

**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: Versailles Courthouse Square Historic District

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

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: Roughly bounded by East Third North Street on the north, Alley 1-45 on the east, Water Street on the south, and Alley 9-70 on the west

City or town: Versailles State: IN County: Ripley

Not For Publication:  Vicinity: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:

x A      \_\_\_ B      x C      \_\_\_ D

<p>_____  <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>  <u>Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology</u>  <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p>	<p>_____  <b>Date</b></p>
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In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

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**Signature of commenting official:** **Date**

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**Title :** **State or Federal agency/bureau  
or Tribal Government**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

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

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**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

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

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>42</u>	<u>9</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	sites
<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	objects
<u>50</u>	<u>13</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 2

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: financial institution

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

COMMERCE/TRADE: department store

SOCIAL: meeting hall

GOVERNMENT: courthouse

GOVERNMENT: fire station

GOVERNMENT: post office

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

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**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store  
COMMERCE/TRADE: department store  
COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant  
GOVERNMENT: courthouse  
GOVERNMENT: fire station  
GOVERNMENT: post office  
GOVERNMENT: city hall  
DOMESTIC: single dwelling

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal  
MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY: Greek Revival  
LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate  
LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival  
MODERN MOVEMENT: Moderne  
OTHER: Ranch

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

foundation: STONE  
walls: BRICK  
STONE: Limestone  
roof: ASPHALT  
other: METAL

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### **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.)

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### **Summary Paragraph**

The Versailles Courthouse Square Historic District encompasses the commercial blocks around the square and one-block extension of Main Street to the north, formerly a principle trade route to other villages in Ripley County. The district has several mid-19<sup>th</sup> through mid-20<sup>th</sup> century commercial buildings that front the square which is crowned with the 1863 Ripley County Courthouse, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A few residences which represent some of the oldest and most architecturally significant buildings in Versailles, are also located in the district near the downtown core. Styles include Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, as well as simple Modern commercial buildings of the mid-1900s.

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### **Narrative Description**

The Versailles Courthouse Square Historic District has at its center, the Ripley County Courthouse Square and Courthouse, established as part of the original plat created in 1819. The original plat of one hundred acres was donated by John Paul of Madison, Indiana, and located near the geographic center of Ripley County. Over time, many of the streets laid out in the original plat became principle trade routes to other villages in Ripley County, expanding out in several directions as a network of roads to New Marion, Napoleon, Milan, Osgood, Elrod, Olean, and to larger markets in Greensburg and the Ohio River cities of Madison and Aurora. Main Street was the primary north-south road and fronts the courthouse square on the east. Tyson Street (formerly Main Cross Street) was the primary east-west route.

Like most courthouse squares, commercial development was organized on streets fronting the square. This occurred on the east side of Main Street, south side of Tyson (then Cross Street), the west side of Washington Street, and the north side of First North Street. Little commercial activity grew beyond this downtown core during the 1800s and early 1900s, and by the 1930s-1960s, many commercial, office, and social club buildings were being built around the square or near it to reinforce the district's vitality. This occurred despite the relocation of the primary east-west route, Highway 50, along the south edge of town in 1930.

The district's architecture reflects this wide breadth of history, from its earliest extant buildings built within a decade of the town's plat being established, through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century revival of commerce and activity in the historic center of Versailles. The Greek Revival/Italianate-designed courthouse (1863, NR 2009) is at the center of the district and is mostly surrounded by commercial buildings designed in the Federal, Italianate, and Modern styles. The few residences

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that are located in the district, mostly lining one block of Main Street north of the square, are examples of Federal, Greek Revival, and Italianate styles. But, like the downtown commercial core, which includes post-war shops, a few examples of Ranch homes from the 1950s-1960s are found on Main Street.

While a few commercial buildings have been demolished surrounding the square, the commercial core retains the general feel of a downtown courthouse square except on the north where the row of historic buildings fronting First North Street was demolished to make way for a parking lot for the large, new Ripley County Government Center. The government center is excluded from the district, however, because of the original town plat's design addressing the courthouse square, First North Street is included. The district has a continuity of paved streets, sidewalks, and tree lawns with most trees being planted in the last fifty years. All buildings, objects (many of which are on the courthouse lawn), and structures are included in the resource count. Buildings or objects considered non-contributing are mostly due to being constructed after the end of the period of significance. Only a few are considered non-contributing due to significant changes of materials or alterations to the shape of the building or fenestration.

Resources located on the courthouse lawn, including the site itself, were not included in the National Register nomination for the Ripley County Courthouse, therefore these are included in the count and not in previously-National Register listed resources. Letters denoting the objects on the courthouse lawn are keyed to the map. A complete list of resources follows. Where more than one resource is located at the same property address, the resource is listed following the primary resource at the same address. The plat/street grid of the district is slightly off of the cardinal points, but for purposes of this nomination, facades facing slightly southeast are considered facing east, etc.

## SECOND NORTH STREET

102 E. Second North. Ranch, 1981. Non-contributing

## FIRST NORTH STREET (north side going east)

232 W. First North. Gable-front house & carriage house, c. 1865. Contributing (two buildings)

226 W. First North. Gable-front apartment building, c. 1940. Contributing

Photo 01

The two-story building has walls composed of auburn-colored clay block. The building has metal windows with concrete sills and lintels and the gables are covered with vinyl siding. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The front façade is symmetrically-arranged with a full-width porch with shed roof. The porch has turned posts and railings with turned spindles. The porch is divided into two sections with wood floor to each side of the entry centered on the façade. The entry features a wood door with metal storm door and side-lites composed of glass block. Wide windows composed of two large sashes, side-by-side, flank the entry. The second story features

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two windows composed of a row of three metal casements, each divided into three lites, topped by a metal transom divided into three lites.

Between the 1940s and 1960, Versailles' population doubled in size. A few buildings like these were built to help ease the demand for housing. Much of the increase in population was due to relocation and employment at the Jefferson Proving Grounds south of Versailles. This building and the building at 220 W. First North Street are similar in construction and likely developed by the same company.

224 W. First North. Telephone Company Building, c. 1935-1968. Contributing  
Right side of photo 01

The one-story brick building features metal windows with limestone sills and a stone belt course that forms lintels over the window and door openings. The building has a simple, short parapet with stone cap and a flat roof. The front façade features a metal garage door in its east half and a narrow entry alcove in its west end. The alcove features a large metal window divided into multiple lites in its west wall and a large wood entry door with window divided into multiple lites in its east wall. The back wall of the alcove features a niche where a public telephone was once located. The niche features a stone counter with rounded corners and is trimmed with rowlocks. A wide signboard or building stone was once located above the stone beltcourse on the front façade, but is gone. It is trimmed with rowlocks.

The first telephone company in Versailles was located at Spencer's drug store on the west side of the public square in 1899, directly south of this building. By the 1930s, a public telephone system had been developed and this building, with office, public telephone, and service bay was constructed. The telephone company operated from here until 1967.

220 W. First North. Gable-front apartment building, c. 1940. Contributing  
Far left side of photo 02

214 W. First North. Side-gabled house, c. 1840/1980. Non-contributing  
Middle of photo 02

While the house clearly has a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century date of construction, the alterations to the front façade and materials render the building non-contributing. The house was once attached with a porch to the commercial building to the east, likely as the home of the business owner in the late 1800s.

202 W. First North. Gable-front commercial building/former Post Office, Lion's Club, c. 1900/1938. Contributing  
Right side of photo 02

The two-story corner building with front gable faces south. The building was built in two periods. The brick first story section dates to c. 1900 while the second story, composed of block (likely clay block), was added in 1938. The building features a historic metal cornice at the top of the first story and pairs of 1/1 vinyl windows with concrete sills and lintels in the second story. The front-gabled roof features exposed rafter tails and is covered with asphalt shingles. The front façade features a portico with recessed entries (two) in its east half. The portico was

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added c. 1970 and features fluted columns that support a pediment with shingles on its front. The two entry doors have windows in the top and wood side-lites with windows in the top. A storefront window divided into two large sashes with a mansard roof is in the west half. The second story features two pairs of 1/1 windows and an attic vent in the top of the gable wall. This building was constructed c. 1900 for the Versailles Post Office. It remained at this location until a new building was constructed on South Washington Street in 1960. In 1938, the owner added the second floor for apartments. The building is the meeting hall of the Versailles Lions Club, chartered in 1942, who purchased the building by the 1970s. The Lions Club's service activities included sponsoring the town's annual pumpkin show as it rallied back after the end of World War II.

101 E. First North. Gable-front commercial building, c. 1880/1960. Contributing  
Photo 03

107 E. First North. Ranch, c. 1960. Contributing  
See in the middle of photo 03

TYSON STREET (north side going east)

204-206 W. Tyson. Versailles Medical Building, 1966. Contributing

TYSON STREET (south side going east)

207 W. Tyson. Ripley County School Corporation Administration Building, Ranch, 1962.  
Contributing. Stone gate posts, c. 1900. Contributing (structure). Photo 04

131 W. Tyson. Parapet-front commercial building, c. 1890. Contributing  
Right side of photo 05

133 W. Tyson. Commercial building, Modern, c. 1940. Contributing  
Second from right side of photo 05

127 W. Tyson. W. M. Hunter & Son Building, Modern, c. 1950. Contributing. Back gabled  
building, c. 1900. Contributing  
Second from left side of photo 05

The one-story front building's façade is composed of random-coursed limestone ashlar and is topped with a short parapet wall capped with stone. The broad storefront is symmetrically-arranged with a recessed entry door which is wood with a full window. The storefront features three large, metal windows with stone sills flanking the entry. The third window is part of a cutaway wall in the recessed entry. A signboard of black structural glass extends the full-width of the storefront and has W. M. HUNTER & SON painted in white lettering.



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The Hunter family, among the earliest settlers and merchants of Versailles, constructed commercial buildings on the south and west sides of the square during the 1950s. William Hunter operated a tin and buggy shop in the early 1880s and later the Hunters would deal in stoves, tin ware, and agricultural implements. The Hunters located on the south side of the square by the early 1900s and reconstructed this building during the 1950s. The building is named for William M. and his son, Roy, Hunter.

117 W. Tyson. Free & Accepted Order of Masons Building, Italianate, 1901/1914. Contributing. Back carriage shop, c. 1910. Contributing  
Left side of photo 05

The two-story brick building features a tall cast iron storefront frame and 1/1 wood windows with wood sills and pressed metal hoods in the second story. The storefront is divided into three sections by cast iron fluted pilasters. The middle section is narrower and contained a staircase and is flanked by narrower pilasters. The flanking sections are storefronts and are terminated by wide pilasters on the corners of the façade. The storefront is largely composed of non-historic wood panels, windows, and metal entry doors. A historic six-panel wood door is in the west end of the façade. A pair of historic wood doors with full windows is in the west storefront. A full-width wood sill extends under the tall transom area of the storefront. One wood transom is extant at the west end of the façade. The cast iron pilasters carry a cast iron cornice atop the storefront. The fluted pilasters with raised rosette match George Mesker & Company's No. 301 from their 1908 catalog.

The second story features a pair of 1/1 wood windows centered on the façade. The pair is flanked by 1/1 wood windows in each end of the façade. The façade is flanked by pilasters of brick, corbelled at the bottom, which extend up and carry a pressed metal cornice at the top of the façade. The cornice features a row of brackets. Ghost markings of the Masons' Hall are in an area above the second story windows and read F. & A. M. No. 7. A row of brick corbels extends across the top of the former sign and carry the parapet crowned with the pressed metal cornice.

Built in 1901 for John B. Austin's general store, by 1914, Austin discontinued his general merchandise store and remodeled the first floor into a theater. John Austin and his son, Everett Austin, operated Austin Theatre for the following 44 years. The theater closed in 1958. The second floor was dedicated as the new Freemason's Hall in 1914. The lodge of Versailles' Masons had been located in a second story room of the former county clerk's building on the southwest corner of the public square. The Masons remained at this location until about 1974 when they constructed a new facility just west of the district boundary on Tyson Street.

103 W. Tyson. Hotel Hassmer, Federal, c. 1840. Contributing. Back garage, c. 1930. Contributing. Stone retaining wall (Main Street side), c. 1860. Contributing (structure)  
Photo 12 (hotel) and right side of photo 11 (garage)

The two-story brick building is located on the southwest corner of Main and Tyson Streets. The building features a northeast corner storefront with a recessed entry that faces northeast. A photo from about 1915 shows a storefront of a different type at this corner. The entry features a modern wood door with window in the top half, side-lites, and transom. A wood corner post carries the second story at the entry. The storefront features two 6/6 modern wood windows with stone sills

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facing north and four 6/6 modern wood windows with wood panels below facing east. The windows are flanked by simple wood pilasters that carry a simple wood-composed lintel at the top of the storefront. An entry with modern wood door with window in the top half and transom is in the south half of the east façade, south of the corner entry. It is flanked by 6/6 modern wood windows with stone sills. The north (front) façade, west of the corner storefront, features a wide entry composed of a modern wood door with window in its top half and wood side-lites with diamond-patterned windows. The entry has a semi-elliptical arch and fanlight transom. Three tall 9/9 modern wood windows with stone sills and jack arches are in the west half of the north façade.

The second story features six 6/6 modern wood windows on the north façade. The wall is topped by a tall frieze board that once features pairs of wood brackets. These are still extant on the east façade. The building, which has an L-shaped brick section at the corner and in-filled with wood to the alley side, features a modified hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. The west and south-facing end walls feature brick gables.

The Hassmer Hotel, or Hassmer House, was built c. 1840. It has also been called the Versailles House and Courthouse Inn in the late 1800s-early 1900s. It was likely first operated by the Skeen family. William Skeen was a tavern keeper in one of the first lists of merchants for Versailles, created in 1825. Cynthia Skeen petitioned the county for a license to operate a tavern in June of 1841. The Skeens would operate a tavern at this location through much of the 1800s.

WATER STREET (north side)

118 Water. Zeilke Memorial Building/Versailles Police Department, 1963. Non-contributing  
A late remodeling campaign which significantly altered the materials and appearance of the front façade render the building non-contributing.

WASHINGTON STREET (west side heading north)

121 S. Washington. Versailles United States Post Office, Ranch/Neo-colonial, 1960.

Contributing. Left side of photo 06

The one-story brick building features a slight-raised base of random-course limestone ashlar which form a planter on the north half of the front (east) façade. The building features 6/6 metal windows with stone sills and metal shutters (fixed). The front façade features an incised porch with concrete floor in its south half. The porch features three large wood square columns on its front wall and two 6/6 windows in its back wall. The south wall is open and the entry, composed of a pair of glass doors with transom, is in the north wall of the porch. The north half of the façade has raised metal letters: UNITED STATES POST OFFICE VERSAILLES, IND. 47042 in the upper south corner of the brick wall. The low-pitched gabled roof, covered with asphalt shingles, features a front-gabled wall covered with vinyl siding. A roundel is centered in the gable and is divided into nine lites by lead caning. A small Colonial-style cupola is centered on the roof ridge.

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The first post office in Versailles was named “Versailles Court House” in 1818. The following year, the name was just “Versailles.” Like many post offices in historic commercial districts, the post office in Versailles has been located in a number of buildings around the square. These include the building at 1 South Main Street during the 1880s and 202 W. First North Street during the 1920s through the 1950s (photo 02). The current Versailles Post Office opened this location in 1960. A bronze building plaque inside the foyer recognizes Dwight D. Eisenhower as President and Arthur E. Summerfield as Postmaster General when the building was dedicated in 1960.

115 S. Washington. Ripley Publishing Company Building, Ranch, c. 1960. Contributing  
Right side of photo 06

The one-story, front-gabled building has walls composed of random-coursed limestone ashlar and a low-pitched gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles. The building has short 1/1 metal windows with stone sills. The front façade features a recessed corner entry on its south end. A stone planter extends off the south corner at the entry. A shallow alcove with signboard is in the back wall of the corner entry. A metal and glass door is located in the north wall of the recessed entry. Three 1/1 metal windows are centered on the façade. The façade features raised metal letters: RIPLEY PUBLISHING CO., INC. (and under in smaller letters): VERSAILLES REPUBLICAN OSGOOD JOURNAL. The front gable wall is covered with metal.

While a few newspapers were printed in Versailles between 1850 and 1870, the precursor to the longest-running paper, the *Versailles Republican*, was first printed in 1873. The *Ripley Index* was established by J. A. Wayland and Herbert Thompson, who sold out in 1875 to a consortium of individuals who identified with the Republican Party, and consequently later renamed the paper the *Versailles Republican*. The newspaper was published from a frame building located at this site from the early 1900s until this building was constructed c. 1960. It, along with a sister paper, the *Osgood Journal*, were operated by members of the Thompson family until it sold in 1988.

107 N. Washington. Hunter Building, parapet-front, 1955. Contributing  
Left side of photo 07

123 N. Washington. Bank of Versailles, Neoclassical, 1910. Contributing  
Right side of photo 07

The two-story, gable-front building features a raised first story composed of limestone and a second story and gable wall of brick. The façade is symmetrical, divided into three bays by wide Doric pilasters, stone on the first story and brick on the second story. The first story features a raised entry with stone steps centered in the wall. The entry surround is wood with fluted pilasters that support a broken pediment with urn finial. The door is metal and glass. The entry is flanked by historic metal lanterns. A metal deposit box is located south of the entry and a historic burglar alarm is above the entry. Pairs of modern windows with transoms are in the bays flanking the entry bay. They have stylized jack arches. The stone façade extends to the bottom of the second story windows and is capped by a stone cornice. There are pairs of modern windows with transoms in each of bay on the second story. The pilasters, now brick, are capped with rows of dentils which are part of a short entablature that support an enclosed pediment which is the

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front gable wall. The pediment features a building stone carved with VERSAILLES BANK. A full-round blind arch is centered over the building stone and features a stone carved with a clamshell. A stylized stone key is at the top of the pediment. Rows of dentils are along the pediment's rake.

The Versailles Bank first erected a building in 1891 on the south side of the square at 133 Tyson Street (no longer extant). It relocated to this building in 1910. The Versailles Bank acquired the New Marion Bank (New Marion, Indiana) in 1929, and would later rename their branches the Peoples Bank. The Ripley County Historical Society relocated their main archives and artifacts to the building in 1996.

131 N. Washington. Spencer House, Italianate/I-House, 1872. Contributing.  
Garage, c. 1975, Non-contributing. Iron Fence (structure), c. 1872. Contributing  
Photo 08

The two-story I-house features vinyl siding and 4/4 wood windows with vinyl shutters. The side gables feature cornice returns and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Chimneys are in either side of the house. The front façade is divided into five bays of 4/4 windows with the entry located in the center bay. The entry features a narrow porch with brick floor and four stylized Italianate posts that carry a low-pitched hipped roof. Jigsaw trim, in the form of an ogee arch, is between the center posts. The wood entry door features two narrow windows in the top half and two panels in the bottom half. An oval wood transom is over the door.

Benjamin Spencer purchased a home and drug store located at this site in about 1868. The drug store was attached to a one-story frame house, which was remodeled into the current two-story frame house in 1872/1878. The one-story drug store operated by Spencer also had a telephone switchboard in the back during the early 1900s. The drug store building was razed sometime after about 1980.

207 N. Washington. Central-passage house, c. 1840. Non-contributing  
The house has the design of a central-passage home of the mid-1800s, but has had alterations on the front façade sufficient enough to render it non-contributing.

WASHINGTON STREET (east side heading north)

208 S. Washington. Central-passage, Federal, c. 1830. Contributing

119 S. Washington. American Legion Post Building, 1929. Contributing  
Photo 09

The one-story building, with raised first floor, has a concrete base, topped with a cap, and first story walls composed of molded concrete block. The block walls feature a rock-face pattern with smooth-faced corners and trim to window and door openings, like quoining. The building's windows are composed of glass block and feature concrete sills and lintels. The building's hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The front (west) façade features a raised concrete

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porch with steps and a handicap ramp on its south side. The façade features a metal door in its north end and two windows composed of glass block.

As a new population of veterans from World War I returned to Versailles, a group organized to form American Legion Post #173 in 1919. The post's charter was granted on August 20, 1920. Alva Bronnenberg was elected the first post commander with 15 charter members. The post originally purchased and met in a house in the middle of the block on the east side of the public square, then purchased the Presbyterian Church on Adams Street for a meeting location in 1922. Then in 1928, the post purchased Lot 19 and constructed this building, completed in 1929, for the cost of \$3000. Membership in the post grew considerably after the end of World War II. The post is named for Leora Weare, the first casualty from Versailles in WWI. The post also has a women's auxiliary which formed in 1922.

111 S. Washington. Versailles Fire/Police Department, 1981. Non-contributing  
Left side of photo 09

107 S. Washington. Hall-and-parlor house, c. 1861. Contributing

MAIN STREET (west side heading north)

201 S. Main. Grand Army of the Republic Lodge & Museum, 1930. Contributing.  
The one-story brick building features a raised base of concrete topped with a course of soldier brick. The building has 6/6 wood windows with stone sills and a front-gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles. The front façade features a full-width concrete porch with large, fluted Doric corner columns that support a gabled wall composed of brick. The back wall of the porch features a four-panel wood entry door with wood transom. The door is flanked by 6/6 wood windows. The gable wall features a large building stone carved with the following: C. C. WHEELER POST NO. 98, GAR DEPT. OF INDIANA WAR MUSEUM MEMORIAL 1882 GIVEN BY MRS. C. C. WHEELER 1930. The building stone is trimmed with rowlocks.

Funkhouser-Smith-Engle Cabin, c. 1833/1979. Contributing. Photo 10  
The Arnold Wehr family donated the cabin to the historical society in 1979. The cabin was built in the 1830s in Laughery Township, Ripley County, by Jacob and Nancy Funkhouser. It was dismantled and reconstructed by volunteers behind the GAR lodge.

The G. A. R. Post #98, organized in 1882 in the old Masonic Lodge on the southwest corner of the public square, was named for Versailles resident Captain C. C. Wheeler. Wheeler was wounded and died during the Civil War in Georgia in 1864. The post elected John Craven as its first commander and purchased this property in 1886 for a meeting hall. By 1930, the post had only a few members, at which time it was decided to donate their lodge building to the Ripley County Historical Society for a museum.

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224 N. Main. Ripley County Courthouse Square, c. 1860. Contributing (site)

Ripley County Courthouse, Classical Revival, 1863  
National Register of Historic Places (2009). Photo 13

The two-story brick building is positioned near the center of the public square and is cruciform in plan with its main entry facing Main Street to the east. The building has a stone water table at the bottom of the first story and stone belt course between the first and second stories. The tall second story is topped by a brick frieze of panels with rows of dentils. The cornice that extends around the building encloses brick pediments facing each direction. The first story features 6/6 wood windows with stone sills and lintels. The second story features tall 9/9 wood windows with stone sills and lintels set into recessed bays with full-round arched tops. The front façade features a pair of wood doors with window in the top half and tall transom. The raised entry is flanked by brick pilasters with corbels that carry a segmental-shaped stone pediment. Flanking the entry are 6/6 windows. The second story features three 9/9 windows recessed into bays with full-round arched tops. A roundel with stone surround, with keys, is centered in the pediment.

The bell tower, positioned near the front of the east-facing pediment, rises in three sections. Each section has walls covered with scalloped shingles and is topped with a metal cornice. The first section is the base on which the belfry sets. The belfry features groupings of three corner columns, fluted, that support a shaped lintel carrying the clockworks section above. The belfry has full-round arched louvers in each of the four walls. The clockworks section, rising above the belfry, also features groupings of three corner columns, fluted, that support shaped lintel that carries a tall, pyramidal shaped roof with flared eaves. The roof is covered with metal and features a simple finial. A clock face is in each of the four walls of the clockworks section.

The first courthouse was constructed by 1821 in the center of the courthouse square. When it was determined that more space would be needed in the courthouse, an addition and remodel was proposed in 1860. However, it was ultimately decided that a new courthouse would better suit the needs of Ripley County and construction was completed on the current building in 1863 designed by Thomas Pattison. Delays were due to funding and the Civil War. The contract for construction went to James L. Yater, who owned a local saw mill, for the sum of \$16,250. The courthouse tower was remodeled in 1933 to its present design and the county placed an addition in 1971 to the west end for a stairway and elevator.

Historical Marker-General John Morgan's Versailles Raid/sign, 1963. Contributing (object) (C)

Historical Marker-General John Morgan/boulder, 1924. Contributing (object) (B)

Historical Marker-Eleazer Wheelock Ripley/monument, c. 2020. Non-contributing (object) (A)

Veterans Memorial/monument, c. 2015. Non-contributing (object) (D)

Veterans Memorial/Gun (southwest corner), 1958. Contributing (object) (E)

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Historical Marker-Site of Masonic Hall, 1966. Contributing (object) (F)

Historical Marker-Stephen S. Harding, 2004. Non-contributing (object) (G)

311 N. Main. Ranch, 1985. Non-contributing

313 N. Main. Gable-ell house, c. 1880. Contributing. Garage, c. 1920. Contributing  
Right background of photo 18

327 N. Main. Ranch, 1965. Contributing. Right foreground of photo 18

333 N. Main. Double-passage, Federal, 1827. Contributing  
Photo 14

The house is estimated to be the oldest building in the Versailles district. The one-story, side-gabled house is an example of a double-pen home with Federal style influence. The house has a stone foundation and brick walls with 1/1 wood windows with fixed shutters. The roof, covered with asphalt shingles, has enclosed cornice returns. Chimneys are in the north and south side-walls of the home. The front façade is arranged with two four-panel wood doors with two small square windows in the top. The transom is filled with a wood panel with cast iron eagle. The entry surround is composed of pilasters that support an entablature. A 1/1 wood window is in each end of the front façade.

MAIN STREET (east side heading north)

1 S. Main. Commercial building, Italianate, c. 1880. Contributing

102 S. Main. Fernando G. Taylor House, Greek Revival/Gothic Revival, c. 1860.

National Register of Historic Places (1986). Right side of photo 15

The two-story, double-pile house features a rubble-course stone foundation and clapboards. The house has 6/6 wood windows with simple casings and wood shutters. The building's hipped roof is covered with historic standing seam metal. The perimeter of the roof is decorated with jigsawn eave trim forming arches and pendants. The front façade is divided into five bays of 6/6 windows with the entry in the center bay. A small porch with square corner columns, Doric, and rear pilasters supporting a flat roof is centered with the entry. The porch roof also has matching jigsawn eave trim. The entry is composed of a four-panel wood door with side-lites and transom that feature lites shaped in elongated octagons.

The house was built c. 1860 for Fernando G. Taylor who born in Vermont about 1820. In 1849, he married Mary Hunter, the daughter of one of the town's founders and prominent businessmen, John Hunter. Taylor was described as a tradesman in the 1860 census; he died in 1865. Mary Taylor remained in the house, which stayed in the possession of immediate family until 1905. When threatened with demolition, the house was moved from its location a block south in 1983.

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110-112 S. Main. Commercial building, Modern, 1949. Contributing  
Second from right side of photo 15

114-116 S. Main. Commercial building, Federal, c. 1840. Contributing  
Second from left side of photo 15

The two-story brick building features side gables, also brick, with a metal roof. The front façade features a metal staircase door and transom covered with wood in its south end. The opening has a segmental-arched top and jigsaw valance in the top of the arch. A segmental-arched opening with a modern 1/1 window and stone sill is north of the south entry. The north half of the façade has a small storefront with metal door and transom covered with wood in its south half and a wide opening filled with two modern 1/1 windows in its north half. The second story features four modern 1/1 windows with historic jigsaw valances in the top of the opening. A bronze plaque stating that the building was the birthplace of local philanthropist James H. Tyson (September 14, 1856) is located on the north corner of the front façade.

The building has housed commercial enterprises in the first story and residences on the second story. William Tyson operated a store from the building and lived in the second story during the 1850s. Tyson and his wife, Eliza, had a son born in the second floor of the building in 1856. The son, named James H. Tyson, learned the printing trade at the *Ripley Index* and would go on to work at the *Denver Post* and Chicago newspapers. James Tyson became associated with Charles Walgreen while working in Chicago. Tyson became treasurer and one of the principle stockholders of the Walgreens Drug Stores. Tyson left much of his wealth to his community, and became the benefactor of a new Methodist Church, named in honor of his mother, as well as the town's library and high school auditorium. Tyson Street in the district is named for James Tyson.

128 S. Main. Versailles City Hall/former bank, 1970. Contributing  
Left side of photo 15

The one-story brick building features two storefronts in its front-gabled façade. The south storefront features a recessed metal and glass entry door and side-lite in its north half and a large metal and glass window with stone sill in its south half. The north storefront features a recessed metal and glass entry door and side-lite in its center. The entry is flanked by metal windows with stone sills. A former bank drive-up window, metal, is roughly centered in its north façade. The wide, low-pitched gabled roof is covered with metal. The gable is covered with vinyl siding and features lettering for the building: VERSAILLES TOWN HALL & COMMUNITY CENTER.

Greely Gay, a Versailles attorney, announced plans in 1967 to build this building for his law office and a lease space. The building was constructed by 1970 and leased to, then purchased, by a bank before it became home to Versailles Town Hall and Community Center. Prior to relocation to this building, the town had been the recipient of funds to construct a town hall from the Zielke family in 1959. The town constructed a building, called Zielke Memorial Building at 118 Water Street in 1963. This building now serves as police department. The current town hall is considered the last building constructed during the period of significance in the Versailles Courthouse Square Historic District.

214 N. Main. Pilgrim Holiness Church/Wesleyan Church, c. 1923/1956. Contributing



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The gable-front church is covered with aluminum siding and features rows of 1/1 wood windows in each side of the sanctuary (north and south). An entry/bell tower is on the back, northeast corner of the building and connects the church to the parsonage. The entry tower has a concrete stoop covered with a metal canopy on its front (west) façade and a pair of metal and glass doors. The tower has louvers in each of its four walls and is crowned with a pyramidal roof covered with asphalt shingles. The one-story Sunday School addition, with concrete base and aluminum siding, has an incised porch in its northwest front corner. The porch has a concrete floor and brick corner post. The entry door is in the south wall of the porch. A 1/1 wood window is centered in the front façade south of the porch and the front gable of the parsonage features an octagonal window.

The small church was converted from a house, home of an old Civil War veteran hired to be the town's lamplighter, to the Pilgrim Holiness Church in about 1923. In that year, a revival was held in the Curran School south of Versailles by evangelist David Wise of Ripley County. After a few years of holding service in the school or in member's homes, the congregation organized and purchased the property. A simple frame sanctuary was constructed at that time. By 1956, a Sunday School room and entry tower addition were made on the side of the building. In 1968, the Pilgrim Holiness Church and Wesleyan Church of America were united to form the Wesleyan Church.

226 N. Main. Dr. Cornett House, double-pen/Federal, 1828. Contributing.

Carriage House, c. 1900. Contributing. Photo 16

The one-story, side-gabled brick building features a cut stone foundation and 9/9 wood windows with wood sills. The façade has two wood entry doors with transoms. Most of the brick is laid in Flemish bond and the upper courses form a corbeled cornice. A 9/9 window is in each end of the façade. A short frieze board is at the top of the side walls. The rear frame addition is recent, c. 2023. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

Dr. W. T. S. Cornett, who was both physician and surgeon, built this office by 1828. He had come to Versailles to practice by 1825. Cornett was elected the first president of the Indiana State Medical Association in 1849. Cornett was also a horticulturalist who later built a farm and residence on Hassmer Hill which he called Mount Jenner.

244 N. Main. Eli & Nancy Hunter House, Greek Revival/Italianate, 1856. Contributing

Garage, c. 2000. Non-contributing. Photo 17 (house)

The two-story, side-gabled brick house has a double-pile form. It has a stone water table at the bottom of the first story and a tall frieze board with brackets at the top of the second story and pairs of brackets on the rake of the brick gable walls. The house has 6/6 wood windows with wood sills and simple surrounds with narrow bracketed hoods. The gable walls feature attic roundels in a daisy-wheel pattern. The house features cornice returns and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The front façade is divided into five bays with 6/6 windows on each floor of the four bays flanking the entry bay. The entry bay features a two-story porch with pairs of square Doric columns resting on a brick and concrete porch floor on the first story. The second story porch

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features a balustrade of turned spindles between the square columns. The second story's gabled porch roof features an enclosed pediment with wood roundel. The first and second story porches feature entries composed of wood doors with windows in the top half and side-lites and transoms with jigsawn trim in tulip and urn patterns. The paired posts and second story balcony platform are recent reconstructions. The porch gable is original.

Eli Hunter was born in Versailles in 1831 to pioneer merchant, John Hunter and his wife, Mary Smith Hunter. Eli Hunter served the Union Army during the Civil War and came back to Versailles where he operated a tin shop, and later hardware store on the south side of the public square until his death in 1890. He was followed by his son, William Hunter, who operated a tin and buggy shop into the early 1900s. John married Nancy Yater by 1860 and had at least nine children.

314 N. Main. Hunter House, Queen Anne, c. 1880. Contributing

328 N. Main. John Henry and Margaret Smith House, Gothic Revival/Italianate, 1872.

Contributing

Garage, c. 2000. Non-contributing. Left side of photo 18

The one-and-a-half story brick house has a rubble-stone foundation and cross-gable roof. The house has 6/6 wood windows with stone sills and lintels. The window openings feature a shaped hood below the lintel composed of narrow corbels and ogee arch. The house has a frieze board at the top of the walls and cornice returns. The roof features jigsawn bargeboard trim and is covered with asphalt shingles. The front façade features a narrow porch with brick floor and stylized square columns, wood, that support a second floor balcony. A jigsawn frieze is between the posts and the roof features jigsawn eave trim. Both are arches/ogee arches with pendants. The balcony balustrade is composed of jigsawn boards and corner posts. The porch and balcony doors are wood with transoms. The first story has 6/6 windows that flank the porch. The second story has shorter 6/6 windows that flank the balcony. Small triangular-arched windows and applied jigsawn trim are near the corners of the first-second floor under the eave. A diamond-shaped window with applied jigsawn trim is centered in the top of the gable in the attic.

John Henry Smith was the son of German immigrants, John and Louise Williman Smith (Schmidt). His father was active in Ripley County government, serving as auditor and clerk. He died in 1872, likely leaving the funds to build the home. John Henry Smith married Margareth Hunger in 1877 and lived at the home in 1880 with Smith's widowed mother. John Smith had a meat market/butcher shop in Versailles from the 1880s through the early 1900s. By 1910, he had taken up the occupation of painting, which he stayed active in into his late 70s. His wife died in 1932 and he died in 1939; they are buried at the city cemetery, Cliff Hill.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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(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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

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POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

**Period of Significance**

1827-1970

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**Significant Dates**

1863

**Significant Person (last name, first name)**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

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

**Cultural Affiliation**

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

**Architect/Builder (last name, first name)**

Pattison, Thomas

Yater, James L.

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### **Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins with the district's oldest extant building located at 333 North Main Street; it is a house constructed in 1827 (photo 14). The period concludes in 1970 when the current Versailles Town Hall was constructed as a bank and attorney's office at 128 Main Street (left side of photo 15). The year 1863 is noted as an important date since construction on the current courthouse was completed in that year. During the 1950s and into the mid-1960s, despite the relocation of state routes around the village in 1930, Versailles' commercial district continued to remain strong with several new buildings, including the United States Post Office, constructed during this time. The last building constructed during this mid-20<sup>th</sup> century expansion was built in 1970 as a bank and is now the town hall.

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

**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 Versailles Courthouse Square Historic District is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places using criterion A under a few areas of significance. Commerce played an early role in the district and maintained significance into the middle part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Several social clubs built their meeting halls in the district including the Grand Army of the Republic, American Legion, and Free Masons. The other area of significance under criterion A is Politics/Government. As the county seat of Ripley County, the courthouse was established in Versailles on a traditional square and post offices serve the historic district through today.

The Versailles Courthouse Square Historic District also qualifies for the National Register using criterion C under the area of architecture. The district exhibits good examples of most 19<sup>th</sup> century American architecture including Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, and Italianate. By the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, simpler vernacular design prevailed with construction of simple Modern commercial buildings.

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

## ARCHITECTURE

Versailles' early development fostered examples of Federal and Greek Revival architecture, styles popular during the early 1800s through the 1860s. The Federal style gained popularity during and after the American Revolution and was mostly characterized by a simple rectangular box with rigid bay spacing and narrow cornice and eave lines, if any eaves at all. The Greek Revival style emerged by the early 1800s as the newly-established country sought out an architectural style reflective of democratic ideals. Greece provided that inspiration. The Greek Revival style's tall entablature and cornice returns and (typically) symmetrically-organized façade are its most prominent features. More often than not, builders incorporated a few formal high-style elements into their otherwise vernacular houses and buildings. Most of Versailles' pre-1900 architecture reflects common Upland South types: single-pen, double-pen, center-passage, and related types.

The oldest extant buildings in the district are residences that exhibit simple features of the Federal style, with simple rooflines and symmetrically arranged facades. These include two homes constructed as double-pen houses in 1827 and 1828 at 333 and 226 N. Main Street, respectively (photos 14, 16). Both are one-story brick homes. A house built c. 1830 at 208 S. Washington is similar but features a central passage. Two commercial examples of the Federal style, built c. 1840, include two two-story brick buildings at 114-116 N. Main (middle of photo 15) and 103 W. Tyson Street (photo 12). The example on Tyson Street, Hotel Hassmer, is the best example of the Federal style in the district due to its comparatively-elaborate entry with side-lites and elliptical fan-lite transom. The corner building also features a nicely-detailed corner storefront entry. Hotel Hassmer is essentially a center-passage house with commercial accommodations.

There are four examples of eclectic early 19<sup>th</sup> century styles in the district. Many of these feature jigsaw trim work on eaves and windows. The oldest example is the Eli Hunter House located at 244 N. Main, built in 1856 (photo 17). The two-story, side-gabled brick home features a formal two-story porch, 6/6 windows, cornice returns, and elegant entry with side-lites and transom with jigsaw tracery. The bracketed roofline is Italianate. A similar example, but frame construction, is the Taylor House (right side of photo 15). While the Taylor House blends features of the Gothic style, such as its tracery and eave trim, and double-pile, hipped roof design, and symmetrical façade with five bays of 6/6 windows are Federal influences. The house also features a nicely-detailed porch with square Doric columns and pilasters that support an entablature and elegant entry with side-lites and transom with tracery. The Smith House (1872, left side of photo 18) blends features of Italianate and the Gothic Revival style into its design at 328 N. Main. The one-and-a-half story, brick house has cross-gables, each with cornice returns, tall frieze boards, and jigsaw eave trim. A diamond-shaped window with tracery is at the top of

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each gable wall. The house also features a symmetrical façade with porch and balcony, replete with jigsaw trim, and unusual windows with gable-like tops, also with tracery.

The Ripley County Courthouse (photo 13) is the last example is Classical Revival in style. The building was completed in 1863 in a cross plan facing east. The massive brick building exhibits features of a temple, common in the style, with a raised base, symmetrical facades, and enclosed pediments. The building features large 6/6 and 9/9 windows, a brick entablature with rows of keys just below the pediment, and roundels centered in the pediment walls. The three-tiered design of the clock/bell tower, rebuilt in the 1930s, is simple, with flattened roofs topping each tier except for the top which has a pyramidal-shaped metal roof with flared eaves. The building also exhibits features of the growing popularity of the Italianate style, particularly in the large, full-round arched bays into which windows are placed.

The district grew following construction of the courthouse as the Italianate style emerged in building design. The Italianate style was popular between 1850 and 1880, particularly in Midwestern towns where the expansion of railroads brought wealth to communities and created a building boom during the period. The style traces its roots to England as part of the Picturesque Movement; the movement rejected formal classical ideas of art and architecture that were popular for 200 years. The Picturesque Movement emphasized rambling informal Italian farmhouses, but as the style entered the United States it was often modified and embellished into a truly Americanized style. The first Italianate house was constructed in the United States in the late 1830s. The style was popularized by house pattern books by Andrew Jackson Downing during the middle part of the 1800s, but its popularity began to wane as it began to be replaced by the Queen Anne Style in the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

There are just three examples of the Italianate style in the district, two commercial and the third is residential. The Spencer House at 131 N. Washington Street (photo 08) was built using the I-House form (one room deep, flanking a central stairhall) in 1872. The two-story frame house features five bays with central entry, in typical symmetrical design of I-Houses, with 4/4 wood windows and a nicely-detailed porch. Unlike the Greek Revival style, the house lacks cornice returns and features flared eaves. The other examples are typical of commercial buildings in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The two-story brick building at 117 W. Tyson (left side of photo 05) features a cast iron storefront of fluted pilasters and cornice, and second story windows with pressed metal hoods and a pressed metal cornice atop the front parapet. The building was constructed c. 1890 with two storefronts and Masonic Lodge Hall on the second floor. One other two-story brick commercial building, located at 1 S. Main Street has simple features of the style. The building also has a Mesker cast iron storefront composed of pilasters and lintel, though a modern storefront replaced the historic one. The building has segmental-arched second story windows.

The Neoclassical style emerged at the turn of the new century and continued into the 1930s in American cities. Several events and trends fed the movement toward Classicism. Planners of the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 embraced classicism for most of the fair's major buildings. The style coincided with America's political and economic rise, as well as the coming of age of American cities. By the late 1910s and into the 1920s, as a robust American economy

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permitted, the style was being executed with greater attention to classical styling. The style was used in the design of the district's early 20<sup>th</sup> century bank, the Bank of Versailles, at 123 N. Washington when it was constructed in 1910 (right side of photo 07). The two-story building has a tall stone first story and brick second story, divided into three bays by wide Doric pilasters. A thin entablature with rows of key are at the top of the second story and continue in the enclosed pediment that tops the building's façade. A stylized key and carved clamshell are incorporated into the masonry design of the pediment.

The remaining examples of architecture are from a late period of growth and reflect styles related to the modern development of architecture from the late 1930s into the early 1960s. These are significant because the buildings demonstrate a sustained vitality of the community and in its public spaces. While none of these are considered high style modern design, like Art Moderne or the International Style, they do exhibit the simple, horizontal, stream-lined approach to commercial construction that began in the 1930s and continued into the 1960s. There are five simple parapet-front buildings, mostly around the courthouse square, that were constructed during this time. They include the side-by-side examples at 127 and 133 W. Tyson Street (photo 05), built during the late 1940s and early 1950s with random-coursed limestone ashlar, recessed central entry, and flat parapet. An early, one-story brick example with two storefronts is located at 110-112 S. Main and was constructed c. 1930 (middle of photo 15). A third example was built on the west side of the square at 107 N. Washington in 1955 (left side of photo 07). The building, known as the Hunter Building, was constructed in 1955 of random-coursed limestone ashlar and features a stepped parapet. Another early building, with simple design, is the Telephone Company Building at 224 W. First North Street, c. 1935 (right side of photo 01). The brick building features a simple parapet and an unusual incised porch with niche for a public telephone.

Both residential and commercial architecture constructed in the district at the end of the period of significance reflect the popularity of simple, one-story gable or hipped roof Ranch design. The Ranch style was developed from the one-story, basic linear rectangular plan of homes constructed in the West on ranches. The style was popular from the late 1930s into the early 1980s and often features hipped or low-pitched gable roofs. The two Ranch houses in the district were built c. 1960 and 1965 at 107 E. First North and 327 N. Main (left side of photo 14), respectively. Though not architecturally significant, they do fall within the period of significance and are likely second generation houses on lots, or subdivided from original lots of the town plat.

There are several commercial or public buildings that were constructed using the same overriding form or principles of Ranch design. These include the Versailles United States Post Office Building, constructed in 1960 at 121 S. Washington (left side of photo 06). The building has some Neo-colonial features, but clearly exhibits Ranch design in its front-gable and incised porch. Immediately to the north is the Ripley Publishing Company building, constructed c. 1960 (right side of photo 06). It also features a wide front gable, but is constructed out of random-coursed ashlar versus brick like the post office. Other buildings constructed in the 1960s using the Ranch form are the Ripley County School Administration building at 207 W. Tyson (1962, photo 04) and the Versailles Medical Building at 204-206 W. Tyson (1966). Both of these buildings occupy corners immediately off of the courthouse square. The building that closes out



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the period of significance is the former Versailles Bank, constructed in 1970 at 128 S. Main, now occupied as the Versailles Town Hall and Community Center (far left side of photo 15). The building also exhibits the Ranch form with a one-story design and broad front gable. The building has two storefronts with deeply-recessed entries facing the courthouse square.

## POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Versailles was platted with the specific intention to establish the village as the Ripley County seat of government. Its location was geographically-central in the county and near Laughery Creek, a fresh water source. The three members appointed by the Indiana General Assembly met in New Marion to determine the best location for a county seat. John Paul offered a donation of 100 acres for the creation of the county seat in 1818, which was accepted, and by 1819, the town plat was created. John Richey surveyed and platted the town into 186 lots, and was appointed as the agent for sale of lots. The new town was named for Versailles, France. Paul was a prominent figure in Southern Indiana's early history; he also donated land for county seats in Floyd County (New Albany) and Jefferson County (Madison).

The plat was organized around a central public square on which the county courthouse would be placed; the first 16 lots front the square on Main, Tyson (formerly Main Cross), Washington, and First North Streets. The public square conforms to the Shelbyville Plan of courthouse squares, which feature streets that intersect on the corners of the square rather than streets that fall on axis with the square. However, in the Versailles plat, alleys in the blocks fronting the square are behind the fronting buildings whereas some square plans allow alleys to empty into the street fronting the square (like Jackson County). While some demolitions have occurred on blocks fronting the square, the square generally retains its feel, except on the north side where a new government center and parking lot were built.

The first courthouse was constructed by 1821 in the center of the courthouse square. In 1826, the clerk's office was constructed on the southwest corner of the square. In 1854, the old log jail was sold and a new jail and jailer's house were constructed in the northwest corner of the square. When it was determined that more space would be needed in the courthouse, at first an addition and remodel was proposed in 1860. However, it was ultimately decided that a new courthouse would better suit the needs of Ripley County and construction began on the current building, according to plans drawn by Thomas Pattison, in 1860 (photo 13). Delays were due to funding and the Civil War. The contract for construction went to James L. Yater for the sum of \$16,250. The local order of Free Masons used the former clerk's building until they relocated to the south side of Tyson Street, after which time the building was razed. The jail on the square was replaced in 1891, after which time that building was razed, leaving only the courthouse centered in the square. The courthouse tower was remodeled in 1933 to its present design and the building received an addition in 1971 to the west end for a stairway and elevator.

Several monuments dedicated to individuals and events in the county's history are located on the square. This began in 1924 when the Ripley County Historical Society placed a boulder with bronze plate on the front law of the courthouse commemorating General John Morgan's Raid

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during the Civil War into southern Indiana, reaching Versailles on July 12, 1863. By the late 1950s, other monuments or markers were added to the square, including the Veterans War Memorial & Gun placed on the southwest corner of the square (1958) and an historical marker, a sign indicating the first site of the Masons' Hall, was placed near the gun in 1966. More monuments have followed, including the large Veterans Memorial in the southeast corner of the square (contemporary/non-contributing).

While Versailles was platted in 1819, it was not until 1845, then again in 1851, that attempts were made to incorporate. Those attempts failed for lack of two-thirds majority. The town was incorporated in 1870; however, a vote in the same year to dissolve incorporation occurred. It garnered only about 30% of the vote and failed.

The Versailles volunteer fire department formed in 1871 and relied on a 55-gallon tank and chemical engine. This was replaced in 1897. The department was reorganized in 1911 and in 1923, a new motorized Model A Ford engine was purchased. Volunteers were summoned by a bell in a frame tower once located in the area east of the American Legion Hall. This was replaced with an electric bell in 1932. The engine was housed in a concrete block garage on the southwest corner of Perry and Washington Streets in 1927, about a block south of the district. A new fire station was constructed north of the American Legion Hall when the hall donated land in 1940. This building was replaced by the current building in 1981 (left side of photo 09).

By 1898, the town had simple street lighting and a contract with a lamplighter to trim the wicks, light and extinguish the lamps daily. The town replaced the old lights with twenty electric lights in 1900. These were replaced in 1927 with "boulevard lights" around the public square. Town water and sewage systems were developed in 1938, partly through bonding, federal relief funding, and substantially through the Tyson Fund, created by philanthropist and co-founder of the Walgreen Drug Company.

The town was the recipient of funds to construct a new town hall from the Zielke family in 1959. The town constructed a building, called Zielke Memorial Building, at 118 Water Street in 1963. This building now serves as the police department. The town's new city hall is located at 128 N. Main Street, which is a former bank building constructed in 1968-1970 and purchased by the town in 2018 (left side of photo 15).

A significant government institution in the Versailles district is the United States Post Office branch. The first post office was named Versailles Court House in 1818, but the following year, the name was just "Versailles." Like many post offices in historic commercial districts, the post office in Versailles has been located in a number of buildings around the square. These include the building at 1 South Main Street during the 1880s and 202 W. First North Street during the 1920s through the 1950s (photo 02). The current Versailles Post Office opened at 121 S. Washington Street in a Neo-colonial style building constructed in the district for the post office in 1960 (left side of photo 06). It closely resembles a Neo-Colonial design for a 2000 square foot post office published in United States Post Office Department, Building Designs in April 1959.

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## COMMERCE

Like many young county seat towns, commerce grew from people in need of services from county government, or of attorneys and other professions related to the operation of county government. This is somewhat different than towns that grew from transportation and trade associated with agriculture or manufacturing. In 1825, these businesses were listed in operation in Versailles: John Hunter, merchant; William Skeen, tavern keeper; George Osborn, wheelwright; Samuel Lampson, cabinet-maker; Col. Thomas Smith, tanner; and O. H. Smith and Jos Lindsey, attorneys. There were also two physicians, Dr. Fox and Dr. W. T. S. Cornett, who was both physician and surgeon and built his office at 226 N. Main (photo 16). While a few other buildings, residences, date to the town's early years, only the doctor's office is an extant representation of early commercial architecture of the 1820s-1830s.

By the 1840s-1860s, however, more commercial development began to occur around the public square. This included hotels and taverns on nearly every corner to accommodate people who came to Versailles to conduct business at the courthouse and clerk's office. One hotel remains from this period, the Hassmer Hotel or Hassmer House, which was built c. 1840 on the southeast corner of Tyson and Main Streets (photo 12). It has also been called the Versailles House and Courthouse Inn in the late 1800s-early 1900s. It was likely first operated by the Skeen family; Cynthia Skeen petitioned the county for a license to operate a tavern in June of 1841. The Skeens would operate a tavern at this location through much of the 1800s. This building and the building located at 114-116 Main Street (left side of photo 15), which functioned as a store on the first floor and residence above, are from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century period of commercial growth in the district. The building located at 114-116 Main Street was also the birth place of town philanthropist, James Tyson, in 1856. In 1850, Versailles had the following commercial enterprises or professional services: five attorneys, three doctors, a druggist, a newspaper, grocer, eight merchants, two traders, two innkeepers, nine shoemakers, a tailor, butcher, three furniture makers, five blacksmiths, three wagon makers, three coopers, a tinner, and two tanners. There was also a steam saw mill in Versailles, operated by James Yater, who constructed the courthouse in 1860. The population of Versailles had reached 412 in 1850, but only grew by another 100 people by the 1930 census.

Other commercial buildings followed in the late part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These include the building located on the southeast corner of the public square, a two-story brick building with storefront on the first floor which housed the post office during the 1880s, and a (formerly) one-story building on the northwest corner of the public square which housed the post office during the early 1900s-1950s (photo 02). A drug store opened by Benjamin Spencer in about 1868 was located on the southwest corner of First North and Washington Streets. The frame building was attached to his one-story frame house, which was remodeled into the current two-story frame house in 1872/1878 (photo 08). The one-story drug store, which also had a telephone switchboard in the back during the early 1900s, was razed sometime after about 1980. Two other buildings closed out the 19<sup>th</sup> century's commercial expansion around the public square. John Austin's general store opened in 1901 at 117 Tyson Street (left side of photo 05) and a general store at 131 Tyson (extreme right side of photo 05) was opened by W. T. Austin, a brother, about

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the same time. The Austins were prominent businessmen in Versailles during the late part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century into the mid-1900s. The Austins had livery stables and a skating rink on the south half of the block in which their stores were located. The area continued to be used for liveries and garages and retains two early 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings (photo 11). John Austin was one of the founders of the Building and Loan Association in 1888. In 1914, he converted his general store to a theatre which ran movies until it closed in 1958.

While a few newspapers were printed in Versailles between 1850 and 1870, the precursor to the longest-running paper, the *Versailles Republican*, was first printed in 1873. The *Ripley Index* was established by J. A. Wayland and Herbert Thompson, who sold out in 1875 to a consortium of individuals who identified with the Republican Party, and consequently later renamed the paper the *Versailles Republican*. The newspaper was published from a frame building located on South Main Street from the early 1900s until a new building was constructed next to the new post office, c. 1960 (right side of photo 06). It was operated by members of the Thompson family until it sold in 1988.

The Versailles Bank erected a building in 1891 on the south side of the square at 133 Tyson Street (no longer extant). It relocated to a new building on the west side of the square by about 1912 (right side of photo 07). The bank acquired the New Marion Bank in 1929. The bank would later be renamed the Peoples Bank. The first telephone company was located at Spencer's drug store on the west side of the public square in 1899. By the 1930s, a public telephone system had been developed and a building with a service bay was constructed at 224 W. First North Street (right side of photo 01) where it remained until 1967.

Versailles began to see substantial growth in the 1940s, in part due to the need for housing for employees at Jefferson Proving Grounds, south of Versailles, during World War II. The population of Versailles was 582 in 1940 and nearly doubled to 1158 in 1960. This growth sustained commercial development around the public square with hardware shops, groceries, and restaurants, even though state highways were rerouted on the south edge of town. Still, apartments were constructed during the 1940s-1950s along First North Street (photos 01-02) to accommodate the need for housing. This includes the addition of a second floor on the former post office building at 202 W. First North (photo 02). The new stores quickly changed the character of the 19<sup>th</sup> century commercial core of Versailles to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century architecture. A one-story brick business house, Meisberger's Bar & Grill, was built in 1949 on the east side of the square at 110-112 Main Street (middle of photo 16). The Hunter family of hardware merchants constructed buildings on the south and west sides of the square at 127 Tyson and 107 Washington during the 1950s (photos 05 and 07, respectively). The Hunter family was among Versailles' pioneer families, dating to the 1820s. Eli Hunter, followed by his son, William Hunter, operated a tin and buggy shop in the early 1880s. Later, the Hunters would deal in stoves, tin ware, and agricultural implements. The Hunters located their business on the south side of the square by the early 1900s and reconstructed the building during the 1950s.

In May of 1967, attorney Greely Gay announced plans to build a new brick office building at 128 Main Street. It would have his law office on one side and lease space on the other. The building, constructed by 1970, was leased to, and then purchased by, a bank before it became home to

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Versailles Town Hall and Community Center. This is considered the last contributing building constructed during the period of significance in the Versailles Courthouse Square Historic District.

## SOCIAL GROUPS IN VERSAILLES

While several social organizations existed in Versailles, often meeting in lodge rooms on the second floor of commercial buildings in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, only a few demonstrate a presence in the district with club buildings today. Fraternal organizations such as the Knights of Pythias and its sister organization, the Pythian Sisters, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Red Men Lodge and Pocahontas Auxiliary, the Modern Woodman, and the Oriental Club all were organized and met in Versailles during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Other organizations, such as the Free Masons, Grand Army of the Republic, Ripley County Historical Society, American Legion, and Versailles Lions Club were organized and either constructed lodges or occupied buildings that are in the district today.

The first social organization established in Versailles was Free & Accepted Order of Masons Lodge No. 7. The lodge was granted their dispensation on July 24, 1843, given to Phillip Mason, and chartered on October 27, 1844. The lodge requested permission from county commissioners to construct a second story on the brick building that was used for the clerk's office on the southwest corner of the public square in the late 1840s. A historical marker at this location was erected by the lodge in 1966. The lodge building was raided and articles taken during the raid by Confederate General Morgan on July 12, 1863. Morgan, being a Mason himself, ordered soldiers to return the articles. The lodge moved to the second story of the building located at 117 Tyson Street, on the south side of the square (left side of photo 05). They dedicated their new hall in 1911. Ghost markings in paint near the building's parapet read F. & A. M. No. 7. The lodge, and the Order of the Eastern Star, continued to meet at this location until a new lodge hall, their current meeting location, was constructed just west of the district in 1974.

The Ripley County Historical Society was also organized comparatively early in Versailles. Forming on September 2, 1880, the organization's first matter of business was collecting stories to be compiled into a county history book. The current organization of the Ripley County Historical Society traces its beginnings to July 14, 1921, when a group met in the county courthouse to organize. The historical society received the former G. A. R. Post building at 201 S. Main as a gift from the post to be used as a museum in 1930 (photo 10). The society purchased a house to the south for expansion in 1973 and received and restored a log cabin, which was moved to the back part of the lot in 1979. The Funkhouser-Smith-Engle Cabin came from Laughery Township and dates to c. 1833. While the society still owns the former G. A. R. post and cabin, they relocated the main portion of their museum and archives to the former Versailles Bank building at 123 N. Main Street (right side of photo 07) in 1996.

The Grand Army of the Republic Post of Civil War veterans was organized at the old Masonic Hall on the southwest corner of the public square in 1882. The post was named for Versailles resident Captain C. C. Wheeler, who was wounded and died during the conflict in Georgia in

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1864. The post, given the designation of #98, elected John Craven as its first commander, and purchased property in 1886 at 201 S. Main for a meeting hall. By 1930, the post had only a few members, at which time it was decided to donate their lodge building to the Ripley County Historical Society for a museum. About this time, the lodge building was bricked and remodeled to its current appearance (photo 10). A large date stone in the front gable provides information about the G.A.R. post and benefactors. The organization is credited for first decorating the graves of veterans at Cliff Hill Cemetery in Versailles, which was continued by the American Legion.

As the Grand Army of the Republic post's members were aging, and a new population of veterans from World War I returned to Versailles, a group organized to form American Legion Post #173 in 1919. The post's charter was granted on August 20, 1920. Alva Bronnenberg was elected the first post commander with 15 charter members. The post originally purchased and met in a house in the middle of the block on the east side of the public square, then purchased the Presbyterian Church on Adams Street for a meeting location in 1922. Then in 1928, the post purchased Lot 19 and constructed its current building, completed in 1929, for the cost of \$3000 (119 S. Washington, photo 09). Post members constructed the building. The post gave the north half of their lot to the town of Versailles to construct a new fire station in 1940. Membership in the post grew considerably after the end of World War II. The post is named for Leora Weare, who was the first casualty from Versailles in WWI. The post also has a women's auxiliary which formed in 1922.

The Versailles Lions Club was presented their charter on April 10, 1942 at the Purdum Hotel in Versailles. The service club's first president was George Hall, an attorney in the city. The club became active in promoting the town's Pumpkin Show, which had been discontinued during World War II, since 1946. The club purchased the building at 202 W. First North (photo 02) by the 1970s and uses it for meetings and events.

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**Developmental History/Additional historic context information**

Versailles Courthouse Square Historic District  
Name of Property

Ripley County, IN  
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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Indiana State Atlas: Versailles/Ripley County, 1876. Baskin, Forester, & Co., Chicago: 1876.

McAlester, Virginia. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2006.

Ripley County Atlas, 1883. D. J. Lake & Co., Philadelphia: 1883.

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*Ripley County Courthouse National Register of Historic Places Form*. Prepared by Fife, Camille. 2009.

Ripley County History Book Committee. Ripley County History Volumes I & II. Taylor Publishing Co., Dallas: 1989.

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Smith, Alan F. *Tales of Versailles: The History of Versailles, Indiana Brought to Life*. Four-Sep Publications, Milwaukee: 1999.

*Taylor, Fernando G. House National Register of Historic Places Form*. Prepared by Ludington, Link. 1986

United States Federal Census: Versailles, Johnson Twp., Ripley Co. IN: 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960

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### 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

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**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 137-647-36001-032, 137-647-37002-008, 37018

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Approximately 15 acres

Use the UTM system

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 16 | Easting: 651072 | Northing: 4326480 |
| 2. Zone: 16 | Easting: 651354 | Northing: 4326478 |
| 3. Zone: 16 | Easting: 651337 | Northing: 4326031 |
| 4. Zone: 16 | Easting: 651065 | Northing: 4326103 |

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

Beginning at the northeast corner of First North Street and Adams Street, face north and follow a line on the east side of Adams Street to the south side of Alley 62-64. Turn east and follow the south side of the alley to the west side of Washington Street. Turn south along the west side of Washington Street and go to the north side of First North Street. Go east along the north side of First North to the east side of Main Street. Turn north and follow the east side of Main Street to the north side of North Second Street. Turn west and follow the north



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side of North Second Street, crossing Main Street, to the west property line of 311 N. Main Street. Turn north and follow the west property lines of 311, 313, 327 and 333 N. Main Street to the south side of Third North Street, then turn east and follow the south side of Third North Street to the west side of Main Street.

Follow the west side of Main Street to a line extended west from the south side of Cliffside Drive, then turn east, crossing Main Street, and follow a line to the east property line of 328 N. Main Street. Turn south and follow the east property lines of 328 and 324 North Main Street and 102 East North Street, travelling east, south, and west, as necessary; cross East North Second Street, turn east to the east property line of 244 North Main Street; turn south and follow the east property lines of 244 North Main Street through 1 South Main Street, crossing First North Street and Tyson Street, to the south property line of 1 South Main Street.

Turn west and follow the south property line of 1 S. Main Street to the west side of Main Street, then turn south and follow the west side of Main Street, crossing Water Street, to the south property line of 201 S. Main Street. Turn west and follow the south property lines of 201 S. Main and 208 S. Washington Streets to the east side of Washington Street. Turn north and follow the east side of Washington Street to the north side of Water Street, then turn west follow a line, crossing Washington Street, to the west property line of 121 S. Washington Street. Turn north and follow the west property lines of 121 and 115 S. Washington and 207 W. Tyson Street to the north side of Tyson Street.

On the north side of Tyson Street, at its northeast intersection with Alley 9-70, follow the east side of the alley, crossing First North Street, to the north side of First North Street. Turn west and follow the north side of First North Street to the east side of Adams Street, or the place of beginning.

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

The boundaries described are a portion of the original plat of Versailles, encompassing the historic commercial core in the blocks surrounding the courthouse square, and about a block extension to the north on Main Street. The boundaries follow, as closely as possible, streets, alleys, or the rear property lines of included properties that front streets. The buildings included in the boundaries are the town's historic commercial and public buildings, as well as some of the oldest and most architecturally significant buildings in Versailles. The unfortunate loss of historic resources in the block north of the square, and subsequent construction of parking and a new government center, caused the buildings of that block to be left out of the district; the street itself, First North, was retained because it is a physical part of the planned courthouse square. The square and its streets are part of the significance of the district.

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### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kurt West Garner  
organization: Versailles Main Street  
street & number: 12954 6<sup>th</sup> Road  
city or town: Plymouth state: IN zip code: 46563  
e-mail: kwgarner@kwgarner.com  
telephone: 574-780-1423  
date: August 17, 2022

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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.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 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: Versailles Courthouse Square Historic District  
City or Vicinity: Versailles  
County: Ripley State: Indiana  
Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Versailles Courthouse Square Historic District  
Name of Property

Ripley County, IN  
County and State

Date Photographed: June 6, 2022

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast on West First North Street

1 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at the corner of First North and Washington Streets

2 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at the corner of First North and Main Streets

3 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the corner of Tyson and Washington Streets

4 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south at buildings fronting Tyson Street between Main and Washington Streets

5 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest from the corner of Washington and Water Streets

6 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west at the buildings fronting Washington Street between First North and Tyson Streets

7 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest near the corner of Washington and First North Streets

8 of 18.

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Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast from the corner of Washington and Water Streets

9 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast near the corner of Water and Main Streets

10 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west on Main Street between Water and Tyson Streets

11 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the corner of Main and Tyson Streets

12 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest and up at front of courthouse

13 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest from near the corner of Main and Third North Street

14 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast from the corner of Main and Tyson Streets

15 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at 226 N. Main Street

16 of 18.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast from the corner of Main and Second North Streets

17 of 18.

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Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south on North Main Street from near Third North Street

18 of 18.

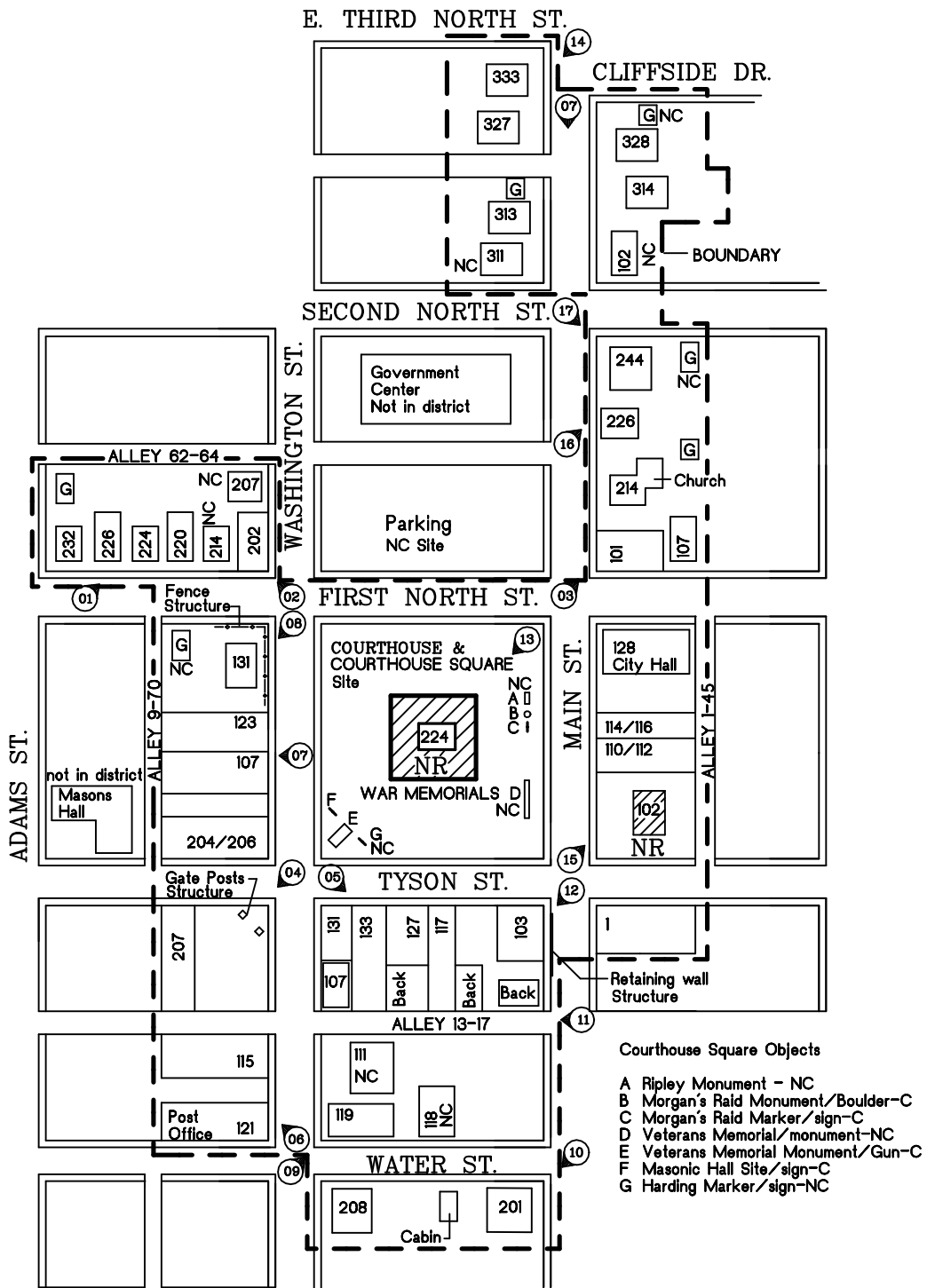
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to 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.



Old bank building (second from right) on lots #13-#14

South side of Versailles Courthouse Square, 131 Tyson at far right.



VERSAILLES COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT  
 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
 RIPLEY COUNTY, INDIANA

36 = Photographs

G = Garage/Carrriage House



- NR = National Register
- NC = Non-contributing
- 42 contributing buildings
- 9 non-contributing buildings
- 4 contributing objects (on courthouse square)
- 1 contributing site (courthouse square)
- 3 contributing structures (fence, gate posts, retaining wall)
- 1 non-contributing site (parking lot)
- 3 non-contributing objects (on courthouse square)
- 2 buildings listed on the National Register (NR)









IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0002



IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0003



IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0005



IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0006





IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0007



IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0009



IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0010



IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0012





IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0013



IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0015



IN\_RipleyCounty\_VersaillesCourthouseSquareHistoricDistrict\_0017