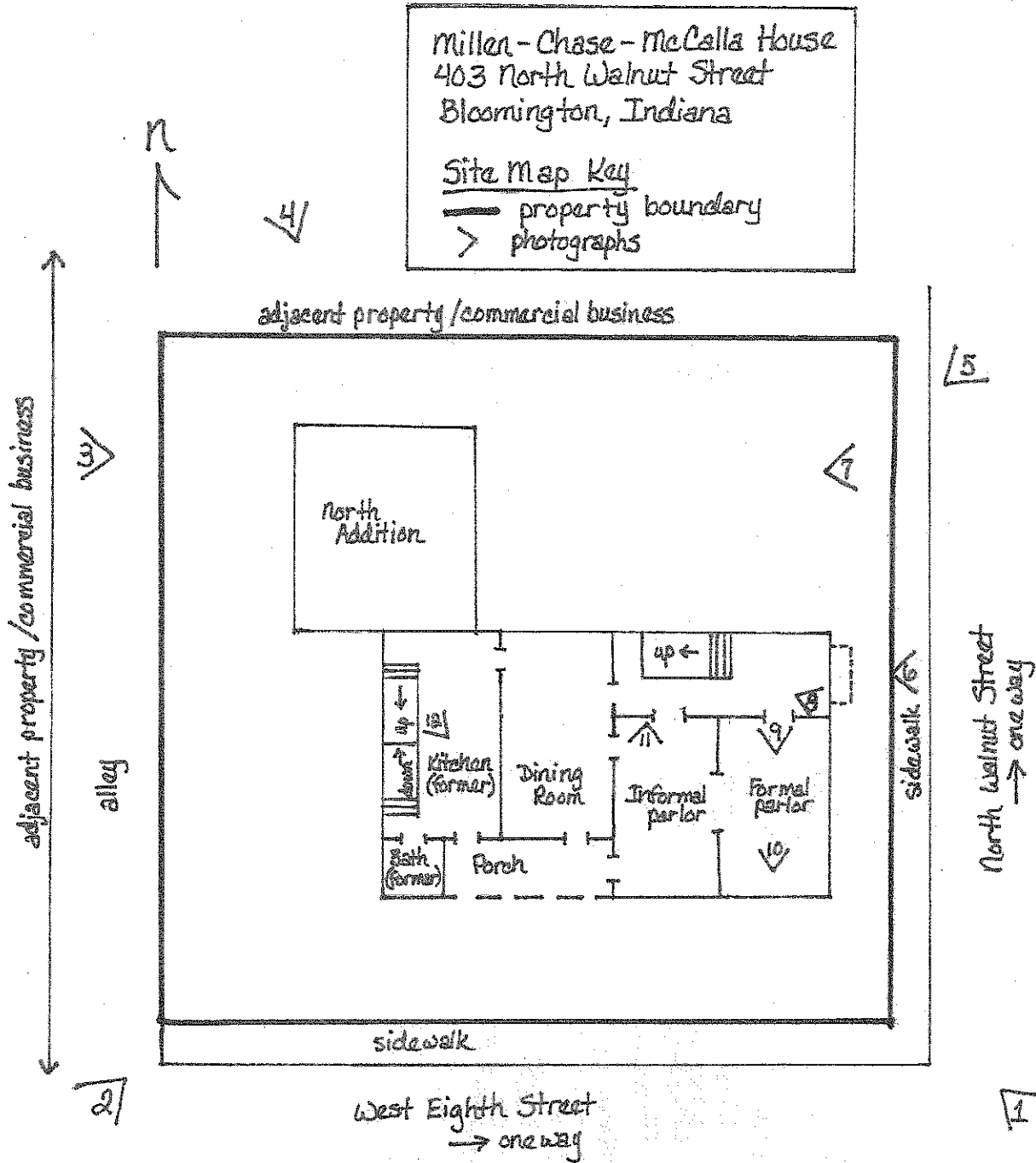
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Millen-Chase-McCalla House

Monroe County, IN

Name of Property

County and State



Millen-Chase-McCalla House

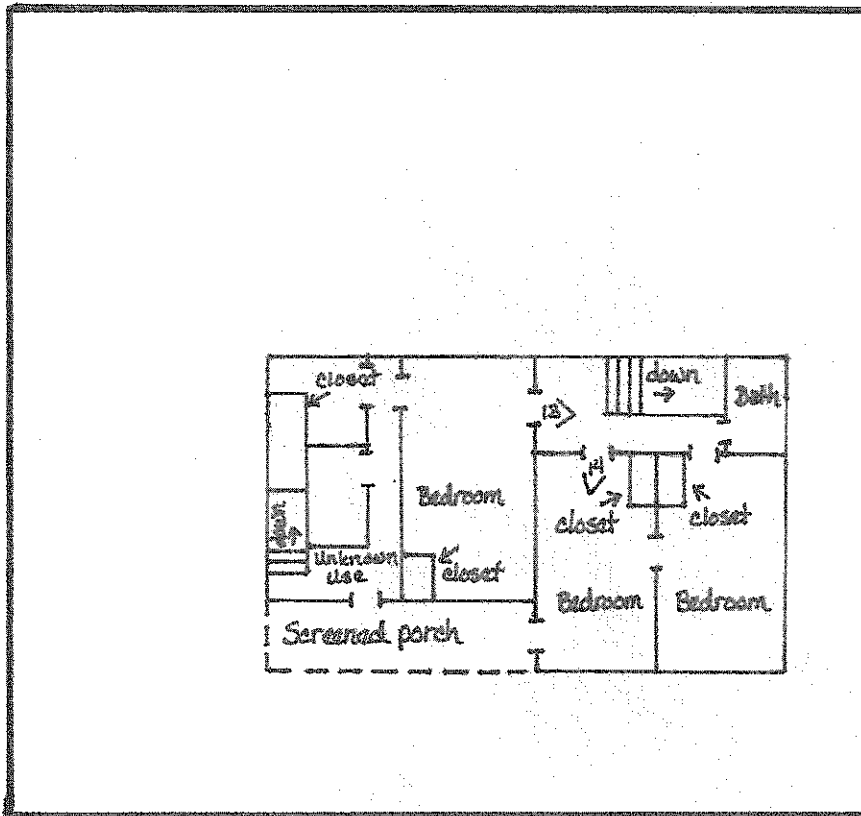
Monroe County, IN

Name of Property

County and State

2  
↑

Millen-Chase-McCalla House  
403 North Walnut Street  
Bloomington, Indiana  
Second Floor Plan  
—— property boundary





437  
 436  
 45  
 434  
 433  
 432  
 431  
 39°07'30"  
 86°30'

MILLER - CAUSE  
 McCALL HOUSE  
 MONROE CO, IN  
 NAD 83 UTM:  
 16 540282 433570  
 10'  
 BLOOMINGTON  
 T9N  
 QUAD  
 T8N

32'30"    40    41    42    86°30'