

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

24 1994

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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 Paoli Historic District

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

2. Location

street & number see continuation sheet

N/A not for publication

city or town Paoli

N/A  vicinity

state IN code IN county Orange

code 117 zip code 47454

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.)

*Robert R. Pitzer*

10-20-94

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain.) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

*for*  
*Edson H. Beall*

Entered in the  
National Register

Date of Action

11-25-94

Paoli Historic District  
Name of Property

Orange, IN  
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
144	55	buildings
1	0	sites
4	1	structures
4	2	objects
153	58	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

2

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store  
GOVERNMENT: courthouse  
COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant  
GOVERNMENT: post office  
DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling  
RELIGION: religious structure  
TRANSPORTATION: road-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store  
GOVERNMENT: courthouse  
COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant  
GOVERNMENT: post office  
DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling  
RELIGION: religious structure  
TRANSPORTATION: road-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

ITALIANATE  
QUEEN ANNE  
GREEK REVIVAL

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK  
walls WOOD: weatherboard  
BRICK  
roof ASPHALT  
other GLASS

Narrative Description

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

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.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE
GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c. 1840 - c. 1940

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Harmon, William Watson

Pugh, Hugh

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):

- Documentation checkboxes: preliminary determination, previously listed, designated landmark, recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey, recorded by Historic American Engineering Record.

Primary location of additional data:

- Location checkboxes: State Historic Preservation Office, Other State agency, Federal agency, Local government, University, Other.

Name of repository:

Paoli Historic District  
Name of Property

Orange, IN  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property approximately 65

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	6
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5	4	6	7	6	0
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4	2	6	7	9	9	0
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Zone Easting Northing

3 

1	6
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5	4	5	6	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	2	6	7	0	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

2 

1	6
---	---

5	4	6	8	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	2	6	7	0	0	0
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4 

1	6
---	---

5	4	5	7	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	2	6	7	8	6	0
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See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

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

**Boundary Justification**

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

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Laura Thayer, Historic Preservation Consultant for

organization Paoli Chamber of Commerce date April 12, 1994

street & number 422 1/2 Fifth Street telephone 812/378-0800

city or town Columbus state IN zip code 47201

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

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

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

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

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

**Property Owner**

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

name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

National Register of Historic Places  
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Roughly bounded by W. Fifth Street, Lick Creek, N.E. Third Street, and Railroad Street.

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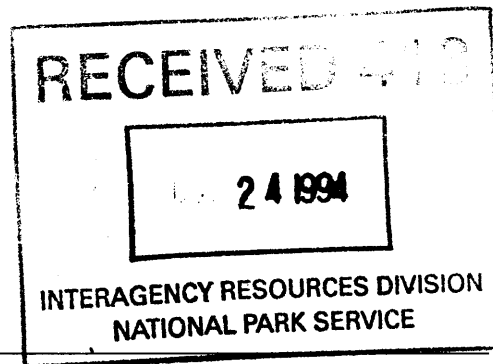
Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register:

Thomas Newby Braxtan House

Orange County Courthouse

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Section No. 7 Page 1 Paoli Historic District



The Paoli Historic District comprises a large part of the town of Paoli, located near the center of Orange County in southern Indiana. Orange County is located in a scenic, hilly area of the state. Much of the county is rural. The principal towns are Paoli, the county seat, Orleans, French Lick, and West Baden Springs. Paoli, located near the center of the county, has a population of about 3,600. Orleans, about seven miles to the north, has approximately 2,200 people. The combined population of French Lick and West Baden Springs, which are adjacent towns about eight miles west of Paoli, is roughly 3,000.

Paoli is located on Lick Creek in a valley surrounded by rolling hills. U.S. 150 goes through Paoli from southeast to northwest. It follows the route of the old New Albany-Vincennes Road. It was the first road to be macadamized by the State of Indiana, in 1839. State Road 56 transverses the town from east to west, and State Road 37 runs from north to south. These highways also follow the paths of early roads linking Paoli to other towns. In 1885, a spur of the Monon Railroad was completed through Paoli. The tracks, which extended across the north end of town, have been removed. The Monon depot was located on the west side of N. Gospel Street, just north of the tracks, in the vicinity of what is now Monon Drive.

The courthouse square is in the center of the town. It is a Lancaster square, which is a Philadelphia square with a courthouse. Four streets enter the center of the square, where the Orange County Courthouse is located. There are only three examples of Lancaster squares in Indiana. The others, besides the one in Paoli, are in Salem, the seat of Washington County, and Jasper, the seat of Dubois County. (Shelbyville, in Shelby County, also has this type of square, but the courthouse is no longer located there.)

Most of the historic district is contained within the original plat, which was bounded by Lick Creek, W. Fifth Street, Thornton Street, and the Second Principal Meridian. (The Second Principal Meridian is one of the lines used for land surveying. Where it crosses the Base Line a few miles south of Paoli is the Initial Point, the point which is the basis for all land surveys in Indiana.) The district includes the courthouse square, the surrounding commercial area, and adjacent residential areas. The town follows a regular north-south, east-west grid pattern. Main Street is the principal east-west street, and Gospel Street is the main north-south street. The axes of these streets intersect at the courthouse square.

Within the boundaries of the historic district are a total of 213 buildings, structures, sites, and objects. One hundred and fifty three of these contribute to the character of the district, and 58 do not. Of a total of 201 buildings, 144 are counted as contributing and 55 are counted as noncontributing. Two of the contributing buildings, the Orange County Courthouse and the Thomas Newby Braxtan House, were previously listed in the National

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Section No. 7 Page 2 Paoli Historic District

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Register of Historic Places, and are not reflected in the resource count in Section 5. The noncontributing buildings are historic buildings which have been altered extensively, or buildings constructed after the period of significance. There are four contributing structures. Three are bridges, and one is the lithia well on the south side of W. Main Street. The one noncontributing structure a 1957, concrete, state highway bridge at the south end of W. First Street. There is one contributing site, Lithia Springs Park. There are four contributing and two noncontributing objects, all on the courthouse square.

The main commercial area of Paoli has always been located on the streets which surround the courthouse square. In the early days of the town, the buildings on the square were wood. Nearly all of these were destroyed by a series of fires in the late 19th century and were gradually replaced by brick buildings, most of which date from about 1890 to 1920. The majority of these are simple buildings, one to three stories in height, constructed to house stores. Among other types of buildings are the public library (photo 30), a hotel (photo 35), and a garage (right in photo 29). Commercial buildings on the outside of the square include a warehouse and a creamery (photo 41). The Dr. J.H. Sherrod House, built in 1885, is located in the northeast corner. There is a c. 1920 house located on the alley in the northeast corner of the square. On the outside of the square, on the north side of Water Street, are the Gabbert House, built c. 1870, and a c. 1890 cottage (photo 45).

The courthouse itself is an imposing Greek Revival building, completed in 1850. There are several objects on the courthouse square. The contributing objects are two Civil War cannons, placed on the square in 1903; a fountain installed by the Women's Christian Temperance Union in 1941; and the "Buhrstone Marker," dedicated in 1940, a memorial to Revolutionary soldiers buried in Orange County, composed of buhrstones from early county mills. There are also two noncontributing objects, placed after the period of significance. These are the Indiana Initial Point Memorial, which was built in 1973; and the 1949 Gold Star Memorial.

Historically, industrial buildings were located on Lick Creek, main roads, or the Monon Railroad. A 1904 flour mill remains on the north bank of Lick Creek on the east side of S. Gospel Street, but has been altered extensively (right in photo 44). The building located on the southwest corner of W. Third and W. Main Streets was built as a bottling plant for lithia water about 1920 (photo 22). Other extant industrial buildings are located outside the boundaries of the historic district.

There are two buildings associated with government located adjacent to the square. These are the old Orange County Jail, completed in 1858 (photo 43), and the U.S. Post Office, completed in 1937 (photo 7).



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There are several church buildings located within the boundaries of the historic district. The Friend's Meetinghouse, located on the northwest corner of W. Thornton and N. Gospel Streets (photo 4), is a Neocolonial structure which was built in the 1950s to replace an earlier frame building which had burned. It is an attractive structure, but has been counted as noncontributing, as it is less than 50 years old. It is the surviving meetinghouse associated with the Quaker community which founded the town.

Other churches are the Presbyterian Church, built in 1920 and located on the east side of N.E. First Street, south of E. Campbell Street (right in photo 12); the Baptist Church, a late 19th century structure located on the northeast corner of E. Water and S.E. First Streets (right in photo 42); the Methodist Episcopal Church, built in 1888 and located on the south side of W. Main Street, west of S.W. First Street.

There are four bridges in the historic district. The oldest of these is an iron, Pratt through truss, built in 1890, which carries S. Gospel Street across Lick Creek. Adjacent to this is an iron, bow arch pedestrian bridge, which dates from the early 20th century. There is another early 20th century, iron, pedestrian bridge across Lick Creek, just north of W. Water Street. The 1957 concrete, State Road 37 bridge across Lick Creek has been counted as noncontributing.

Most of the remaining structures in the historic district are dwellings. These date from about 1840 to the present day. The majority of the residential buildings are of wood frame construction. A few are brick or stone. Dwellings from all periods of Paoli's history are distributed more or less evenly throughout the historic district. There are a few noncontributing houses. Most of these are ranch style houses or trailers which date from after the period of significance.

Many of the academic styles and vernacular house types commonly seen in southern Indiana are exhibited in Paoli. In addition to the courthouse, the Greek Revival style is represented by houses at 206 W. Main, built c. 1840, and the Thomas Volney Thornton House at 102 E. Thornton Street, built in 1846 (photo 5).

The Patton House at 206 N. Gospel Street is a good local example of the Italianate style (right in photo 6). Commercial buildings which illustrate the style include the Braxtan Store, built in the late 1890s and located on the northeast corner of E. Court and E. Main

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Streets (photo 31); and the G.W. Thomas Building, built about 1895, located on the southeast corner of S. Court and S. Gospel Streets (photo 36).

The Queen Anne style is well-represented. Outstanding examples include the Braxtan House at 210 N. Gospel Street (left in photo 6); the Riley-Davidson House at 210 E. Campbell Street (photo 11); and the Benjamin Lingle House, built in 1899 and located at 214 W. Main Street (right in photo 24).

The Paoli State Bank, which dates from 1912, is an example of the Neoclassical style. Another early 20th century style, Arts and Crafts, is represented by the Presbyterian Church at 112 N.E. First Street (right in photo 12); the Paoli Public Library on the northeast corner of the courthouse square (photo 30); and the Lithia Bottling Plant at 401 W. Main Street (photo 22), all of which were constructed about 1920.

There are several good examples of the Bungalow style. Among these are houses on the northeast corner of E. Thornton and N.E. Second Street (photo 9). The Charles and Ida Murray House at 112 N.E. First Street (left in photo 12) is another fine example of the style.

The house at 205 W. Water Street, built for Sam and Stella McIntosh in 1940, is a good local example of a Jacobethan Revival style house.

Of vernacular types, the early 19th century I-house is common. Examples include houses at 412 W. Main Street (photo 21); the Gabbert House at 120 W. Water Street (left in photo 24); and the house at 315 N.E. First Street (right in photo 8).

Other types of vernacular houses are found in the historic district as well. One of these is the early 19th century, hall-and-parlor house at 307 W. Water Street (right in photo 48). An example of a cross-plan cottage, and a late 19th century gable front dwelling can be seen on the south side of Railroad Street, east of N. Gospel Street (photo 49). The house at 112 W. Water Street (right in photo 45) is an outstanding local example of a turn-of-the-century, composite cottage, as is the house at 512 W. Main Street (photo 17). The house at 309 E. Campbell Street is an unaltered example of an early 20th century, gable front dwelling (photo 10).

In some parts of the district, particularly in the residential areas, there are historic stone sidewalks. Because of the many hills, there are also a number of historic stone

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retaining walls.

Following are descriptions of pivotal and representative buildings.

**Thomas Volney Thornton House, 102 E. Thornton Street**, Greek Revival style, 1846 (photo 5). This is a two-and-a-half story, timber-frame house. It has a pedimented gable roof, clapboard siding, and double-hung, wood windows with multi-light sashes. There is an entry on the south facade of the house with sidelights, and a one-story portico. Originally, the west facade had a two-story, columned porch. This was removed around the turn of the 20th century, and a two-story, wrap-around porch was added. This second porch has now been removed, and a triangular dormer window has been added on the south slope of the roof. Thornton was a local attorney. His house was designed and constructed by William Watson Harmon, the builder of the Orange County Courthouse.

**Thomas N. Braxtan House, 210 N. Gospel Street**, Queen Anne style, 1893 (left in photo 6). The Braxtan House is a two-and-a-half story, wood frame building with an irregular plan and a complex roof. It has clapboard siding, and double-hung, wood windows. A classical porch wraps around the west and south sides. The house is an outstanding example of the Queen Anne style and has a high degree of integrity. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Braxtan was a prominent local stock dealer and merchant. His store was located in the building on the northeast corner of E. Court Street and E. Main Street (photo 31). Braxtan was also involved in manufacture and sale of whetstone and sandstone. From the 1920s to 1987, the house was the Braxtan Hotel. It is now a bed and breakfast.

**U.S. Post Office, northeast corner of N. Gospel and E. Campbell Streets**, 1937 (photo 7). This is a simple, one-story, brick building, with a flat roof. The main (west) facade is five bays wide. Windows are double hung, wood, with multi-light sash. The building has a high degree of integrity. The only significant alteration is the replacement of the front entry doors with a set of aluminum and glass doors. The post office was first established in Paoli in 1818. It was formerly located in various buildings around the square, including the Throop Building (photo 34), and the building at 182 S. Court Street (photo 38). The present building was the first building in town specifically constructed for use as a post office. It is significant among small town post offices for its high degree of integrity, both inside and outside. One of Indiana's 36 Depression-era, post office murals is located inside on the south wall.

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**Riley-Davidson House, 210 E. Campbell Street, Queen Anne style, 1893 (photo 11).** The Riley-Davidson house is a two-and-a-half story, wood frame building with a multi-gable roof. In the gables are decorative bargeboards. The house is sided in clapboards. Windows are double hung, wood, with one light in each sash. Some of the windows on the first story have leaded glass upper sash or stained glass transoms. The house has a classical, wrap-around porch. This house was built for John P. Riley. Riley was in the hardware business with his father, who lived in the house next door to the west. John P. Riley operated the business out of his building on the northeast corner of the square (photo 27) from 1887 to about 1920. Between 1902 and 1921, the Henry F. Davidson family lived in the house. The house was first made into apartments in 1929, and remains an apartment house today.

**Presbyterian Church, 112 N.E. First Street, Arts and Crafts style, 1921 (right in photo 12).** The church is a one-story, rectangular building with a front gable roof. It is brick, with aluminum siding in the gables. On the front of the building is a small, gable-roofed entry, with paired, paneled wood doors. Windows are double hung, wood, with stained glass. There are decorative brackets under the eaves. The Presbyterian Church was organized in Paoli in 1825. The congregation first held services in second courthouse, a stone building which was located on the courthouse square. About 1850, a wood frame church building was constructed on N. Gospel, just south of where the Monon Railroad would later be located. This building is now gone. The land for the present church building was donated by the Braxtan family.

**Lithia Bottling Plant, 401 W. Main Street, Arts and Crafts style, c. 1920 (photo 22).** This is a one-and-a-half story brick building with stone accents. The roof is a side gable roof. There are decorative brackets under the eaves. There are two gabled, wall dormers on the front (north) facade. The dormers frame two entries, which have paneled wood and glass doors, sidelights, and transoms. Windows are double hung, wood, with stained glass. Transoms above the windows have vertical divisions. In the early 1890s, a group of Paoli businessmen became interested in developing a tourist trade based on healthful effects of mineral water, as had been done in French Lick and West Baden Springs a few miles to the west. Their efforts included drilling a lithia well near Lick Creek, on the south side of W. Main Street, east of W. Fifth Street (photo 18). The water was bottled and shipped to various cities for sale. It was apparently well-received, and around 1920, this building was constructed to expand the operation. Unfortunately, interest in the product waned shortly after, and the building was acquired by the United Brethren Church a few years later.

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**Benjamin Lingle House, 214 W. Main Street**, Queen Anne style, 1899 (right in photo 24). The Lingle House is two-and-a-half stories high. It has an irregular plan and a complex roof. Windows are double hung, wood, with one light in each sash. There is a wrap-around porch with turned spindles and scroll-sawn brackets. Lingle was a local harness manufacturer and dealer. He operated his business out of a building on the northwest corner of the square (129 N. Court Street). He lived in this house, an outstanding local example of the Queen Anne style, with his wife, Ruth Lindley Lingle.

**Boyd Building, 122-23 W. Court Street**, 1891/1936 (left in photo 26). This is a two-story brick building with a flat roof that slopes to the rear. The main (east) facade is six bays wide. The storefront has been altered. The second story, with double hung, wood windows, and decorative brickwork is intact. This building was construction shortly after the fire of 1885. For many years it housed a jewelry and drugstore in the south half, and a clothing and boot and shoe store in the north half. Among second floor tenants were a dentist and a printing operation. In 1936, the principal facade was modernized. On the south side, remnants of the building's earlier years can be seen, including the round arched window openings, and the iron stairway.

**Riley Building, 131 N. Court Street**, 1887 (photo 27). This is an outstanding three-story, brick building. The main (south) facade is six bays wide. The storefront retains its original stone pilasters. Between these, door and window openings have been altered. Upper story windows are double hung, wood, in round arched openings. The openings have decorative brick lintels and stone sills. A decorative brick band extends across the top of the building. This building housed the Riley family's drugstore and hardware store from 1887 to about 1920. For many years, it has been the home of the Orange County Publishing Company, which publishes the local newspaper. The building is notable for its high degree of integrity and outstanding brickwork.

**Miller Garage, 146 N. Court Street**, Arts and Crafts style, 1920 (right in photo 29). The Miller Garage is a one-story brick building with stone accents. The garage door openings on the front (south side) of the building have been filled in with new storefronts. Above these are three stone panels. The center panel is inscribed with "GARAGE." Above this is a triangular parapet with stone coping. This building was Paoli's first garage and automobile sales showroom. The featured vehicle was the Model T. Ford. The building represents the shift from horse and wagons to automobile transportation. Other

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auto-related buildings in Paoli which date from the same era include the Riley Garage at 153 E. Main Street, and a small gas station on the northwest corner of W. Main and W. Fourth Streets (photo 19).

**Paoli Public Library, 147 E. Court Street**, Arts and Crafts style, 1920 (photo 30). This outstanding Carnegie library is unaltered, both on the exterior and interior. It is a one-story brick building with a raised basement. A set of concrete steps in the center of the main (west) facade leads to a set of original, wood and glass doors. The doors are framed by a columned portico. Windows are paired, double hung, wood, with multi-light sashes. Horizontal courses of brick separate the basement and first floor levels, and extend across the top of the building. Other decorative features include stone accents. The building has a hipped roof with pantiles. The Paoli library has a long history. A library is known to have existed as early as the 1850s. Prior to construction of this building, the public library was housed on the second floor of the Stout Brothers Store at 113 W. Court Street (photo 39).

**Paoli State Bank, 1 E. Main Street**, Neoclassical style, 1912 (photo 33). This is a one-story brick building with stone ornamentation. The building is distinctive for its classical, corner entry. Windows are wood with stone sills. The building has a high degree of integrity on the exterior. Throughout Indiana, many new state banks, like this one, opened in the first two decades of the 20th century. This yellow brick and limestone structure housed an important local financial institution until it failed in 1934. The building then served as the Paoli Town Hall until 1958. It now houses a law office.

**J.P. Throop Building, 165-66 S. Court Street**, c. 1895 (photo 34). This is a two-story, brick building. The main (north) facade is six bays wide. The storefront has been altered, but the first floor metal cornice is intact. Second story windows are double hung, wood, with one light in each sash. A band of corbeled brickwork extends across the top of the building. The building was constructed by J.P. Throop, who owned a local brickyard. It first housed the Paoli Hardware Company. The American Legion was located upstairs. In the 1930s, the store was known as the Graves-Brown Hardware Company. The store was purchased by Daniel and Bernadine Radcliffe in 1943 and remained a hardware store until the late 1960s.

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**Mineral Springs Hotel, 168 S. Court Street, 1895 (photo 35).** One of the outstanding buildings in the historic district, the hotel is a three-story, brick structure. There is a recessed, gable roofed center section flanked by twin, hipped roofed towers. In the recess between the towers, there is a porch on the first story and balconies on the upper stories. Windows in the center section are double hung, wood. On the third floor, windows have round arched openings. There are oriel windows on the second story of the towers. The storefront on the east tower is intact. The storefront of the other tower has been altered, and the central entry doors replaced. An historic photograph shows that there were modillions under the eaves of the towers. These are now gone. Generally, however, the building has a good degree of integrity. A group of local businessmen, including Amos Stout, John Maris, S.R. Know, Charles Boyd, and J.P. Throop, built this hotel in an effort to promote local tourism. The hotel also served as a center of local cultural and recreational life. It had an Opera House in the lobby and a bowling alley and pool room in the basement. The hotel had 80 rooms, and continued to operate until 1958.

**Orange County Courthouse, Courthouse Square, Greek Revival style, 1850 (photo 40).** The courthouse is a monumental, two-story, painted brick structure, in the style of a Doric temple. The main (south) facade has a two-story, columned portico. The other facades of the building have pilasters. Windows are double hung, wood, with two lights in each sash. The building is one of the outstanding Greek Revival buildings in Indiana and one of only three remaining Greek Revival style courthouses in the state. The other two are the present Ohio County Courthouse and the second St. Joseph County Courthouse. After the Ohio County Courthouse, which was built in 1844, the Orange County Courthouse is the oldest Indiana courthouse in continuous use. It was designed by architect Hugh Pugh and built by William Watson Harmon at a cost of about \$14,000. It is the third courthouse on the site. There have been two fires in the building, one in 1938, and one in 1970. Damage to the building was limited in both cases, and county records were unscathed. The first clock in the tower was installed in 1856. The present clock, manufactured by E. Howard Watch and Clock Company of Boston, was installed in 1899. The iron stairs on the south porch were added in 1881. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Orange County Jail, southwest corner W. Water and S. Gospel Streets, 1858 (right in photo 43).** The old jail is a two-story brick building with a gable roof. Jail cells, at the south end of the first floor, have stone walls. The entry is on the north end of the building. Windows are double hung, wood, with multi-light sash. The building was constructed to house the county jail and jailer's residence. It is one of the oldest extant jail buildings in Indiana.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 10 Paoli Historic District

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**Gospel Street Bridge, S. Gospel Street over Lick Creek, 1890** (left in photo 43). This is a one-lane, Pratt-through truss, built by the Cleveland Bridge and Iron Company. The open-webbed floor beams of the bridge are unusual.

**William Gabbert House, 120 W. Water Street, I-house, c. 1870** (left in photo 45). This is a two-story, wood frame house with a side gable roof. The original clapboard siding has been covered with aluminum, and the porch is partially enclosed. Windows are double hung wood. William P. and Belzora Gabbert were the original owners of this house, and lived here until 1891. Gabbert came to Paoli in 1870 and became general manager of the Albert Hotel, which burned in 1879. In 1882, he formed a partnership with John Hudelson and opened a drug store.



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Section No. 8 Page 1 Paoli Historic District

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The Paoli Historic District is significant as the historic center of government and commerce in Orange County. It is also significant for its architecture, which represents a range of academic styles and vernacular types.

Settlement in the area which would become Orange County began in 1807. The first pioneers traveled on buffalo and Indian traces. One of the major routes extended from the Falls of the Ohio to Vincennes, passing through Orange County a few miles south of Paoli.

Paoli was first settled in 1811 by a group of Quakers from North Carolina led by Jonathan Lindley. It was named for Pasquale Paoli Ashe, son of North Carolina governor Samuel Ashe. The young Ashe had died shortly before the Lindley group left North Carolina. Lindley had been a prominent businessman and politician before coming to Indiana. He became a leading citizen of Paoli, Orange County and the State of Indiana as well. He served on the first state legislature, was first county land agent and one of the first commissioners for Orange County, and served on the first board of trustees for Indiana University.

A large number of the pioneers of Orange County and Paoli were Quakers. The Quakers were opposed to slavery and encouraged African-American settlement. In the mid-19th century, the African-American population comprised roughly five per cent of both the Paoli and Paoli Township populations, but began to decline in the late 19th century. There is said to have been an African-American neighborhood in the southern part of Paoli, but little information is available on this or other African-American resources. The largest African-American settlement in Orange County was known as Lick Creek. The name of this village, first settled in the early 19th century, and located in southeastern Paoli Township, was later changed to Chambersburg. Many of the early houses of this village are intact.

Orange County was established and Paoli named county seat shortly before Indiana became a state in 1816. The town was laid by Lindley. The original plat focused on a Lancaster square, with the center of the square reserved for the county courthouse. Only three other county seats in Indiana were laid out in this way: Salem, in Washington County; Shelbyville, in Shelby County; and Jasper, in Dubois County. The original plat of Paoli was large, with 223 lots, and no new additions were made until 1874.

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Section No. 8 Page 2 Paoli Historic District

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The early economy of Orange County was based on agriculture. Hogs and corn were principal products. From Paoli, surpluses were hauled by wagon to Leavenworth and shipped down river. Early industries included grist and lumber mills, tanneries and blacksmith shops. Paoli's status as county seat and its location near the center of the county made it an important market town. Farmers came to town to conduct business with the county, sell agricultural products, and make purchases.

Orange County is in a hilly part of Indiana, and was somewhat isolated in the early 19th century. Improvements in roads opened trading opportunities. Principal among early roads were the New Albany-Vincennes Road, now U.S. 150, macadamized in 1839. The Orleans road, now part of State Road 37, extended seven miles north.

By the late 1840s, the population of Orange County was about 10,000. A two-story, stone courthouse, 50 feet long by 33 feet wide, had served the county since about 1820. The Board of Commissioners determined in 1847 that a larger building was needed. A handsome, Greek Revival style courthouse was completed in 1850, and is still in use (photo 40). The building was designed by architect, Hugh Pugh, and constructed by William Watson Harmon, a carpenter who came to Paoli from Massachusetts about 1838.

In 1851, the Louisville, New Albany, and Chicago (later the Monon Line) arrived in Orleans. Paoli business leaders continued to seek a railroad of their own. Finally, a spur of the Monon passed through Paoli in 1887 on its way to the resort towns of French Lick and West Baden Springs, eight miles to the west. The Monon depot and tracks have been removed, but the right-of-way is still discernible on the north side of the historic district (center of photo 2). Long-time agent for the railroad, Elmer Hall, built the cottage at 109 W. First Street in 1908 (right in photo 13).

Before the arrival of the railroad, most goods were shipped by stagecoach, which made a round trip to New Albany several times a week. For most of the 19th century, the U.S. mail was transported in this way. The Rhodes family ran the stagecoach line for 40 years after the Civil War. They also owned a livery. Andrew Rhodes, Sr., lived in the house at 310 W. Main Street. The house next door, at 314, was built for his son, Andrew Rhodes, Jr., in about 1890 (right in photo 23). An iron bridge, still in use, was constructed to carry S. Gospel Street over Lick Creek in 1890 (left in photo 43).

Disastrous fires in 1879, 1885, 1891, and 1894, destroyed most of the early commercial buildings around the courthouse square. After each fire, larger and more substantial

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Section No. 8 Page 3 Paoli Historic District

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buildings were constructed to replace those which had been lost. The two-story brick building located on the southwest corner of W. Court and W. Main Streets (photo 39), was built to house the Stout Brothers general merchandise store in 1880. The Sherrod House at 127 Court Street and the Sherrod building at 128 N. Court Street, were built to replace structures which was destroyed in the fire of 1885. Built after this same fire, the Riley Building at 131-133 N. Court Street (photo 27) housed a drug store and hardware business. The two-story frame building at 178-179 S. Court Street was completed in 1888 (photo 37). The Italianate style building at 124 W. Court Street was constructed in 1891 (second from left in photo 26). Dr. Laban Lindley built the Italianate style buildings at the south end of E. Court Street after the fire of 1894. About the same time, J.P. Throop, who owned a brick yard in Paoli, constructed the building at 165-166 S. Court Street to house a hardware store (photo 34).

In about 1895 a group of local businessmen built the Mineral Springs Hotel on the southeast side of the square. The building was part of an effort to make Paoli competitive with French Lick and West Baden Springs, whose attraction was their mineral springs, promoted for healthful benefits. Two mineral wells had been drilled in Paoli prior to construction of the hotel: a sulfur well, which was located on the south bank of Lick Creek west of Gospel Street, and a lithia well, located on the south bank of the creek between West Fourth and West Fifth Streets. Water from the lithia well was bottled in the building on the southwest corner of W. Main and W. Third Streets and sold. Water from the sulfur well was pumped into the hotel and used by guests for bathing. Paoli never enjoyed the popularity of French Lick or West Baden Springs as a resort, but enough of a tourism share was captured to cause an upswing in the local economy.

The location of the lithia well (photo 18) is still apparent in Maria Radcliffe Rest Park, on the south side of W. Main Street between W. Third and W. Fifth Streets. The well was formerly covered with a wooden gazebo. The building located 401 W. Main Street (photo 22) was constructed c. 1920 as a bottling plant for the lithia water. Soon after, the popularity of the water declined, and the building became the United Brethren Church. It is now an auto supply store.

Many of Paoli's fine homes were constructed during the height of the mineral springs resort period, lasting from about 1890 to 1920. Among these were several examples of the Queen Anne style: the Braxtan House, built in 1893 and located at 210 N. Gospel Street (left in photo 6); the Riley House, completed in 1893 and located at 210 E. Campbell Street (photo 11); the Lingle House, built in 1899 and located at 214 W. Main

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Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 4 Paoli Historic District

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Street (right in photo 24); and the Buskirk House, built c. 1895 and located at 220 W. Campbell Street (photo 15).

Also during this period, several new industries were attracted to Paoli. The Paoli Cabinet Company had built its factory on the northeast side of town by 1909. It continues to operate there today. The Tomato Products Company was located west of town on the Monon Railroad. It started operations in Paoli in about 1910, and for part of the time, had its offices in the Stafford Building on N. Court Street. The Egterton Manufacturing Company made baskets from 1918 until 1944, when the factory burned.

New industries combined with business from tourism contributed to commercial growth in the early 20th century. The building at 182 S. Court Street (photo 38), constructed about 1900, originally housed a furniture store. By 1916, Paoli's first movie theater was located in the building. The Paoli State Bank, located on the southeast corner of E. Court and E. Main Streets (photo 33), was built in 1914. Several new buildings were constructed on the northeast corner of the square after a fire in 1917. The Liberty Building, located on the northeast corner of N. Court and N. Gospel Streets was built in 1919 (left in photo 29). It housed three stores on the ground floor, and offices and the town hall on the second floor. The Paoli Public Library, an outstanding Arts-and-Crafts style building at 147 E. Court Street, was also completed in 1919 (photo 30). The Miller Garage, at 124-126 N. Court Street, dates from 1920 (right in photo 29).

Paoli's economy suffered in the 1920s and 30s, and few new buildings were constructed. This was the case in many parts of Indiana, the result of an agricultural recession in the 1920s, and the nationwide depression of the 1930s. The federal government was responsible for the construction of many of the new buildings in Indiana the 1930s, including the Paoli Post Office, which was built in 1937. This building, a yellow brick structure located on the northeast corner of N. Gospel and E. Campbell Street, is an outstanding example of a small town post office of the era. The building contains one of Indiana's 36 Depression-era murals.

The period of significance spans Paoli's periods of development, including the earliest known resource (c. 1840) and the latest important resource, a 1940, Jacobethan Revival style house (205 W. Water Street).

Orange County has not been surveyed by the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. It is a rural county, with a population of about 18,000 people. There are few towns in the county. Paoli, with a population of about 3,600 is the largest. Orleans, about

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Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 5 Paoli Historic District

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seven miles to the north, has a population of about 2,200. The towns of French Lick and West Baden Springs, eight miles to the west of Paoli, have a combined population of about 3,000. During the 19th century, Orleans was a rival to Paoli in the areas of commerce and industry. The railroad came through Orleans in 1851, more than 30 years before it reached Paoli, giving Orleans an edge. Paoli surpassed Orleans in population and economic prosperity after getting its own railroad in the late 1880s. The commercial district of Orleans is similar to that of Paoli. It is centered on a park square, surrounded by 19th and early 20th century commercial buildings. The adjacent residential areas are similar in character to those in Paoli. Orleans historically functioned as a market town for area farmers.

French Lick and West Baden Springs are separate towns, but share a common boundary. In the mid-19th century, they became resorts on the basis of the mineral springs which were located in the vicinity. A number of hotels were built in the 19th and early 20th century. Most notable are the West Baden Springs Hotel, a National Historic Landmark, built in 1902; and the French Lick Springs Hotel, completed in 1907. French Lick, the larger of the two towns, has a small commercial district, with several distinctive late 19th and early 20th century buildings.

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Section No. 9 Page 1 Paoli Historic District

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Dillard, Arthur L. History of the Orange County Courthouse. Paoli, Indiana: Stouts's Print Shop, 1973.

Dillard, Arthur L. Orange County Heritage. Paoli, Indiana: Stout's Print Shop, 1971.

Orange County Land Records.

Paoli Chamber of Commerce. Orange County, Indiana. Paducah, Kentucky: Turner Publishing Company, 1992.

Riley, Mary, resident of Paoli, Indiana. Interview, February 25, 1994.

Sanborn Map Company. Fire Insurance Maps for Paoli, Indiana, 1895, 1902, 1909, 1916, 1927.

Taylor, Robert M., Jr., et al. Indiana: A New Historical Guide. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1989.

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Continuation Sheet

Section No. 10 Page 1 Paoli Historic District

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Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the northeast corner of W. Main and W. Fifth Streets; thence south across W. Main Street to the north bank of Lick Creek; thence east, southeast, and northeast along the north bank of Lick Creek to the west side of E. First Street, except including the four bridges and their abutments along this stretch of the creek; thence north along the west side of E. First Street to the northwest corner of E. First and E. Water Streets; thence east along the north side of E. Water Street to the southeast corner of Lot 67 of the Original Plat; thence north to the northeast corner of Lot 67 of the Original Plat; thence west to the west side of E. First Street; thence north along the west side of E. First Street to a point on the axis of the south boundary of Lot 8 of the Original Plat; thence east to the southeast corner of Lot 8; thence north to the northeast corner of Lot 8; thence east, across E. Second Street, to the east boundary of a property at 309 E. Campbell Street; thence north to the north side of E. Campbell Street; thence east along the north side of East Campbell Street to the northwest corner of E. Campbell and E. Third Streets; thence north along the west side of E. Third Street to a point on the axis of the south boundary of the property on the southeast corner of E. Third and E. Thornton Streets; thence east along said boundary to the east boundary of said property; thence north along said boundary, across E. Thornton Street, along the east boundary of a property on the northeast corner of E. Third and E. Thornton Streets, to the north boundary of said property; thence west along said boundary, across E. Third Street, along the north boundaries of properties on the north side of E. Thornton Street between E. Third Street and E. Second Street, across E. Second Street, along the north boundaries of properties facing E. Thornton Street west of E. Second Street, to the east boundary of a property on the northeast corner of E. Thornton and E. First Streets; thence north along the east boundaries of properties on the east side of E. First Street between E. Thornton and Railroad Streets, to the south side of Railroad Street; thence southwest along the south side of Railroad Street to the west side of N. Gospel Street; thence north along the west side of N. Gospel Street to the north boundary of a property on the northwest corner of N. Gospel Street and Monon Drive; thence west along said boundary to the west boundary of said property; thence south along said boundary, across Monon Drive, and along the west boundaries of properties on the west side of N. Gospel Street between Monon Drive and W. Thornton Street, to the north boundary of a property on the northwest corner of N. Gospel Street and W. Thornton Street; thence west along the north boundaries of properties on the north side of W. Thornton Street west of N. Gospel Street, to the west boundary of a property at 118 W. Thornton Street; thence south along the west boundary of said property to the south side of W. Thornton Street; thence west

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Section No. 10 Page 2 Paoli Historic District

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along W. Thornton Street to the west boundary of a property on the southwest corner of W. Thornton and W. First Streets; thence south along the west boundaries of properties on the west side of W. First Street between W. Thornton and W. Campbell Streets, to the north boundary of a property on the northwest corner of W. Campbell Street and W. First Street; thence west along the north boundaries of properties on the north side of W. Campbell Street west of W. First Street, to the west boundary of a property at 234 W. Campbell Street; thence south along said boundary to the south side of W. Campbell Street; thence west along the south side of W. Campbell Street, across W. Third Street, to the southeast corner of W. Campbell and W. Fourth Streets; thence south along the east side of W. Fourth Street to the north boundary of a property on the northeast corner of W. Fourth and W. Main Streets; thence west across W. Fourth Street, along the north boundaries of properties on the north side of W. Main Street between W. Fourth and W. Fifth Streets, to the east side of W. Fifth Street; thence south to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries were drawn to include the Courthouse Square and surrounding historic residential area.



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Continuation Sheet

Photographs Page 1 Paoli Historic District

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The following information is the same for all photographs, except as noted:

1. Paoli Historic District
2. Paoli, Orange County, Indiana
3. Laura Thayer
4. February 1994
5. Paoli Chamber of Commerce  
Paoli, Indiana 47454

The following applies to photographs 26-40:

3. Craig Charron

Other information for individual photographs:

Photo 1

1. East side of N. Gospel Street, north of Thornton Street
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 1 of 49

Photo 2

1. West side of N. Gospel Street, north of Thornton Street
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 2 of 49

Photo 3

1. West side of N. Gospel Street, north of Thornton Street
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 3 of 49

Photo 4

1. Friends Meetinghouse, northwest corner N. Gospel and W. Thornton Streets
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 4 of 49

Photo 5

1. Thornton House, 102 E. Thornton Street
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 5 of 49

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Photographs Page 2 Paoli Historic District

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Photo 6

1. Braxton House (left), and Patton House (right), east side of N. Gospel Street, north of Campbell Street
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 6 of 49

Photo 7

1. U.S. Post Office, northeast corner N. Gospel and E. Campbell Streets
6. Camera facing east
7. 7 of 49

Photo 8

1. N.W. First Street south of Railroad Street
6. Camera facing south
7. 8 of 49

Photo 9

1. E. Thornton Street east of N.E. Second Street
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 9 of 49

Photo 10

1. E. Campbell Street west of N.E. Third Street
6. Camera facing southwest
7. 10 of 49

Photo 11

1. Riley-Davidson House, 210 E. Campbell Street
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 11 of 49

Photo 12

1. East side of N.E. First Street south of E. Campbell Street
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 12 of 49

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Photo 13

1. West side of N.W. First Street south of W. Campbell Street
6. Camera facing southwest
7. 13 of 49

Photo 14

1. West side of N.W. First Street north of W. Campbell Street
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 14 of 49

Photo 15

1. Buskirk House, north side of W. Campbell, north end of N.W. Second Street
6. Camera facing north
7. 15 of 49

Photo 16

1. West side of N.W. Second Street north of W. Main Street
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 16 of 49

Photo 17

1. 512 W. Main Street
6. Camera facing north
7. 17 of 49

Photo 18

1. Lithia Well, Marea Radcliffe Rest Park
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 18 of 49

Photo 19

1. Northwest corner W. Main and N.W. Fourth Streets
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 19 of 49

Photo 20

1. Lick Creek west of S.W. Third Street
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 20 of 49

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Continuation Sheet

Photographs Page 4 Paoli Historic District

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Photo 21

1. North side of W. Main Street east of N.W. Fourth Street
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 21 of 49

Photo 22

1. Lithia Bottling Plant, southwest corner W. Main and S.W. Third Streets
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 22 of 49

Photo 23

1. North side of W. Main Street west of N.W. Second Street
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 23 of 49

Photo 24

1. North side of W. Main Street west of N.W. First Street
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 24 of 49

Photo 25

1. North Side of W. Main Street east of N.W. First Street
6. Camera facing northeast
7. 25 of 49

Photo 26

1. Northwest corner of Courthouse Square
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 26 of 49

Photo 27

1. Riley Building, northwest corner of Courthouse Square
6. Camera facing north
7. 27 of 49

Photo 28

1. Northwest corner of N. Court and N. Gospel Streets
6. Camera facing north
7. 28 of 49

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Continuation Sheet

Photographs Page 5 Paoli Historic District

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Photo 29

1. Northeast corner of Courthouse Square
6. Camera facing north
7. 29 of 49

Photo 30

1. Paoli Public Library, northeast corner of Courthouse Square
6. Camera facing east
7. 30 of 49

Photo 31

1. Braxton Building, northeast corner W. Court and E. Main Street
6. Camera facing east
7. 31 of 49

Photo 32

1. East on E. Main Street from Courthouse Square
6. Camera facing east
7. 32 of 49

Photo 33

1. Paoli State Bank, southeast corner E. Main and W. Court Streets
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 33 of 49

Photo 34

1. Throop Building, southeast corner of Courthouse Square
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 34 of 49

Photo 35

1. Mineral Springs Hotel, southeast corner of Courthouse Square
6. Camera facing south
7. 35 of 49

Photo 36

1. Southeast corner S. Court and S. Gospel Streets
6. Camera facing south
7. 36 of 49

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Continuation Sheet

Photographs Page 6 Paoli Historic District

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Photo 37

1. Southwest corner of Courthouse Square
6. Camera facing south
7. 37 of 49

Photo 38

1. Southwest corner of Courthouse Square
6. Camera facing southwest
7. 38 of 49

Photo 39

1. Stout Brothers Store, southwest corner E. Court and W. Main Streets
6. Camera facing west
7. 39 of 49

Photo 40

1. Orange County Courthouse, Courthouse Square
6. Camera facing northwest
7. 40 of 49

Photo 41

1. West side of S.E. First Street north of E. Water Street
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 41 of 49

Photo 42

1. East side of S.E. First Street north of E. Water Street
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 42 of 49

Photo 43

1. South side of Water Street at S. Gospel Street
6. Camera facing southwest
7. 43 of 49

Photo 44

1. South side of E. Water Street east of S. Gospel Street
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 44 of 49

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Photographs Page 7 Paoli Historic District

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Photo 45

1. North side of W. Water Street east of S.E. First Street
6. Camera facing north
7. 45 of 49

Photo 46

1. McIntosh House, 205 W. Water Street
6. Camera facing south
7. 46 of 49

Photo 47

1. S.W. Second Street south of W. Water Street
6. Camera facing south
7. 47 of 49

Photo 48

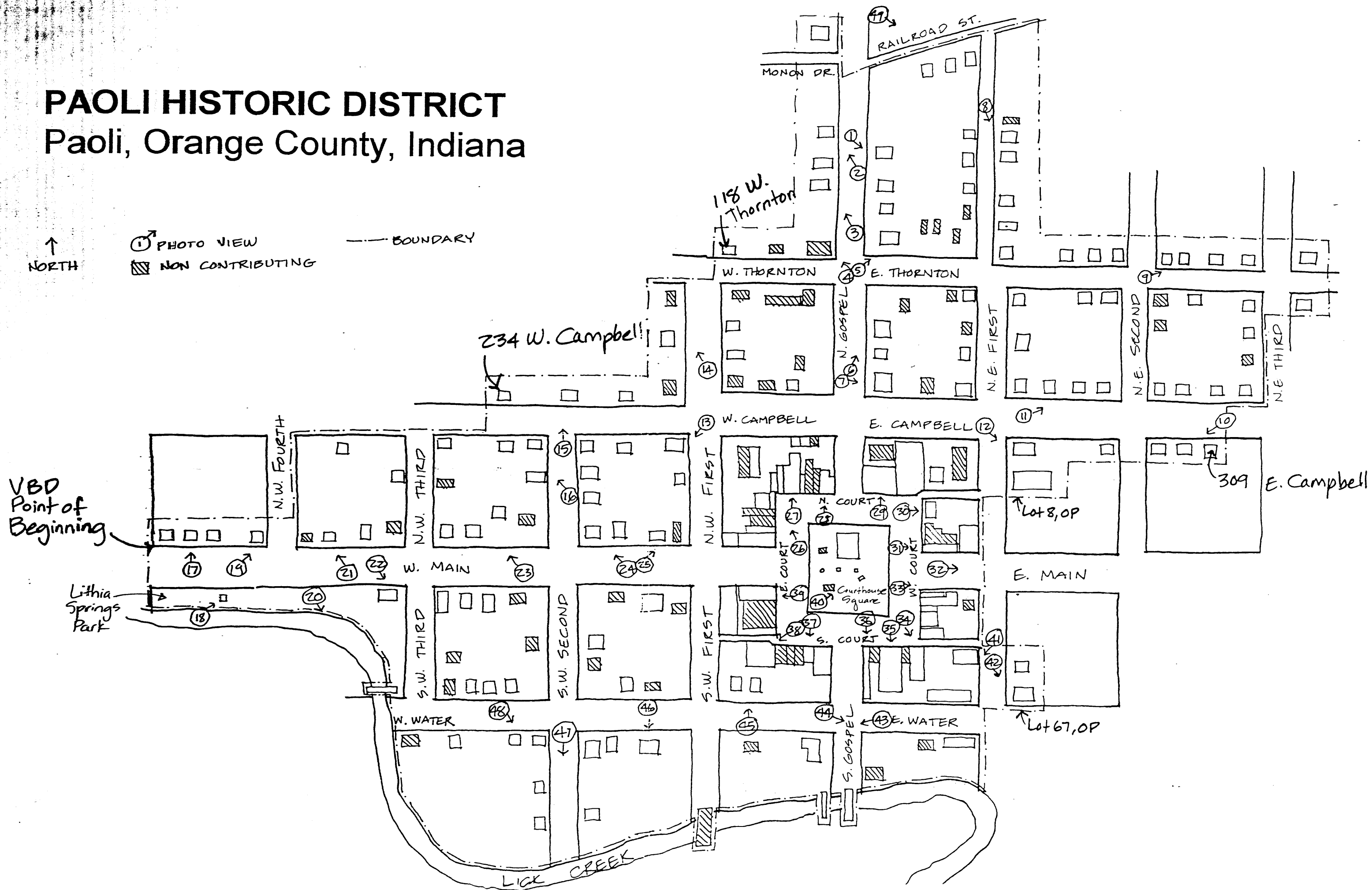
1. South side of W. Water Street west of S.W. Second Street
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 48 of 49

Photo 49

1. South side of Railroad Street east of N. Gospel Street
6. Camera facing southeast
7. 49 of 49

# PAOLI HISTORIC DISTRICT

## Paoli, Orange County, Indiana



↑ NORTH

① PHOTO VIEW  
 ▨ NON CONTRIBUTING

--- BOUNDARY

VBD Point of Beginning

Lithia Springs Park

234 W. Campbell

118 W. Thornton

RAILROAD ST.

MONON DR.

W. THORNTON

E. THORNTON

234 W. Campbell

W. CAMPBELL

E. CAMPBELL

W. MAIN

E. MAIN

S.W. THIRD

S.W. SECOND

S.W. FIRST

W. WATER

E. WATER

LICK CREEK

Courthouse Square

309 E. Campbell

Lot 8, OP

Lot 67, OP