NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District

other names/site number 053-384-31000

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by 7th, 2nd, Branson, and Gallatin Streets N/A not for publication

city or town Marion N/A ☐ vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Grant code 053 zip code 46952

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Patrick R. Robbe 2-2-94

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:) _____

Marion Downtown Commercial .D.
Name of Property

Grant ɔ., IN
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [X] private
- [X] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [X] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- [ ] building(s)
- [X] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
52	23	buildings
0	0	sites
2	0	structures
2	6	objects
56	29	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE: business
COMMERCE: financial institution
COMMERCE: specialty store
GOVERNMENT: courthouse
GOVERNMENT: correctional facility
GOVERNMENT: post office
EDUCATION: library
DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE: business
COMMERCE: professional
COMMERCE: financial institution
COMMERCE: specialty store
GOVERNMENT: courthouse
GOVERNMENT: post office
EDUCATION: library
VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate
LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque Revival
LATE 19th and EARLY 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:
Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
walls BRICK
STONE: limestone
roof ASPHALT
other TERRA COTTA
METAL: iron

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

Marion Downtown Commerci... H.D. | Gra... Co., IN

Name of Property | County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 8

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	613260	4490600
2	16	613720	4490610
3	16	613730	4490000
4	16	613200	4490000

☐ See continuation sheet

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Brad Johnson and Pat Glithero

organization Main Street Marion date September 3, 1992

street & number 428 S. Washington telephone 317-662-1192

city or town Marion state IN zip code 46953

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

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

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

Property Owner

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

name List on file at DHPA

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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

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

Marion Downtown Commerci H.D. | Gran Co., IN
Name of Property | County and State

8. Statement of Significance

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

- [X] **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.
- [X] **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

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

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE
GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c. 1870-1944

Significant Dates

1882

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Myers, Elijiah
Richards, McCarty, and Bulford

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Name of repository: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory

The Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District is comprised of the remaining historic buildings and structures of the historic central business district of the City of Marion, Indiana. The district comprises approximately 9.25 blocks of the original plat of the city, resting between the west bank river bluffs of the Mississinewa River. The historic district is roughly centered around the "Shelbyville" plan courthouse square, in which the main streets line each side of the square (like a tic-tac-toe board). The district extends from the square into the district's rectilinear street pattern each cardinal direction. Primary streets include 4 blocks of the east-west 3rd and 4th Streets, 5 blocks of the north-south Washington Street, and 4 blocks of the north-south Adams Streets. Public or former public buildings anchor the corners of the district, with the Post Office at the northwest corner, old jail at the east end, and Marion Public Library on the south end of the district.

Most buildings in the district reflect the downtown's typical building pattern of front lot line buildings. Most historic buildings were constructed immediately adjacent to other buildings, although demolition has disrupted the streetscape in several blocks. The grid plan of the streets and the rectangular configuration of the lots determined the shapes of most buildings. Typical store buildings have narrow street frontages but extend back two to three times their width. One large commercial building, United Telephone (building 30) is one-half block in width. Nearly all of the structures are of brick masonry and are typically two or three stories in height. Most have a flat roof with a parapet on the street facade. The upper level facade of most buildings is original while the street level has been altered with the addition of a modern commercial front of wood, aluminum and glass. The civic and governmental buildings were built of limestone or brick, and feature a more distinctive form, articulation and roof shape. Buildings away from the courthouse square frequently are separated by modern parking lots. Miniparks have replaced buildings adjacent to the Marion National Bank building and near the southeast corner of the square.

The district is surrounded primarily by contiguous historical residential neighborhoods to the north, west, and south. Most homes and buildings to the area east of the downtown, in the

floodplain of the Mississinewa River, have been demolished in recent decades.

The district contains 75 buildings, of which 52 are contributing and 22 non-contributing. The district also includes two contributing structures - brick streets, two non-contributing pavilions on the courthouse lawn, 6 non-contributing objects - courthouse lawn memorials, and 2 contributing courthouse square memorials. The former Grant County Jail (Building 11) is the only building previously listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The buildings include 69 commercial buildings, 4 public or formerly public buildings, and 2 apartment buildings.

All except 1 of the buildings in the district were built during the period of significance between 1870 and 1942. Representing an eclectic progression of architecture, the district's styles include 23 19th and 20th Century commercial vernacular, 15 commercial Italianate, 7 Neoclassical Revival, 4 Romanesque Revival, 1 Tudor Revival, and 1 Craftsman style buildings. The district's non-contributing buildings generally are significantly altered or modernized buildings built during this period. The district's variety of age and style lends character and interest to the otherwise homogeneous context of the area as a historical commercial complex.

Italianate and related styles dominated Marion's downtown as in much of the rest of the Midwest between 1870 and 1890. This style is typified in Marion by its 2-3 story facade with tall windows, window hoods, courses, and cornice lines. However, the many verncular style buildings in the district demonstrate a mix of stylistic details. The commercial vernacular buildings in the district are of similar scale and materials as other buildings. However, their facades are a mix of stylistic details. Most typical are buildings which mix Italianate cornices and window openings with Neoclassical dentils, pilasters, and pediment details.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

Neoclassical Revival style buildings are prominent in the district through the public buildings including the County Court House (Building 21) and the more recent post office (Building 1). Bank buildings also are often Neoclassical in style. The terra-cotta faced Marion Bank Building (Building 46) is an outstanding example of a Neoclassical building with Chicago Style influences.

Outstanding buildings in the district include the Old Jail and Sheriff's Resident (Building 11), Grant County Courthouse (Building 19), Marion National Bank (Building 57), and Iroquois Building (Building 77).

Notable buildings in the district include the Marquette Block (Building 10), Dan-Mar Apartments (Building 33), United Telephone Block (Building 36), Cecilian Apartments (Building 42), William Smith Building/Mecca Club (Building 44), and 504-508 South Washington (Building 49).

With the exception of five buildings on the courthouse square, which are severely altered historic structures or new construction, the courthouse square possesses a high degree of cohesiveness. The other areas of the district are stylistically and developmentally complementary to the courthouse square. The district reflects common values and resources.

Inventory of Resources

Following is an inventory of the district's resources. Contributing resources (C) are significant to historic and architectural development of the district, possess compatible design elements, and maintain the scale, use, and texture of the district. Non-contributing resources (NC) have little or no architectural significance or do not fall within the period of significance of the district. (Each resource is identified by site number as contained in the Grant County Interim Report 1993. The symbol "(#1)" refers to accompanying number photos.)

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

1. 202 W. Third Street Marion Post Office
(C) c.1942 Photos 1,2,3 053-384-31001

The Marion Post Office is a two story Art Moderne/Neoclassical Revival building containing the Marion Post Office and federal office space. The flat roofed limestone building has a simple parapet and cornice line. "United States Post Office" is written in recessed lettering across the parapet on the front facade. Along the front of the building is a patterned aluminum railing. The main facade has eleven bays with a central entry. In the lintel over the main door is a reed bundle bas-relief. Above this is a two story tall window. A spread winged eagle sculpture rests on the cornice over the entry. Metal roundels flank the door as well. The side entry (#1) is similar to the front doorway.

2. 101 E. Third Street
(NC) c.1920 Photos 6,7 053-384-31004

Altered heavily in recent times, 101 E. 3rd is a 20th Century commercial vernacular two story yellow brick corner building on the courthouse square. The original wood sash, double hung windows are in place on the second story. Seven windows are evenly spaced across the front facade and sixteen across the side facade. The cornice has been removed from the structure. There are three store spaces in this building, two facing Third Street (#6) and one facing Washington (#7). The ground level shop fronts have been altered in 1975, 1987, 1993 with a modern glass and wood design.

3. 115 E. Third Street
(C) c.1880 Photo 8 053-384-31005

A two story brick 19th Century commercial Italianate building on the courthouse square with three tall double hung windows across the top floor. Each window has a limestone lintel with a recessed decorative element. A cornice adorns the top of this building with heavy decorative brackets at each end and three raised decorative elements between the remaining brackets. Corbels have

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

also been integrated into the top of the facade below the cornice. The first floor has been altered with a modern wood, glass and brick design.

4. 119 E. Third Street
(C) c.1880 Photo 9 053-3384-31006

This narrow brick 19th Century commercial Romanesque Revival building has two rectangular double-hung windows with round arches of rowlock brick. Blind tympanums with small sunburst motifs infill each arch. A pressed metal decorative cornice lines the top of the front wall with a raised belt course just below. The shop front has been altered with a modern glass shop front and large sign above the entrance.

5. 123 E. Third Street
(c) c.1880 Photo 10 053-384-31007

This two story brick 19th Century commercial Romanesque Revival building has one large oriel window centered in the upper floor with a hood or pent roof above the window. The top of the front wall has a gable with simple raking cornice and a finial at the top and right side. Under the pediment are corbel table sections imitating machicolations. A buttress like element with pyramidal lines tops the left side of the facade, the stairway to the second floor is located beneath. A narrow triple hung window is centered on the second floor of the tower. The shop front has been altered with a wood sign and glass panels. The oriel window may have been altered as well.

6. 127 E. Third Street
(NC) c.1890 Photo 11 053-384-31008

This two story brick 19th Century commercial Italianate building has had the facade covered with vertical siding except the cornice with five brackets. The second story has three double-hung windows. The second floor entrance is at the far right of the facade. The aluminum and glass shop front is a modern alteration.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

7. 143 E. Third Street
(C) c.1915 Photo 12 053-384-31009

143 E. Third Street is a 20th Century commercial vernacular two story building with a parapet extending above the cornice. Brick piers define the outer edges of the building. A dentiled brick course separates the floors; a simpler limestone belt course serves as a lintel to the second floor, which has large windows that have been covered by vertical siding. Below the modillioned cornice is a frieze with a low relief rinceau pattern ornamentation. Transom windows over the first floor store front have been covered, and the shop front has been modernized, but cast iron pilasters remain intact.

8. 147 E. Third Street
(C) c.1920 Photo 13 053-384-31010

A three story commercial vernacular building with square second and third story windows. There are two openings per floor, each with a simple sill and no outstanding lintel. The facade has an open pediment top with corner brackets and a raking denticulated cornice. A name plate is located under the pediment with the raised lettering "Sohn." The store front has been covered with a modern brick and glass design.

9. 153 E. Third Street
(C) c.1920 Photos 14, 15 053-384-31011

This two story commercial vernacular brick building on the courthouse square has four window openings on the second floor facade. This building has a hip roof and has had the shop front covered by vertical wood siding and a cedar shingle awning.

10. 209 E. Third Street
(C) c.1903 Photos 16, 17 053-384-31012

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

The "Marquette Block" is a 20th Century commercial three story building with cut-away or beveled corner facing the courthouse containing the main entrance. Two story framed and recessed panels contain the paired windows except at corner and flanking bays, which have single openings. A full entablature with stone architrave, brick frieze and denticulated stone cornice. The brick parapet is capped by a stone pedestal and ball ornament over the corner entry. The store fronts have been modernized, except for portions of the 3rd Street side, which has a rusticated and entablatured stone entry.

11. 215 E. Third Street Old Jail and Sheriff Residence
(C) 1904 Photos 18, 19 053-384-31013 National Register

Grant County's old jail and sheriff's house is a Tudor Revival jail complex and sheriff residence built like a fortress from limestone and red brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern. The roof is covered with original square butt slate. The jail section has four major floors, and the sheriff's residence two main floors. This structure has several styles represented in its architecture.

The jail section has four circular towers at each corner crowned with crenelations. The battlements are capped with limestone. The jail section has a projected belt course of limestone around the structure and tower just under the second floor windows. Another projecting belt course of limestone circles near the top of each tower with limestone brackets forming a cornice. Barred windows are evenly spaced along each side of this section. The third and fourth floor windows have individual limestone sills. The first floor windows have the limestone belt course for their sills, and the ground floor has the foundation as the sill. The towers have three widely spaced narrow windows on each floor except the bottom floor. A paired, eight light casement window is located in each of the gables and is trimmed in limestone with limestone hood molds.

The sheriff residence section has three tall end-wall chimneys with corbelled limestone cap. There is a gable corner centered on

each side of the roof. The front and side entrances are located under the Tudor-arched porches. These porches are capped with crenelation, and the front porch has buttresses at the corners. The front door is a one panel door with two sidelights with decorative muntins. The windows on the main two levels are 1/1 double-hung windows trimmed in limestone hood molds. The sheriff residence section is currently used as a single family residence and the jail section is vacant. This structure is listed individually on the National Register.

12. 237 West Third Street
(C) 1920 Photo 20 053-384-31014

This is a two story commercial Italianate building with residential units above and behind. The second story has three window openings with paired double hung windows. Limestone keystones and a limestone belt course tie the segmented arches together. A limestone belt course makes up the window sills and spans the entire front of the building. Brick corbels are flanked by a trim cornice. The store fronts have recessed entryways and the left front has modernized with coursed rubble cladding and glass. The corbeled brick cornice shows some Romanesque Revival influence.

13. 233 W. Third Street
(C) c.1920 Photo 21 053-384-31015

233 W. Third Street is a two story 19th Century commercial building with apartments above. The second story has three single 6/6 double hung windows. Each window has individual limestone sills and gauged brick flat arch lintels. Capping the building is a corbeled brick cornice. The storefronts have good integrity. There is a recessed entryway and glass display window with covered transom windows. Under the display window is a kick plate.

14. 201 W. Third Street
(NC) c.1920 Photos 22, 23 053-384-31052

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

A one story conglomerate of several smaller structures is seen here. The sides are covered by board and batten style siding. The walls are capped by an overhanging cornice. This structure was modernized with windows, doors, and siding in 1978.

15. 214 W. Fourth Street
(NC) 1989 Photo 24, 25 053-384-31018

This Contemporary building is a ranch style commercial building.

16. 212 W. Fourth Street
(NC) c.1972 Photo 26 053-384-31019

This is a modern pole barn building.

17. 208 W. Fourth Street
(NC) c.1920 Photos 27, 28 053-384-31020

This one story modern brick structure has a glass store front on the right side of the facade.

18. 202 W. Fourth Street
(NC) c.1920 Photos 29, 30 053-384-31021

A two story, yellow brick building with no decorative elements occupies this site. The store front has been covered with red brick and shake shingles. A modern fixed glass window unit has been installed on the left side of the facade, and a modern aluminum and glass door unit has been installed at the far right.

19. 101 E. Fourth Street Grant County Court House
(C) 1881-1883 Photos 33,34,35,36 053-384-31025

The third Grant County Courthouse sits in the same block as the 1833 two story frame building and the 1838 brick courthouse. In 1880 a noted architect, Elijiah E. Myers, from Detroit, Michigan was employed to make plans and superintend the construction of the current building. Myers used his typically grandiose Renaissance

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

Revival style. The construction contract was awarded to Hindsdale-Doyle Granite Company for $133,875.01. The building was completed in 1883.

The Grant County Courthouse is a three-story, cross-plan building; the Renaissance-inspired dome was removed in 1942. The building rises above a raised basement. The imposing structure features rusticated and dressed limestone walls with two tiered arcaded portico entrances on the north and south sides and centrally placed pedimented entry projections on the east and west sides.

The raised basement has deeply rusticated stone while the first story has lighter rustication. Basement windows are rectangular while first story windows are segmental-arched with radiating voussoirs.

The north and south elevations are identical. Featured here are central projecting full height Corinthian tetrastyle porticoes resting on arcaded bases, which mark the first story. Stairs lead to the arcade, which have pilaster-like piers. An entablature divides the first and second stories. A balustrade encloses the open portico. The unfluted columns support a pediment with full entablature, including dentils and modillions. The pediment has raking cornice, and the tympanum has an oculus. The same entablature treatment, with balustrade above, is completed on all elevations. The wall surface behind the portico is articulated by Corinthian pilasters. Second story windows have pedimented hoods (three under the portico) while the single windows flanking (outside portico) have flat entablature hoods with anthemion ornamentation above. Third floor windows are square.

East and west elevations have four bays flanking either side of a central entry projection. These are detailed similar to the porticoes, however, since they are not open, three-quarter engaged columns imply a portico. The corner quoins are rounded. Each side projection has a basement entry.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

The building was once crowned with a forty foot tall dome with a nine foot tall statue of "Justice" holding scales in her left hand. The dome was removed in 1942. Other exterior modifications include removal of finials from the top of the balustrade posts and the installment of modern windows. Numerous interior room remodelings have been completed since completion of the courthouse. In c.1960, an extensive interior remodeling was done.

The courthouse lawn is landscaped with shrubs and flowers. An oval walkway circles the building, with radial sidewalks to the corners of the square. Ten memorials and objects are on the courthouse lawn. Two triangular frame shelters (NC buildings) have been built on the east lawn for use at festivals. A "New Purchase Boundary" historical marker (1966) on a post at the northwest corner outlines the history of the St. Mary's boundary purchase. Along the radial sidewalk from the western courthouse portico are the "World War" (date unknown) (NC) monument listing World War I casualties, the "Phi Alpha Kappa Fraternity memorial (1983) (NC), and the "Martin Boots" monument (1916) (C) to an early Grant County settler. A "Bicentennial Monument" with a Liberty Bell copy (1976) (NC) sits on the lawn's southwest corner. A memorial bench with carved oak-like detail and acorn top points (date unknown) (NC) sits adjacent to the southwest corner of the courthouse. Along the south radial walk is the "Gold Star Mothers" (date unknown) (NC) memorial to the national organization of war casualties' mothers. Another early settler monument to "David Branson" (June 14, 1931) (C) including a water fountain sits near the southeast corner of the courthouse adjacent to one of the shelters. The recent "Korean War" and "Desert Storm" memorials (both 1991) (NC) sit astride the eastern radial walk near the square's outer walk.

20. 102 E. Fourth Street
(NC) c.1893 Photos 37,38 053-384-31026

The Webster Block is a two story commercial vernacular brick building on the courthouse square. This structure suffered greatly in a fire and consequently had its third story removed.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

The original windows have been replaced by modern double-hung windows. The first floor has a canted wall with entrance.

21. 104 E. Fourth Street
(C) c.1910 Photo 39 053-384-31027

The Italianate style Cox Building is a two story brick building with two round arched windows centered in the second story. The window hoods have anthemion-like springers and decorative keystones. A belt course visually divides the two floors and forms the sill of each window. The recessed store front has been modernized with glass and wood.

22. 106 E. Fourth Street
(C) c.1890 Photo 40 053-384-31028

A two story Italianate/Renaissance Revival brick business block with four windows symmetrically placed in the upper floor. On the second floor, the central section projects slightly and has two round arched windows with radiating voussoirs and triglyph-bull's eye springers. A segmented arch window with similar, but simpler detailing flanks each side of the central section. The facade is topped with a bold entablature with decorative end brackets. A raised continuous sill carries the facade and defines the upper and lower floor. The store fronts have been covered and altered with glass and wood, but some iron pilasters are visible.

23. 108-110 E. Fourth Street
(C) c.1910 Photo 41 053-384-31029

The Koontz Building is a two story commercial vernacular brick building with two windows centered in the upper floor. The store space has been combined with half of the store space of the neighboring building to the west (#24). The upper floor windows are segmental arch openings with a raised limestone arch and keystone, similar to but more simple than 106 and 104 E. Fourth Street. A continuous sill spans across the facade defining the upper and lower floors. The store front has been covered and

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

modernized with glass, wood, and brick.

24. 112 E. Fourth Street
(NC) c.1897 Photo 42 053-384-31030

112 E. 4th is a two story brick building covered with aluminum. The store front has been modernized with glass display windows and altered with wood.

25. 114 E. Fourth Street
(C) c.1890 Photo 43 053-384-31031

The Italianate McClure Block is a three story red brick building with a large sheet metal cornice. Pilasters divide the upper facade into three sections. The narrow left section contains the stairway access to upper floors and one narrow window on the second and third floors. The other two facade sections are similar. Each contains three narrow windows, the middle window being slightly wider, on the second and third floors. The windows are covered with shuttered panels. A limestone belt course wraps around the top of the windows, creating window lintels. Lintels are pedimented with central rosettes and chamfered inside edges on the second floor and flat on the third story. Two other belt courses form sills for the windows. The dentiled cornice topping corbelled brick is divided by large brackets above each pilaster. The store front has a deeply recessed entryway on the right with recessed windows on the left. Transom areas have been covered with vertical wood siding. The store front has been altered with modern glass and wood enclosures.

26. 120 E. Fourth Street
(NC) c.1920/1950 Photo 44 053-384-31033

120 E. Fourth Street is a contemporary two story building which has been modernized by covering the original brick facade with yellow brick and wood and adding modern windows.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

27. 122 E. Fourth Street
(NC) c.1920 Photos 45,46 053-384-31034

A completely modernized one story building covered with prefabricated panels and modern glass windows occupies this site.

28. 114-126 E. Fifth Street
(C) c.1903 Photos 47, 48 053-384-31036

The Neoclassical Revival United Telephone Block is a two story yellow brick corner building spanning one-half block. Centered in the Fifth Street facade is a projecting limestone section containing the main entrance to the lower and upper floor. This center portion of the facade has four windows on the second floor, the two in the center with round arches and the two to the sides similar to other windows on the building. The parapet above this has "United Telephone" in block letters. A modillioned cornice rises over the parapet, and decorative limestone pediments complete the central section. The central pediment is scroll-like with an over scaled keystone. Those flanking are shouldered pediments. Two identical metal awnings hang above the stairway access and main entryway. Between the two doorways is a glass display window.

The left and right side of the facade are nearly identical except the left side addresses the street corner by having a canted entryway at street level. A square pillar supports the corner of the upper floor above this entryway. The lower portions of the facade are broken into seven store spaces, all of which have been altered with modern glass panels, wood, and marble. The second floor of the facade has a series of paired windows with a limestone flat arch with radiating voussoirs. A limestone belt course makes up the sills of all the windows. Above the windows is another belt course with a small cornice like belt course above. The corners of the building have limestone quoins.

29. 112 W. 6th Street
(C) c.1905 Photo 49 053-384-31037

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

The commercial Italianate Interstate Building is a two story yellow brick facade with red brick side walls. The facade is topped with modillioned cornice and metal name plate mounted above brick corbelling. The upper floor is framed by pilasters with three evenly spaced double-hung windows, each with a raised entablature style lintel and raised flat sill. The left window has been infilled with concrete block. On the lower level, a large window is placed to the left with matching lintel and sill. A recessed stairway leads to two doors, one for the store entrance and one to the second story stairway. Most basement openings and several side elevation openings have been bricked shut. A raised smooth face limestone belt course trims the top of the foundation. The high rusticated limestone foundation is laid in a random ashlar pattern. This building was built by a politician from Indianapolis for a political magazine called the "Interstate".

30. Gallatin Street between Third and Fourth Streets
(C) Brick Street Photo 54 053-384-31041

A red brick street made from Brazil brick company pavers.

31. 304-312 Gallatin Street
(C) c.1915 Photos 50,51 053-384-31042

The Tudor Revival style Cecelian Apartments are a three story red brick apartment building with raised basement and a symmetrically designed facade having two main entrances. A foundation band defines the bottom of the facade which rises without cornice or belt course to the top. The facade is broken into nine panels, five of which are projected. Each of the projected panels have decorative limestone quoins along the top portion of the wall edge. The two sided facade panels have a decorative relief at the top of the wall. The entrances are located in the third facade panels from the sides and are recessed and framed in limestone quoining. Decorative panels are positioned above the entrance and face sculptures are placed above and to the sides of the entrances. Above the entrances are two separate window units

with the first unit being a triple window with muntins and the top unit consisting of six fixed glass panels. In each of the other facade panels are three wide double-hung windows. Each of the window units are cased in limestone with flat lintels, sills, and quoin work. Some of the original window units have been replaced with a similar style aluminum unit. The side facades are divided into three panels of which the two outside panels are projected. In the front most facade panel a chimney with some edges trimmed in limestone begins at the second floor and rises above the facade. Each floor including the raised basement has six window units varying in window type and shape. Some of the original window units have been replaced with a similar style aluminum unit.

32. 316 Gallatin Street
(C) c.1917 Photos 52,53 053-384-31044

The Craftsman style Mecca Club or William Smith Building is a two story brick building with low pitched hip roof and wide overhangs. The first story is of red brick up to the second floor sills. Above this, the walls are stuccoed with vertical false half-timbering. The top and bottom layers of brick are soldier courses. Bed molding trims out the top of the facade under the soffits. A wide course of steps leads to a left of center open porch. Double doors with side lights make up the front entrance which is covered with a shed roof with knee braces. The glass panel doors and side lights have muntins along the top portion of the glass. Five pairs of double-hung, 3/1 window units line the second floor of the front facade and are cased in white trim with brick sills. To the left of the front door are french doors flanked by windows. To the right of the front door are two groups of tripled 6/1 windows. The south elevation has a band of five windows with knee-braced pent roof on the first story.

33. 303-315 Gallatin Street
(C) c.1900 Photos 54,55 053-384-31045

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

The vernacular Dan-Mar Apartments building is a two story red brick apartment complex with raised basement and three entrances in the front facade. The front facade begins with a smooth foundation then rises to a recessed belt course of brick at mid window on the second floor. Horizontal recessed panels in brick are above the second floor. The facade ends with a corbel table, square paneled frieze, and tall corbelled parpet. The three entrances are defined by projected limestone panels and flat awnings. These appear to date from c.1940. Steps with quarter round railing lead up the three recessed entryways. There are twelve single double-hung windows on each floor. In addition, paired, double-hung units are placed in the second story above the far left and right entrances. All window units have multiple coursed brick segmented arches with limestone keystones and springers and a flat sill. The side facade facing Fourth Street is identical in design to the front facade except there are three pilasters capped with limestone at the ends and center of the first floor. A recessed I-beam lintel with rosettes divides the first and second floor.

34. 306 Boots Street
(C) c.1910 Photo 56 053-384-31051

306 Boots is a commercial vernacular two story red brick building with three windows with limestone sills in the upper facade. The facade is topped with a simple limestone cap. The store front has a modern entryway on the left side and large display window to the right The transom has been covered with vertical aluminum siding and an aluminum awning.

35. 308 Boots Street
(NC) c.1910 Photo 57 053-384-31050

A one story store with vertical wood siding and shake shingle awning. The entryway is centered and recessed with display windows on either side.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

36. 310 Boots Street
(NC) c.1920 Photo 59 053-384-31048

37. 312 Boots Street
(NC) c.1920 Photo 59 053-384-31048

This is a one story yellow brick building with a modern style facade. Four smooth pilasters divide the facade of modern glass from ground level topped with transom windows. The entryway is recessed on the far right of the facade.

38. 314 Boots Street
(C) c.1901 Photo 60 053-384-31047

This two story commercial vernacular yellow and red brick building, originally an Elks' Lodge, has a full width porch with rod iron railing between rusticated pedestals. The porch sides are rusticated limestone laid in a coursed ashlar pattern with a stairway recessed into the front center. Two brick pilasters rise two thirds up the side of the facade. A double door entrance has a projected surround with a simple dentiled cornice. The first floor windows have a projected sill and flat limestone lintel with cornice. The second story windows has raised sills. A string course visually divides the first and second floor. This structure had a projecting portico with four columns that rested on the pedestals. The window glass has been replaced with glass blocks. The name box atop of the facade has been removed. It appears that the lodge was remodeled in the 1950s, however, it still retains enough integrity to contribute to the district.

39. 200 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1920 Photos 63,64 053-384-31067

200 S. Washington Street appears to be an older (c.1880) commercial building with a more recent (c.1925) facade added to the front. The two story brick building features architectural terra-cotta on the Washington Street elevation. The three bay facade has large store fronts flanking a central entry. Openings

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

have enriched architrave surrounds in terra-cotta. The entry is surmounted by a full entablature with dentil mold and a cartouche centered in the plain frieze. An enriched belt course divides the first and second stories and serves as sills for second floor windows. Paired windows are centered over first story openings. One terra-cotta roundel with lion head relief is centered over each window pair. A terra-cotta string course forms an architrave above this. The cornice is of terra-cotta as well. A parapet in the form of a stylized pediment with raised curvilinear plaque crowns the building. Terra-cotta coping, a central cartouche, and corner urn finials complete the parapet. Quoin work marks the corners. The Washington Street facade treatment wraps around for one bay on the Second Street elevation. The remainder of the Second Street elevation contrasts the Neoclassical Revival Washington Street front with Romanesque Revival vernacular detailing. First floor openings appear to have been reworked into simple rectangular openings. On the second floor, tall paired windows have multiple coursed, round arches which are linked. A brick stringcourse links the arch springers continuously across the elevation. Pilaster strips which spring from corbels between window pairs rise to the parapet, which is plain. The westernmost section of the Second Street elevation has a different treatment. Second floor windows have gauged brick flat arches with a frieze of diamond panels above, and a plain parapet. All windows have been replaced with anodized aluminum units.

40. 302 S. Washington Street
(C) 1921 Photo 65,66 053-384-31065

First National Bank was erected in 1921. The building is a fine example of Neoclassical Revival architecture. The limestone structure is articulated by giant order rusticated Doric pilasters. Aluminum replacement windows span all the space left between pilasters. Narrow spandrels with triglyphs divide the first and second stories. Marking the entry on Washington Street are full height Roman Doric engaged columns. A full entablature having roundels in the frieze is over the pilasters. The cornice is enriched with a Greek meander molding. Several openings have

been infilled, and all windows have been replaced.

41. 310 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1940 Photo 67 053-384-31064

This is a two story commercial vernacular brick building with yellow brick facade. The store front is comprised of two recessed entrances and large display windows. Above the display windows is a limestone cornice spanning the facade. The second floor has a band of seven windows.

42. 312 S. Washington Street
(NC) c.1920 Photo 68 053-384-31063

A two story red brick building with a modernized facade and glass store front occupies this site.

43. 314-320 E. Washington Street
(C) c.1910 Photo 69 053-384-31063

A three story yellow brick business block in the Craftsman Style, the Bloomenthal Building has a recessed store front. Two limestone belt courses span the facade above the store fronts and just under a cornice element. Five rectangular paneled brick piers divide window groupings. Corner piers are paneled as well. The center brick panel has recessed lettering with the words "Bloomenthal Co." with brick panels with diaper work ornamentation to either side. A modern sign panel is mounted above the store front.

44. 322-324 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1910 Photo 70 053-384-31061

This building is a two story yellow Neoclassical Revival vernacular brick business block with six double-hung windows with keystoned limestone lintels on the second floor. A soldier belt course spans the top of the facade which is capped with a small step parapet. A modern wood sign panel has been hung over the

store front.

45. 326 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1920 Photos 71,72 No report number

326 South Washington is a two story Neoclassical Revival vernacular corner building with tan brick facade. The building has massing common to other adjacent buildings, combined with a mix of Neoclassical details, which seem to echo the details of the Marion National Bank building across 4th Street. The main entrance in the chamfered corner is covered with a flat metal awning with recessed lighting covers. Above the main entrance is a single double-hung window and a brick panel. The first floor facade has been covered with tile and wood sign boards above the store fronts. One display window faces the courthouse square with four additional, separate display windows on the side. The upper floor has ten paired double-hung windows with limestone sills and on 4th Street and one facing Washington, with a single window in the corner bay. The window units are divided by slightly raised brick pilasters capped with limestone. The limestone cornice has heavy dentils. Window openings and massing appear to echo the bank building's windows across the street. A limestone-capped parapet rises above the cornice.

46. 402 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1917 Photos 73,74,75 053-384-31060

The Marion National Bank is a six story Neoclassical Revival corner bank and office block with detailed, cream white terra cotta facade, exhibiting Chicago style influences. The original design and construction incorporated the most modern fireproof systems and convenience, including "two swift, quiet, smooth-running electric elevators" with the best safety devices. The structure was designed for banking and commercial space on the ground floor and second floor, and doctors, dentists, lawyers, and other professional offices in the upper floors. The store spaces on the first and second floor have now been converted to bank operations.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

The lower facade includes two story, Ionic order, fluted engaged columns and square coursed ashlar pilasters. The lower facade related to the interior two story high public banking spaces. Between the pilasters are window units and entrances. Two entrances are located off Washington Street, a primary bank entrance and a secondary entrance to the elevators and upper floor offices. Another bank entrance is off of Fourth Street. The pilasters hold an entablature with a sign band frieze with the raised letters "The Marion National Bank". Above the entablature the facade rises five floors with square pilasters which terminate into a boldly projected cornice with large ornamental console brackets. The cornice is detailed with dentils and modillions and is capped by a parapet. Nine and three panel window units are recessed between the pilasters, with paneled spandrel panels between floors.

A contemporary addition was built to the south in 1986. No windows or entryway is located in the front facade of this addition, which is constructed of formed concrete panels with three pilasters, double cornice, and pedimented top.

47. 414-428 S. Washington Street
(NC) c.1899 Photos 76,77,78 053-384-31058

Centrum Mall is a two story building remodeled in 1982 with prefabricated panels on the second floor and new brick on the first floor. The second floor facade has seven modern aluminum cased windows. The first floor has one recessed store front at the far right and several small display windows. Modern awnings span across the front and side elevations.

48. 502 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1890 Photos 79,80 053-384-31057

502 S. Washington Street is a two story commercial Italianate brick store with recessed entryway. The Art Moderne style store front wraps around the side of the building and has a metal awning above the display windows. Two modern signs are mounted above the

awnings. A pair of double-hung window are centered on the second floor with narrow double-hung windows flanking. The window units have flush limestone lintels and sills. Lintels have centered rosettes, chamfered lower edges, and are decorated with geometric borders. Windows are set within recessed panels with corbelled corners. Three recessed brick panels are located above the windows. A cornice with bold brackets extending upward into sphere finials tops the facade. The 5th Street elevation is similar in detail to the front.

49. 504-508 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1895 Photo 81 053-384-31056

This building is a three story Romanesque Revival brick building with three store spaces with recessed entrances. The store fronts have been modernized with wood and glass display windows. The left store front has a shake shingle awning. The other two have aluminum panels above the display windows. The second floor has three wide multiple-coursed round arch window openings. Mullions divide each window into three units. Above each window are two windows with round arches flanked by shorter blind round arch panels. The facade rises to a corbelled cornice divided by pilasters.

50. 510 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1915 Photo 82 053-384-31055

A one story Craftsman vernacular brick building with two store spaces occupies this lot. The sides and center of the facade have square brick pilasters with limestone corbelled caps. The upper facade has a rectangular panels formed in soldier course brick with stone accents. The right storefront has large windows and a recessed entry. The left storefront has a flush entry with brick and stone defining windows.

51. 514 S. Washington Street
(NC) c.1974 Photo 83 053-384-31054

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

This is a modern one story brick structure with glass and aluminum facade with four piers placed at an angle.

52. 516 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1930 Photo 84 053-384-31053

A one story vernacular brick store building, 516 Washington has a centered recessed entryway flanked by large glass display windows. The limestone-capped upper facade has a rectangular panel formed of tapestry-laid yellow brick The store front transom has been covered with modern siding.

53. 522 S. Washington street
(NC) c.1929,1970 Photos 85,86 053-843-31038

This gas station is a one story building with rounded corner store front. Built in c.1929, this gas station has been significantly altered with a modern shingle pent roof and siding.

54. 602 S. Washington Street Marion Public Library
(C) c.1902,1990 Photos 87,88 053-384-31040

Richards, McCarty, and Bulford of Columbus, Ohio, designed the two story Neoclassical Carnegie Library with limestone facade in 1902. A modern addition is located to the south. Built about 6 years before Carnegie advised communities to "avoid building Greek Temples" as libraries, the Marion Carnegie Library is exhuberant in its classicism. The building has a raised basement with projecting water gable. Basement openings have been infilled. The projecting central section is a modified triumphal arch motif, with a central pedimented entry set within a two story tall round arch. A Diocletian transom window is set inside the arch as well. Engaged Roman Doric columns flank the entry and rise to the entablature. Single windows flank the columns, and the whole composition is framed by heavy fluted Roman Doric pilasters. The full entablature has roundels in the frieze which align with the columnar elements. The cornice has dentils and modillions. The balustrade has panels; on the central panel is inscribed "ART

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

LITERATURE MUSIC". A floral anthemion surmounts the central parapet. Bays flanking the entry section have simple rectangular openings. Bays are defined by strip pilasters. Three bays flank either side of the entry section. The balustrade has turned balusters between pedestals rather than panels. Four bays mark the sides of the building. The addition connects to the rear of the historic building and occupies the entire block south of the 1902 structure. Upon completion of this addition in 1990, the 1902 section was converted to a museum.

55. 201 S. Washington street
(C) c.1920 Photos 89,90 053-384-31083

201 S. Washington Street is a single story commercial vernacular brick industrial type building with recessed store front and cut-out drive-through. The front facade has two square columns supporting the cut-out front and two matching pilasters on the right side. The left third of the facade has recessed window display, the center third a large warehouse door opening, and the right third an store front consisting of kickplate and windows. A belt course of soldier bricks tops the recessions and store front. The top of the facade has corbelled brick detail and parapet. The side facade has a series of ten, thirty-panel steel sash windows, with soldier brick caps and limestone sills. Two wood warehouse doors create an entrance for vehicles or large objects. The top of the facade has a corbelled brick cornice.

56. 207 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1890 Photo 91 053-384-31082

This building is a two story commercial brick structure with glass store front and central recessed entryway. The store front has wood kick plates, angled corner display windows, and cloth awnings. The second floor has three window openings with flat arch gauged brick lintels and limestone sills. The facade has pilastered sides and a corbel table above the second floor windows. Above this is a narrow panel with saw-tooth brick work. A simple cornice caps the building.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

57. 209 S. Washington Street

(C) c.1880 Photo 92 053-384-31081

The three story commercial Italianate "Columbia Block" is a brick building with centered stairway entrance and flanking store fronts. The store fronts have single panel kickplates and fluted cast iron pilasters. The store fronts and stairway entrance has cloth awnings. Seven windows with square wrap-around hoods and limestone sills are evenly spaced across the second and third floors. Above the third flood windows is a belt course of ornamental brick. The facade is capped with a bold cornice with end brackets and modillions. An open gable parapet breaks the cornice and is topped with a finial. The raised words "COLUMBIAN BLOCK" are located just below the broken pediment.

58. 425 S. Washington Street
(NC) c.1890 Photos 93,94 053-384-31075

425 South Washington is a two story brick structure originally Italianate in character. The first floor store front has been covered with marble panels and has modern glass display windows. The second floor has seven window openings covered with slat panels with flat wrap-around limestone lintels and limestone sills.

59. 501 S. Washington Street
(NC) c.1890 Photos 95,96 053-384-31073

A two story commercial Italianate brick building, 501 Washington has a centered recessed entryway with concave mansard awning. Seven double-hung windows with square lintels and flat sills line the second floor. Lintels have centered rosettes and chamfered undersides. Pilasters divide windows into two groups of three, with a narrow window to the left indicating a former stairway. Above the windows is a saw-tooth belt course and corbel table. The facade is capped with a bold cornice with wide brackets. The store front transom has been covered with wood and the storefronts

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

altered with brick and modern windows.

61. 507 S. Washington Street
(C) c.1910 Photo 98 053-384-31072

This c.1910 commercial vernacular single story brick building has a parapet capped facade and pilastered sides. The store front has a centered recessed entryway with concave mansard awning. The store front transom has been covered with wood and the storefronts altered with brick and modern windows.

62. Adams Street
(C) c.1910 Photos 17,112 053-384-31104

A section of Adams between 2nd and 3rd Streets still retains its Brazil, Indiana brick pavers.

63. 214 S. Adams Street
(C) c.1885 Photo 103 053-384-31094

214 S. Adams Street is a two story commercial Italianate brick with two store fronts. The first floor has at the far left a second floor entry door with a two panel window above. The store fronts are framed on the sides with wood pilasters which terminate with a raised cornice-like string course. The space above the store fronts has been modernized using segmented arch store front windows and a flat awning. The seven second floor windows have segmented arch tops with raised limestone sills. The facade is capped with a corbel table forming a brick cornice.

64. 218 S. Adams Street
(C) c.1910 Photo 104 053-384-31093

218 S. Adams Street is a three story commercial vernacular brick building with a store front comprised of a recessed entryway and display windows. (The store front has been modernized with wood panels and modern glass.) Above the store front a limestone belt course divides the facade. Pilasters divide the building into the

bays. Each upper floor has two double windows with soldier course lintel and raised limestone sill. There are round tie rod washers on each pilaster above the second floor windows. The facade is topped with saw-tooth corbelled brick, parapet with two recessed panels, and a limestone cap.

65. 414 S. Adams Street
(C) c.1895 Photo 105 053-384-31090

This corner building is a two story Romanesque Revival brick building with centered entrance, flanking display windows, and second story entryway to the left (photo printed in reverse). The transom of the store front is covered with a modern wooden panel. An iron balcony rail divides the lower and upper facades. The upper facade is dominated by a large segmented arch opening. The tympanum opening has been filled with wood panels and three window openings. The upper portion has three blind panels in the arch which have decorative wood framing. The arch has vermiculated voussoirs and the keystone has floral carving. Spandrels have square patterned masonry work. The facade is topped with corbelled brick cornice to the sides and corbelled bottom pediment in the center. The sides of the facade are defined with pilasters toped with corbelled brick and rounded limestone caps. This building has a large arched opening in the rear facing the south which was used to load baggage into inter-urban cars.

66. 416 S. Adams Street
(C) c.1885 Photo 106 053-384-31089

This is a two story Neoclassical Revival style commercial brick building with two window units in the upper floor and bold cornice with scrolled modillions and console end brackets. The window openings have been partially filled and the windows have been replaced with smaller, iron clad windows. The cornice like window lintel still stretches across the facade. The store front has been covered with wood siding panels.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

67. 418-422 S. Adams Street
(NC) c.1915 Photo 107 053-384-31088

418-422 is a one story commercial vernacular brick building with raised brick belt course across the top of the facade. The store front has altered and covered with shake shingle, wood panels, modern glass display windows, and tile.

68. 518 S. Adams Street
(C) c.1910 Photos 108,109,110 053-384-31087

518 Adams is a two story Neoclassical Revival yellow brick structure. The corner wrap-around store front is framed by cast iron Corinthian pilasters at the sides and decorative modillioned belt course. Six double-hung windows are in the upper front facade. Upper floor windows have multiple coursed flat arched lintels and raised limestone sills. The upper facade is divided into three panels simplified, Doric pilasters. The pilasters fade into the top of the facade, forming brick panels. A grand cornice was removed due to deterioration. The lower side facade has a doorway at the back filled with brick and, from back to front, two small windows, two upper floor style windows, a double door unit, a small window, and two upper floor style windows. Each of the lower floor windows have flat arch lintels and raised limestone sills. The upper side facade has eleven identical front facade style windows. The top of the side facade has four recessed sawtooth brick panels.

This structure was used as an inter-urban station, selling tickets and five cent hamburgers. Three spurs of the inter-urban line ran behind this building.

69. 518 S. Adams Street
(C) 1889 Photo 111 053-384-31087

The Leader Block is a two story commercial Italianate brick building with apartments in the upper floor and rear of the building. The store front with recessed entryway on the left has

been covered with glazed white, imitation brick. The display windows have been replaced with larger modern units. Three double-hung windows on the second floor have flat hood lintels and raised sills. The building is capped with a dentiled cornice and end brackets with spherical finals. The frieze below the cornice contains the words "THE LEADER" in raised letters. The cornice is capped with a half-round pediment with "1898" written in raised letters. The sides of the building have a series of segmental arched windows at both floors. The Leader was Marion's pioneering newspaper which has evolved into today's "Chronicle Tribune."

70. 215 S. Adams Street
(C) c.1885 Photo 112 053-384-31103

Yet another vernacular Romanesque Revival structure, 215 S. Adams is a two story brick building with a recessed doorway with glass panels above. Three basement windows with flat limestone lintels have been filled with wood panels. The first floor window openings have been fitted with modern aluminum cased windows. A raised cornice-like belt course separates the first and second floor of the facade. Four round arched window units on the second floor have a triple coursed brick arches with raised sills. The upper facade is detailed with corbelled brick work and is capped with a parapet and simple cornice.

71. 217 S. Adams Street
(C) c.1930 Photo 113 053-384-31102

This is a two story Art Moderne yellow brick building with an entryway located on right with angled top door and diagonal muntins. The display windows have been replaced by modern glass panels, and transom windows covered with tin panels. Three twelve-panel windows in the second floor have raised sills. The top of the facade has a raised course belt course and limestone cap.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

72. 219 S. Adams Street
(C) c.1930 Photo 113 053-384-31102

219 South Adams is a two story commercial Italianate yellow brick building an altered entryway at the left covered with a wood panel. Four upper floor windows have pediment hoods supported by triglyph corbels and raised sills. The cornice has been replaced with a wood panel.

73. 301 S. Adams Street
(C) c.1905 Photos 115,116 053-384-31100

This three story Chicago style brick building has recessed store fronts and square columns which flow into pilasters on the second and third floors. The first and second floors have been covered with marble panels and modern windows (c.1950). The third floor window openings have been filled with brick and have raised sills. The pilasters in the upper facade flow into a recessed square brick pattern and brick corbelling. The facade is topped with a corbelled brick cornice. On the side facade, rows of double-hung windows line the second and third floors. First floor windows have been covered with wood slat panels. Pilasters create a vertical element that rises to the corbelled and paneled cornice.

74. 305 S. Adams Street
(C) c.1900 Photo 117 053-384-31099

A three story Romanesque Revival brick building with a store front with centered recessed entryway, modified with modern display windows and framed in marble panels is seen here. The storefront dates from c.1950. Three bays of paired openings mark the second and third story, appearing as tall, continuous openings. Each pair has linked multiple coursed round arched openings. The facade is topped with an entablature with dentiled cornice and parapet.

75. 315 Adams Street
(NC) c.1880 Photo 118 053-384-31097

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

A two story building that was remodeled in 1980, covered in prefabricated panels with modern windows and entry occupies this site.

76. 319 Adams Street
(NC) c.1920 Photo 119 053-384-31096

319 Adams Street is a one story building that has been covered with prefabricated panels and modified with a modern door and windows.

77. 321 Adams Street
(C) c.1895 Photos 120,121 053-384-31095

The "Iroquois" building is a four story Neoclassical Revival brick corner building with bold cornice and stepped parapet. The first floor has been covered with marble panels and modernized with glass display windows and entryways. The facade has a series of ten double-hung windows on each floor. The three centermost windows are narrower. The side facade has a series of twelve windows on each floor. In the series of twelve, the rightmost five are spaced away from the rest and are grouped closer together. Each window originally had a molded hood except the fourth floor; however, hoods were removed for repair in 1991 and have not been replaced. All have a raised limestone sill. Fourth floor windows have a cornice like belt-course rather than hoods. A dentiled cornice tops a frieze plate. The center panel of the parapet, on each facade, has raised letter spelling "IROQUOIS."

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

The Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District is significant under Criterion A: The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the board patterns of our history. Areas of significance include commerce, government, and architecture. The Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District is significant for its role as a commercial core during the late 19th Century gas boom in northeast Indiana, its 19th and early 20th Century commercial architecture, and its governmental role as the county seat of Grant County. Under Criterion C, the district is significant because it has a cohesive collection of 19th and 20th century commercial architecture, summarized by the Italianate, Romanesque Revival, Craftsman, and Neoclassical Revival style buildings surrounding a Classical Revival County Courthouse. The courthouse is especially noteworthy as an example of E.E. Myer's work. The district has been the center of Marion's commercial trade, with numerous specialty and department stores, restaurants, offices, and financial institutions. At the same time the Courthouse, along with a former County Jail and Federal Post Office, make it symbolically and functionally the governmental and politically heart of the city and county. It is this combination--commercial and political, retail and governmental uses, housed within good 19th & 20th Century buildings centered around the town square--that makes it an important example of development in a small turn-of-the-century Midwestern city. In the broader context, the Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District is significant as an example of the social, commercial, and civic development of the Grant and surround county region in the period of 1880-1942. While its traditional ties were to agriculture, Marion's development was also inextricably linked to the discovery of natural gas which produced phenomenal growth beginning in 1887 and continuing into the 1940's. This discovery contributed to the industrial growth of the entire region.

Origins of Early Development (1831-1860)

Grant County was formed on August 5, 1831, from a portion of Delaware County. The state appointed a committee to plan the

county seat, the site chosen being land cleared by the first two white settlers, Martin Boots and David Branson. Later than year, the land was platted for thirty nine dollars, and the village was called Grant County Court House. On November 1, 1831, the original plat of 32 blocks from the Mississinewa River to 7th Street and from the alley east of Branson Street to the alley west of Boots, were auctioned with minimum prices set on lots according to their location to the public square. In 1836, the name of the Grant County seat was changed to Marion in honor of the Revolutionary War general, General Francis Marion, the "Swamp Fox", who was deemed a war hero for daring raids against the British from the marshes. In 1839, Marion was incorporated with a population of 328.

The County Court was held in the home of Riley Marshall until the first Grant County Courthouse was built in 1833. The two story frame building was constructed for $684. A two story brick structure made from clay found in a large mound on the site, believed to be Indian burial grounds, replaced the original buildings in 1838. As the public square became the political center for the county, it also became a gathering place for public events and farmers selling their freshly grown goods. As the seat of government, the town attracted trade and commerce from throughout the county.

Civil War Era Development (1861-1879)

By 1860, Marion has grown to a population of 1,300 persons. Railroad lines were laid to Marion in 1869. This was a branch of the PCC & St. L. Railroad, the "Panhandle". Later, the "Clover Leaf" Narrow Gauge Line crossed Marion in 1870s.

The Golden Years of Marion (1880-1930)

Early in the year 1880, the Grant County Commissioners voted to build a larger courthouse. Marion hired a well known architect, E.E. Myers of Detroit, to prepare plans and oversee construction. Hinsdale-Doyle Granite Company received the contract to build the

building for about 4134,000. A temporary rail was laid onto the site for daily freight deliveries of granite, "I" beams, iron stairs, and cast iron columns. The cornerstone was laid in the middle of 1881 and completed in 1882. This courthouse far surpassed size of the previous courthouse and became the county's primary landmark. The public green still is a community gathering place for festivals, parades, and farmers markets.

A major commercial era began in 1887 with a gas and oil boom, after Marion entrepreneurs drilled a well on the southeast corner of Boots and 14th Streets. After several other successful wells, the boom was on. It attracted land speculators, well drillers, craftsmen, entrepreneurs and laborers. Marion's population rose from 3,500 in 1887 to 21,000 in 1894. Promotional material was printed and distributed across the country to draw in business and industry. It was declared that Marion was the "Queen City of the Gas Belt" and offered free land, natural gas, free railroad switching, and other inducements. Construction, education, industry, business, transportation, the arts, and recreation flourished, and the time was both elegant and flamboyant, reflecting the late Victorian Era. A total of fifteen wells were drilled and supplied every residence, business, office, church, school and building, where heat and light were desired. Residences were charged no more than $20 a year, while manufacturers were supplied free.

Before 1887, Marion factories employed around 150 men. By 1889, Marion gained 25 new industries employing thousands. The industrial base diversified to include window glass factories, a bottle factory, a stone foundry, a lumber company, pressed brick works, a paper mill, a pump mill, a hoop factory, a clock works, and many others. By 1905, most of the gas supply had been expended to the surprise of many, even though warnings were given to the city by state geologists that the supply was finite. Marion rebounded with alternative sources of fuel.

In 1892, the Marion Commercial Club was organized by public-spirited citizens. The Commercial Club purchased a site on the

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

east side of the square at 315-317 South Adams Street and built a structure where the Ken building now stands (Building 75). The group's objectives included establishing new industrial and commercial enterprises. The Commercial Club had committees on finance, membership, arrangements, city interests, railroads, natural gas, manufacturer's law, labor and arbitration. The whole community benefited from the efforts of the club. It lapsed into inactivity after twenty years of service.

The construction of numerous commercial buildings in the downtown during this period reflected the prosperity of the community. These buildings from this period include most of the structures currently on the courthouse square. One example constructed in the district during this period is the Marion National Bank at 402 South Washington Street (Building 46), the tallest and the most prominent structure in Marion. This Neoclassical and Chicago style terra cotta building rises seven floors, three stories higher than any other structure in the district at that time. The First National Bank was constructed four years later in 1921 after a fire destroyed the previous three story brick building.

Twentieth Century Modernization (1931-1942)

The prosperity of the commercial and industrial sector ended after the gas boom. Only a few structures were built in the downtown area during this period, the end of the historic period of Marion's Downtown Commercial District. The focal point of the business district continued to be the Grant County Courthouse even though the 40 feet tall dome and galvanized statue of "Justice", which was seated on top of the dome, was removed in 1942. The dome was removed to make way for the upper portion of a new elevator shaft and air conditioning units. The statue of "Justice" was relocated to Matter Park north of downtown.

Historic and architectural Cohesiveness

The district is a cohesive collection of the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century commercial, civic, and

apartment buildings that form the county seat of Marion. The prevailing scale and materials reflect common values and resources of both the private and public sectors of the city. The buildings of the district manifest a consistent influence of prevailing tests of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Italianate style predominated, complemented by the Romanesque, and later still, Neoclassical Revival buildings. The sixty year period from 1880 to 1942 defines the principal peak of construction activity around the courthouse square and in the district.

Comparative Qualities

The Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District represents a significant commercial core for the county. Within Grant County, four potential downtown commercial districts exist. The Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District is the only downtown comprised of multiple blocks of related resources, with a focus upon the courthouse square. The three other potential historic districts, in Fairmount, Gas City, and Swayzee, are single street commercial streets no more than two blocks long with parallel facing streetscapes.

Indiana is noted for its strong tradition of courthouse square planning and courthouse design. Grant County is abutted by nine other counties and their county seat business districts. Many of these county seats also experienced growth during the gas and oil boom. Of these surrounding counties, only Huntington has a National Register district, the Huntington Courthouse Square Historic District. This historic district is in some ways comparable to the Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District. However, the courthouse block misses the larger public green sense of the Grant County Courthouse. The potential historic district in Bluffton in Wells County includes many noncommercial resources and does not have a similar courthouse square arrangement; the Courthouse is independently listed. A smaller historic district is possible immediately surrounding the National Register Courthouse in Hartford City. However, this district would not

extend more than one-half block from the courthouse square, without the large scale of the Marion district. Delaware County's' seat Muncie has the National Register Downtown Muncie Historic Resource Area, with the Walnut Street Historic District, but the courthouse has been demolished. Madison County's Anderson has a much larger downtown area without the historic courthouse square and with many remodeled buildings. Tipton, in Tipton County, has no comparable multiple sided courthouse square and large multiblock downtown, but does include a National Register Courthouse and Jail. Kokomo's downtown in Howard County lacks the integrity and cohesiveness of the Marion district. Peru in Miami County features, like Tipton and other counties, a courthouse with a definitive front facade facing a commercial street, without the full public square and green impact of Marion. The sense of place of the Downtown Wabash Historic District gives a much more "river town" feel than of a downtown focused upon its courthouse as in Marion. Of these county seats, Marion distinguishes itself by being a full four sided courthouse square, with public green spaces and significant commercial buildings facing all sides of the square. Historic commercial buildings then extend several blocks through a commercial core reflecting historic urban growth as a true historic commercial center.

Summary

The Marion Downtown commercial Historic District is typical and illustrative of a commercial downtown resulting from the growth spurt generated by the discovery and use of natural gas and oil in northeastern Indiana during the late 19th century, meeting Criteria A for National Register listing. The district is governmentally significant as the Grant County seat, with its courthouse, Carnegie Public Library, Marion Post Office, and National Register jail and sheriff's residence. Buildings in the district are indicative of significant commercial development with examples of most significant architectural styles of late 19th and 20th Century commercial buildings.

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

Section 9-Bibliography

A Century of Development, Grant County, Indiana. Prepared by Grant County Junior Historical Society, April 1937.

Combination Atlas Map of Grant County, Indiana, 1877. Kingman Brothers.

Historic of Grant County, 1886. Chicago, Brant & Fuller.

Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. Grant County Interim Report, 1993.

McGrew, W. H. Interesting Episodes in the Early Historic of Marion and Grant County, Indiana.

Mitchener, Pete. Clearing the Way for a Community. (unpublished manuscript).

Simons, Richard. A Century of Development - Grant County, IN.prepared by the Grant County Junior Historical Society, April 1937.

Whitson, Rolland L. (Ed.). Centennial History of Grant County, Indiana 1812-1912 VOL. 1, Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1914.

Section 10 Geographic Data
Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point at the southwest intersection of the curb lines of Boots and 3rd Street; then east to the east curbline of Washington Street; then north to point in line with the south property line of 200 S. Washington Street, then west to the east edge of the alley between Washington and Boots Street, then north to the south curbline of 2nd Street, then east to the west edge of the north-south alley of Block 11 of the original Plat of Marion, then south to the south edge of east-west alley of said block, then east to the west curb of Branson Street, then south to the

Marion Downtown Commercial Historic District
Grant County, IN

north curb of 3rd Street, then west to the west edge of the north-south alley of Block 16 in said plat, then south to the north curb of 4th Street, then west to the west curb of Adams Street, then south to the south property line of 518 South Adams Street, then west along said property line to the east edge of the north-south alley of Block 25 in said plat, then north to the south edge of the east-west alley of Block 25, in said plat, then then west to the west curb of Washington Street, then south to the north curb of 7th Street, then west to the east edge of the north-south alley which parallels Washington Street, immediately to the west, then north to the north edge of the east-west alley in Block 15 of said plat, then west to the west curb of Boots Street, then south to the north curb of 4th Street, then west to the west property line of 316 Gallatin Street, then north along said line to the west property line of 304 Gallatin street, then north along the west property line of 304 Gallatin Street, to the north curb of 3rd Street, then east to the west property line of the lot occupied by the Marion Post Office, then north to the north property line of the Marion Post Office, then east to the west curb of Boots Street, then south to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the historic district reflect those buildings which retain integrity and contribute to the significance of historic district. Buildings which are newer than the period of significance or which have been altered beyond significance have been excluded. The boundaries with two variations were recommended in the Grant County Interim Report of the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory.