#### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

2 CEN/ED)	OMB N
FFB - att	19
NATIONAL REGISTER, HISTORY & EDUCATION 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.

I. Name of Property

□ other, (explain:) \_

i. Name of Property			
historic name <u>Shortridge-Meridian Street Apar</u> other names/site number	tments Historic District		
2. Location			
street & number       Roughly the area between 34th and 38th streets         city or town       Indianapolis         state       Indiana		N/A□	not for publication vicinity ode <u>46205-46208</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification			
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservati request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional require meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recor nationally statewide locally. ( See continuation sh Signature of ceptifying official/Title Indiana Department of Natural Resources State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National	In standards for registering properties in ments set forth in 36CFR Part 60. In nmend that this property be considered eet for additional comments.) 1/2s/cocc Date	n the National Register my opinion, the proper d significant	r of ty
comments.)	onal Register chtena. ( 🗋 👓 contan		
Signature of certifying official/Title State or Federal agency and bureau	Date		
4. National Park Service Certification	1102		
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	Signature of the Keeper	ball	Date of Action
removed from the National Register			

OMB No. 10024-0018

Shortridge-Meridian Street Apartments Historic District

#### Name of Property

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

5. Classification

**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply)

Catego	rv of Propert
	ry of Propert
	i offly one box)

Marion	IN
County and	d State

concernence of Property (concernence)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count					
building	Contributing	Noncontributing				
⊠ district □ site	136	17	buildings			
	0	0	sites			
🗌 object	0	0	structures			
	0	0	objects			
	136	17	Total			

#### Name of related multiple property listing

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

#### Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	
DOMESTIC:	Multiple Dwelling	DOMESTIC:	Multiple Dwelling
DOMESTIC:	Single Dwelling	DOMESTIC:	Single Dwelling
EDUCATION:	School	EDUCATION:	School
COMMERCE/TRADE:	Financial Institution	COMMERCE/TRADE:	Financial Institution
COMMERCE/TRADE:	Specialty Store	COMMERCE/TRADE:	Specialty Store
		COMMERCE/TRADE:	Business

#### 7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories fr	om instructions)
19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Colonial Revival	foundation	BRICK
<u>19th &amp; 20th c. REVIVALS:</u> Classical Revival <u>19th &amp; 20th c. REVIVALS:</u> Late Gothic Revival	walls	BRICK
19th & 20th c. AMER.: Bungalow/Craftsman		WOOD: Weatherboard
MODERN: Art Deco	roof	ASPHALT
	other	<u>.</u>

#### **Narrative Description**

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

8. Sta	tement of Significance	
	able National Register Criteria (" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property onal Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
<b>A</b>	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contriibution to the broad patterns of our history.	
B	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
⊠ C	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance c.1900 - 1951
[] D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	
Critori	a Considerations	Significant Dates
	" in all the boxes that apply.)	N/A
	Property is:	
<b>A</b>	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
<b>B</b>	removed from its original location.	N/A
<b>C</b>	a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation
D	a cemetery.	N/A
<b>E</b>	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.	Architect/Builder
		George and Zimmerman
		Dietz, H. Ziegler
Narrat (Explain	ive Statement of Significance the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)	Eldridge, William K.
9. Majo	or Bibliographic References	
(Cite the	g <b>raphy</b> books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on us documontation on file (NPS):	one or more continuation sheets.)

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested	State Historic Preservation Office
previously listed in the National Register	Other State agency
previously determined eligible by the National	Federal agency
Register  designated a National Historic Landmark	Local government
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey	
#	Other
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Name of repository:

Marion IN \_\_\_\_\_ County and State \_\_\_\_\_

Shortridge-Meridian Street Apartments	
Name of Property	

	1	0.	G	eo	gi	ra	pl	l	cal	Da	ata
--	---	----	---	----	----	----	----	---	-----	----	-----

approx. 70 acres Acreage of Property

#### **UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	5 7 2 4 1 0	4 4 0 8 4 3 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	16	572460	4 4 0 7 6 5 0

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 William L. Selm name/title Mansur Real Estate Services, Inc. date 6/21/99 organization telephone 317-464-8200 700 Market Tower, 1 West Market street & number Indianapolis\_ \_\_\_\_\_ state IN\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ zip code 46204-2460 city or town

3

#### **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.

Marion IN **County and State** 

4 4 0 7 6 5 0 Northing

4408410

1 6 5 7 2 0 8 0 Zone Easting

16 572040

□ See continuation sheet

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

#### DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival Classical Revival Late Gothic Revival Mission Revival Renaissance Revival Late 19th & Early 20th Century American Movements Bungalow/Craftsman Modern Movement Moderne Art Deco

#### MATERIALS

Foundation: Brick & Concrete

Walls: Weatherboard, Shingle, Brick, Limestone, Terra Cotta, & Concrete Roof: Asphalt, Terra cotta, Slate, & Synthetics

The Shortridge-Meridian Street Apartments Historic District (SMSAHD) is situated on the near north side of Indianapolis, three and a half miles north of Washington Street (U.S. 40) which divides the city between north and south. The district straddles North Meridian and North Pennsylvania streets between 34th and 38th streets. Meridian is parallel to Pennsylvania with Pennsylvania located one block east of Meridian Street. The district includes both sides of East 36th and East 37th streets (each one block), the north side of East 34th Street, and the south side of East 38th Street. This district is situated between two established National Register historic districts. The northwest corner of the Meridian Park Historic District is at 34th Street and Pennsylvania. North Meridian Street Historic District's southern boundary is two blocks to the north at 40th and Meridian Streets.

The district is residential in character with both multi-unit apartment buildings and single-family residences. Meridian Street has several office and commercial buildings mixed in with the apartment buildings. Pennsylvania Street is a mixture of apartment buildings and houses. The two side streets (East 36th and East 37th) are lined with houses. The largest building in the district, Shortridge High School (now junior high school), dominates the southern approach to the district and is located at 3401 North Meridian. Shortridge stretches along 34th from Meridian to

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Pennsylvania Street. Its building mass, materials, and style command the viewer's attention. Between Meridian and the front doors is a small sunken garden. The facade is distinguished by the six, twenty-five-foot high Corinthian limestone columns. Classical limestone details are found throughout the entire facade including the classically framed side entrances. Shortridge with its athletic field along Meridian occupies 10.9 acres. It was listed in the National Register in 1983. (Photos #1,2 & 3)

Most of the contributing buildings in the district are fairly uniform in height. Houses are one-and two-story and most of the apartment buildings are two-and three-stories in height. Along Meridian Street are the exceptions: the nine-story Meridian Shoreland Apartments and the nine-story Frontenac Apartments, 3710 and 3470 North Meridian respectively; the seven-story Meridian Mark Tower, 3777 North Meridian; and the eight-story Meridian Apartments, 1 East 36th Street. (Photos # 4, 5, 6 & 7) One-story buildings include the three commercial buildings at the intersection of Meridian and 38th streets, 3762-68 and 3778 North Meridian and 1-25 East 38th Street. (Photos # 8 & 6) The district's non-contributing buildings range from one to five stories in height and blend into the established man-made topography. (Photos # 4, 9, & 10)

Three types of apartment building are found in the district: tower, block, and courtyard. The tower is a building taller than four stories, requiring an elevator. The four apartment buildings noted above and are all located along Meridian. The block apartment type is basically square or rectangular in plan. Vernon Court, Biltmore and Howland Manor at 3420, 3540 and 3753 North Meridian, respectively, are some examples of this block type. The block type is the most common along Meridian. (Photos # 11, 12, 13, 14, & 15) Numerous examples of the courtyard apartment are located along Pennsylvania Street. Edgewood Apartments, 3510 North Pennsylvania (Photo # 16) and Dorchester Apartments, 3720 North Pennsylvania (Photo # 17) are good examples of the courtyard with their "U" plans with apartments framing the landscaped courtyard. A variation of the courtyard is the fractured courtyard composed either of an "L" plan building or two buildings framing a less formally defined courtyard. In the case of Sloanewood Apartments, 3444 North Pennsylvania (Photo # 18), and Charmwood Condominiums, 3419 and 3435 North Pennsylvania Street has both the apartment blocks and courtyards. Meridian has a high concentration of block apartments.

The topography of the district is defined by the flat terrain and perpendicular streets. Along both Meridian and Pennsylvania Streets are lined with numerous shade trees. The building setbacks provide lawns for the buildings. The setbacks are of varying depths. The only building built up to the public right-of-way is the commercial building at 3762-3768 North Meridian. (Photo # 20)

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

The second generation buildings at 3733 and 3737; and 3524 North Meridian, inherited the setback established by the earlier buildings they replaced. (Photos # 10 & 9) The only large open area in the district is the Shortridge High School athletic field. This open area contains an eliptical track and football field framed by a grove of trees. This was never developed.. (Photo #3)

The appearance of Meridian Street has changed over time with the removal of the first generation buildings, mostly houses, to make way for office buildings and parking lots. Two vacant lots at 34th and Meridian (Photo # 11) and 34th and Pennsylvania mark the spot where buildings once stood. A few parking lots were created to serve office buildings and are not very noticeable because of screening by landscaping and by their siting. The paved parking lot immediately south of the commercial building at 3762-68 North Meridian is noticed for its harshness and lack of screening. (Photo # 20)

Building lots vary in size due to different plats. The small, uniform lots are found along 36th and 37th Streets which are in the Eitel North Meridian Street Addition of 1892. Nine of these lots face the south street and Pennsylvania. The houses along the east side of Pennsylvania Street are in two plats dating from 1916-1919. About one-third of the district was never platted.

Most of the contributing buildings in the district are either constructed of brick or are brick clad. Limestone and terra cotta highlights are found on buildings throughout the district. The colors of the brick varies from the tan and rose colored bricks of the Dorchester apartments, 3720 North Pennsylvania (Photo # 14), to the medium brown of Edgewood Villa Apartments, 3510 North Pennsylvania (Photo # 16); to the red brick of Merchants National Bank, 21 West 38th (Photo #21) to the mottled dark brown brick of Howland Manor, 3753 North Meridian. (Photo # 13) Howland Manor exhibits a lively composition of polychromatic panels. In the parapet is a portrait of a brightly colored sailing ship at sea. Polychromatic terra cotta is also found on the Park Lane Apartment, 3536 North Meridian. (Photo # 15) Monochrome terra cotta details enhance the facade of the Biltmore at 3540 North Meridian (Photo # 12) and the Meridian Mark Tower at 3777 North Meridian Street. (Photo # 6) Limestone details are found in the entry pavilion and columns of Shortridge High School and the Wabash Fire & Casualty Insurance Building, 3637 North Meridian. (Photos #1 & 22) The smooth limestone expressing Modernism is found on the 1951 Frontenac and the Professional Building, 3470, and 3524 North Meridian respectively. (Photos # 23 & 9) Limestone accents are exhibited on the Wellspring Building 3736 N. Meridian, and its twins the New Yorker apartments at 3707 & 3715 North Meridian. (Photo # 24) Extensive limestone quoins, balustrades, sculpted spandrel panels and blind arches give relief to the highrise Meridian Apartments at 1 East 36th. (Photo #7) Limestone is used to completely face the Art Deco commercial building at 3762-3768 North

Meridian and the two, wood-frame Martin Manor Apartment buildings at 3760 and 3766 North Pennsylvania. (Photos # 20 & 25) Clapboard-clad, wood-frame buildings are generally in the form of single family houses and doubles on Pennsylvania, 36th and 37th Streets. They include the older Four Squares and Bungalow-derivative dwellings as well as some later Colonial Revival houses. (Photos # 26, 27, 35, 36.) Surprisingly, two wood frame apartment buildings are interspersed in among the brick-faced apartment buildings. Braybeth Apartments, 3755 North Meridian, has four units, a hipped roof, and the general appearance of a four-square house. (Photo # 13) The Penn Terrace at 3515 North Pennsylvania presents a similar appearance, but is wider and deeper accommodating 25 units. Other historical fabric contributing to the significance of the district is the roofing materials of slate and terra cotta tile. Slate clads the roof of the Colonial Revival branch bank at 21 West 38th and Edgewood Apartments at 3510 North Pennsylvania (Photos # 21 & 16). Variations of terra cotta roof tile: green and red, glazed and unglazed, flat and Spanish style, clad a number of buildings and includes: (Photo # 28), Pennwood Homes Apartments and Pennlawn Apartment; as well as buildings originally built as single-family dwellings including the Powell House at 3445 North Pennsylvania. (Photo # 29) Stucco clads several 1920s houses on North Pennsylvania, either completely or in part with Tudor detailing.

As a whole the district possesses high integrity. Few gaps are found in the streetscape. Many of the older frame houses clustered around Pennsylvania and the side streets have modified appearances with the addition of aluminum on vinyl siding, but have not been plagued with outrageous alterations deeming them to be non contributing. Exterior deterioration to the apartment buildings tends to be limited to entry door and window replacement, but others are intact. The following paragraphs describe individual representative buildings in the district. Each building's current name is used with the historic name(s) in parentheses.

Vernon Court Apartments (Vernon Court) 3420 North Meridian Street Constructed 1928 Photo # 11

This apartment building is the southern-most apartment in the district. It is three stories in height, resting on a raised basement, and of solid brick construction. The Vernon is rectangular in shape, accommodating 18 apartments, six on each floor. The front facade (east) is vertically divided into three bays. The center bay is the entry bay with a round-arched doorway which is ornamented by cast concrete quoins alternating in size. The two windows of this bay illuminate the stair landings of the center hall plan. Brickwork quoins frame the two flanking bays of pair windows at each

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

floor. Cast concrete is employed to continuously frame the windows and their dividing spandrels. The facade is classically articulated horizontally by a beltcourse at basement level and a wooden entablature. The ornamental features of the main facade wrap around the north and south facades for one bay. The building appears to retain its design and fabric integrity. Vernon Court was constructed in 1927-28 by its owner Everett Schofield. The Vernon is flanked by a large vacant lot to the south and a parking lot to the north.

Frontenac Apartments 3470 North Meridian Street Constructed 1951; Paul Cripe, architect **Photo # 23** 

The Frontenac and the Shoreland Towers, at 3710 North Meridian, were constructed in tandem for the L& L Corporation. The apartments were built at the same time as four other local apartment buildings for L & L. Construction began on the Frontenac on May 1, 1950. Its original value was \$900,000. It was built on the site of a large undeveloped lot. The Frontenac is cruciform in plan, constructed of steel and concrete, and faced with rust-colored brick and smooth limestone panels. The limestone clads the first floor and a wide vertical band on the front facade of the building with a broad horizontal band capping the top. Polished red marble panels help frame the entrance. Each window opening has two bare aluminum sash windows. A parking lot and open garage is behind the Frontenac.

Professional Building (Meridian Medical Building) 3524 North Meridian Street Constructed 1962 & 1967 Photo #9

This non-contributing two-story office building was constructed in two phases in 1962 and 1967. It was built on the site of a two-story house and the three-story Whitehall Apartment building. It is constructed of concrete block faced with brown and yellow brick and smooth limestone on the one-story entry pavilion. A paved parking lot is behind the building.

**Biltmore Apartments** 3540 North Meridian Street **Photo # 12** Constructed 1927; George & Zimmerman, architects

The construction of Biltmore Apartments commenced in May, 1926. H.L. Moody, president of the Biltmore Realty Company, planned the 36-unit building on an undeveloped lot. This three-

story apartment building rests on a basement, and houses 36 apartments (twelve per floor). The Biltmore is the block type with an "I" plan. The building stretches from Meridian through the lot to Salem Street and has a secondary facade facing it. The building is of solid brick construction. The front facade (east) is has three projecting pavilions. The center pavilion is three bays wide and framed by white terra cotta quoins contrasting with the butterscotch brown brick facade. The center entrance is framed by an elaborate terra cotta classical enframent with pilasters and entablature whose frieze is inscribed with the legend: BILTMORE. Terra cotta frames the french doors and sidelights of the flanking pavilions. Ornamental iron balustrades guard these french doors and those above the front entrance. Window openings have two and three double-hung windows. A full, deep, classical entablature of sheet metal crowns the building. The Biltmore's facade is intact even with the survival of the double-hung windows and the front doors.

Meridian Apartments (East 36th Street Apartments) 1 East 36th Street Constructed 1929; H. Ziegler Dietz, architect Photo # 7

The Thirty Six & Meridian Realty Company employed architect H. Ziegler Dietz in 1928 to design Meridian Apartments. Construction commenced and a year later the building was completed. The exterior of the apartment building is intact except for the replacement of all the windows. The replacements are either fixed single pane or the double-hung 1-over-1 type. The original windows were of a 6 and 8-over-1 configuration with the large openings containing four windows as opposed to the current tripartite configuration. The eight-story building accommodates 48 apartments . It is constructed of reinforced concrete, floors and a roof. The walls are clad with dark brown brick with limestone detailing. This tower type apartment is ornamented with classical detail such as the limestone balustrades found on the parapet and in belt courses articulating the base and capital of the building. The narrow west facade is divided into four bays; the main (north) facade into 19 bays. The Meridian was renovated in 1997.

Wabash Fire & Casualty Insurance Building 3637 North Meridian Street Constructed 1958; James and Associates, architects **Photos # 22 & 30** 

This office building, because of its recent vintage, is counted as non contributing to this district. However, it possesses a high degree of integrity of design and materials. Built as the home of the Wabash Fire & Casualty Insurance Company, which was incorporated in 1954, the two-story office building is constructed of concrete roof and floors with brick and limestone faced concrete block walls. The formal Neo-Classical facade has a smooth limestone base frieze. Keystone and

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

spandrel panels contrast the red brick walls. The dominant limestone portico is supported by six free-standing Roman Doric columns upon which rest a complete entablature executed in limestone. This impressive building houses a number of offices but not the insurance company that built it.

Oxmoor Apartments (Rensselaer Apartments) 3640 North Meridian Street Constructed 1925; McGuire & Shook, architects Photos # 5 & 31

The Wilson Realty Company contracted with State Construction Company in 1924 to construct two identical apartment buildings at 3630 and 3640 North Meridian following the design of Indianapolis architectural firm of McGuire & Shook. The Oxmoor and its twin the Winston (Glendower) next door at 3630, are three-story apartment blocks of solid brick construction with restrained Colonial Revival detailing. The main facade (east) is divided into seven bays with the center bay providing this entrance. The facade is horizontally divided by a brickwork pattern at the basement level and is also defined by a continuous limestone window sill belt course. A lowprofile entablature caps the composition. The entrance is clearly defined by the shallow classical portico framing the round-arched transom and door. The front doors have been replaced on both buildings, but they retain their original 6-over-6 windows.

New Yorker Apartments (Spink/Moynahan Apartments) 3707 & 3715 North Meridian Street Constructed 1917 Photo # 24

These two apartment buildings were renamed New Yorker Apartments in the early 1990s after rehabilitation. They were constructed in 1917 as the first apartments of the E.G. Spink Company. Throughout the 1920s this company built numerous apartment buildings in the downtown and near northside, all named "The Spink Apartments" and later Moynahan Apartments. Wellspring at 3736 North Meridian is identical to the New Yorker Apartments. All three were constructed in 1917 by Spink. These three buildings are the second oldest apartment buildings in the district. They were designed in Arts and Crafts Style to house six apartments each. Of solid brick construction and two stories in height, they feature three front pavilions; the center being the entrance and the flanking gabled pavilions providing each apartment with a sunroom. The windows have been replaced and the gabled porticos were added during the rehabilitation. Wellspring has its original entrance pediment. Limestone accents highlight the parapet and the

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

windows. The landing windows of the stairwell landing and entrance side lights were glazed originally with decorative art glass. The pavilion roof originally had terra cotta tiles.

Howland Manor 3753 North Meridian Street Constructed 1929; George & Zimmerman, architects Photo # 13

George M. Smith was the owner and occupant of a small wood frame apartment building similar if not identical to the one immediately to the north at 3755 North Meridian. Smith had the apartment, only ten years old, wrecked and the site prepared for Howland Manor. George & Zimmerman designed the Tudor Revival apartment building for 18 apartments. It is a fine example of polychromatic architectural terra cotta. The building is constructed of concrete blocks faced with dark brown brick and terra cotta. The main (west) facade is divided into three bays. A crenelated portico projects from the entrance. The flanking bays are capped by two gables. The limestone colored terra cotta frames the entrance, with Tudor arch, and the windows; and it serves as coping for the gables and portico. Other important features are the projecting terra cotta clad bay window, the polychromatic terra cotta seascape panel in the parapet and the art glass, quarrel-glazed, steel-casement windows.

Commercial Building 3762-3768 North Meridian Street Constructed 1948 Photo # 20

This late Art Deco commercial building was built to take advantage of the busy intersection of 38th and North Meridian Streets. It was located the same year as the district's other commercial building across the street at 1-25 East 38th Street. This subject is very similar to the building at 953-959 North Pennsylvania Street. Constructed of concrete block, the one-story building is faced with smooth limestone found on the piers and parapet. Art Deco detailing is found in the scalloped-course coping and in the Art Deco panels and fluting on each pier. A shallow stainless steel awning stretches across the facade. The storefronts are replacements, but sympathetic with a transom band. The four shops have housed a variety of shops, restaurants and offices over the years.

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

West 38th Street Branch Bank (Merchants National Bank Branch) 21 West 38th Street Constructed 1939; D.A. Bohlen & Son, architects Photos # 32 & 21

Merchants National Bank opened its first branch bank here in 1934. The bank hired the noted local firm of D.A. Bohlen & Son to design this branch bank in the Colonial Revival Style. This building is an excellent example of the style and was designed to blend in the neighborhood with style, materials and massing identical to the big houses along Meridian Street. Features include the slate roof, pedimented dormers, cornice, red brick walls, shutters, 12 over 12 lights, limestone lintels with keystones and sill string course. The centered entrance is framed with a shallow gabled portico. A compatible drive up teller wing was added, probably during the 1970s, to the rear. The building possesses high integrity and continues to serve as a branch for National City Bank, the successor of MNB.

Sloanewood Apartments (Kittle House) 3444 North Pennsylvania Street Constructed 1913 and 1928, H. Ziegler Dietz, architect (1928 wing only) Photos # 18 & 23

Sloanewood Apartments began in 1913 as the single family residence of John S. Kittle, the General Manager of City Ice & Coal Co. Kittle had this two-story, solid-brick house constructed and lived here until 1927. That year he hired architect H. Ziegler Dietz and contractor Arthur Baynham & Co. to design and construct an "L" shaped three-story apartment wing addition to the house which he had already converted to apartments. The addition held sixteen apartments; the house had two and later four apartments. The house and wing are brick with limestone details. The house exhibits Arts and Crafts elements with its low-pitched complex hip roof and centered dormer. The wing exhibits its Arts and Crafts features of stucco and terra cotta tile mansard roof. The house windows are grouped in 2s and 3s with multi-paned lights. The gabled portico is supported by limestone Doric columns and pilasters. The front and side lawns have disappeared under the paved parking lot. By 1933 the reconstituted building was called "Sloanewood Apartments".

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Powell-Evans House 3445 North Pennsylvania Street Constructed 1911 Photo # 29

Frank F. Powell, president of the Henry Coburn Storage & Warehouse Company, was the first occupant of this Renaissance Revival house, beginning in 1911. He lived here until 1920, was succeeded by D. McCall White, followed by Edgar Evans, whose family lived here from 1921 into the 1960s. This large two-story house is of frame construction with a tan brick veneer and it is capped by a multi-hipped terra cotta tile roof. The house's exterior and landscape have remained unaltered. Other features include the front terrace accessed by three french doors with fan transoms, the limestone trim, balconets and tile-roofed porte cochere.

Edgewood Apartments (Edgewood Villa Apartments) 3510 North Pennsylvania Street Constructed 1927 Photo # 16

Edgewood was constructed by Edgewood Villa, Inc. with principals Henry L. and Henry G. Dollman. The Dollmans were father and son partners in Dollman Construction Company. The Dollmans were responsible for the construction, development and management of a number of other apartment buildings in the 1920s including the 1925 Schuyler Apartments at 3761 North Meridian in the district. Edgewood is a courtyard type with a "U" plan framing a landscaped courtyard. The building is constructed of solid brick masonry capped with a low-pitched hipped, slate-clad roof. Classically inspired details include brickwork quoins, limestone portals and decorative panels. The two-story Edgewood has 28 attractive one and two-bedroom apartments and has high integrity.

Harms House 3602 North Pennsylvania Street Constructed 1906 Photo # 34

Constructed in 1906, this two-story, wood-frame, single-family house is typical of the first wave of development in the district. This house and those immediately to the north and west (on the East 36th and East 37th Streets) were built between 1908 and 1915 in Eitel's North Meridian Street Addition, platted in 1892. A typical Arts and Crafts Four Square, it is two stories in height, two bays wide, and is capped with a pyramid hip roof with flared eaves. A centered front dormer mimics the roof features. Other features include the unadorned roof eaves, wall cladding

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

of sawn shingles (second floor) and clapboards that meet at a slightly flared belt course. The house has a dining room oriel and a front porch with rock-faced concrete block piers and balustrade, matching the foundation. The house possesses high integrity in its present state of preservation. Charles Augustus Harms was this house's first occupant, living here from 1907 until 1918. Harms was a printer at the <u>Indianapolis News</u>. He was followed by Ray Jenches from 1918 to the late 1940s.

Klee House 3635 North Pennsylvania Street Constructed 1922 Photo # 35

Local residential developer Taylor C. Power (1876-1934) had the Elmore Bros. Realty Co. build this house for him in 1921-1922. It was one of several speculative houses Power had built in the district and surrounding neighborhoods in the 1920s. This house is identical to the Taylordeveloped house at 3655 North Pennsylvania Street, and was constructed simultaneously. The house design fuses Colonial Revival details with Arts and Crafts form and details. Although the house and front porch face Pennsylvania Street, the front entrance is on the side (south) wall, protected by a gabled and columned portico. A prominent feature is the hip roof and the battered front chimney. The front porch, now enclosed, originally had slender classical columns in groups of 2s and 3s and a roof balustrade. The house at 3655 still has its columned porch and eaves modillions. C. Fred Klee was the house's first occupant and resided here for nearly two decades.

Peterson-Ewing Double Residence 3709-3711 North Pennsylvania Street Constructed c. 1940 **Photo # 36** 

This two-story frame double was constructed near the end of the Great Depression. It is a simplified Colonial Revival house with wood frame construction, brick veneer end walls, gable roof, symmetrical front facade (west) and the dominant verandah that stretches across the front facade with simplified square wood columns and a picket fence balustrade. The house is covered with artificial clapboard siding on the front and rear walls and the gables. Lester Peterson and Truman Ewing were the double's first occupants. Peterson remained during the 1940s.

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Dorchester Apartments (The Spink Apartments) 3720 North Pennsylvania Street Constructed 1921; William K. Eldridge, architect Photo # 17

The great apartment builder-developer, the E.G. Spink Co., founded by Edgar G. Spink (1867-1927) constructed this courtyard apartment for its subsidiary the Dorchester Realty Company. Throughout the 1920s the building was known as "The Spink Apartments" as were all of the properties of this design, construction, development and management company. The design stands out as it does not evoke historical architecture. The design is very "modern" but has decorative elements (not Art Deco Style) such as the stuccoed frieze and cornice and the shallow pavilions in a tan brick contrasting with the orange red brick of the walls. The pavilions rise above the cornice line and are ornamented with a decorative medallion bearing an applied blue fleur-de-lis. What appears to be limestone is molded pre-cast concrete. The eight entrances are framed by artglass transoms and side lights. The three-story Dorchester has a "U" plan framing the landscaped courtyard, and has 54 apartments.

Martin Manor Apartments (Stone Crest/Eden Apartments) 3766 North Pennsylvania Street Constructed 1916 Photo # 25

The Martin Manor is the original name of two, eight-unit apartment buildings at 3760 and 3766 North Pennsylvania Street. The two buildings were occupied in 1917 and are among the oldest in the district. The name changed to Stone Crest Apartments in the 1940s and by 1957 the name changed to Eden Apartments. The number of apartments fluxuated between eight and six units per building. The buildings are two-story in height with a distinctive jerkin-headed gable roof. They are of wood frame construction that is apparent with the wood clapboard siding on the side and rear walls. Only the front facades (west) are faced with limestone. The front facade's center bay (of three) is defined by a pair of smooth ashlar piers rising from grade to the eaves. The gable is clad with stucco and vertical stickwork. The stone facade was probably added circa 1940, hence the name change to "Stone Crest". The front windows are the original wooden casements.

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

#### **DESCRIPTION END NOTES**

Vernon

Indiana Construction Recorder, April 2, 1927, p.5; Sanborn, 1915 to 1954, 5:572; & City Directories.

Frontenac

"Start New Apartment House May 15, "<u>Indianapolis Times</u>, April 27, 1950; Sanborn, 1915 to 1954, 5:571; City Directories.

Professional Building Sanborn, 1956 to 1969, 5:571; City Directories.

### Biltmore

Sanborn, 1956 to 1969, 5:571; Sanborn, 1915, 5:571; <u>Ind. Construction Recorder</u>, May 29, 1926, p.7; Bass Photo Co. neg. #2003823, #203824, & #200957; & City Directories.

Meridian

Sanborn, 1915 to 1954, 5A: 582; <u>Ind. Construction Recorder</u>, June 30, 1928, p. 12; Bass Photo Co. neg. #211820-F, 211821-F, & 219642; & City Directories.

Wabash

Sanborn, 1956-1969, 5A: 582A; "Wabash Fire & Casualty...," <u>Indianapolis Star</u>, Jan. 4, 1959 & July 24, 1957; & <u>Indianapolis News</u>, Oct. 4, 1958.

Oxmoor

Sanborn, 1956 to1969, 5:574; <u>Ind. Construction Recorder</u>, Jan. 19, 1924 pp. 11 & 14 & Feb. 8, 1924, p. 13; & Bass Photo neg. # 88451; City Directories.

New Yorker Sanborn, 1956 to 1969, 5A: 581A; Bass Photo Co. neg. # 213817 F, #213818 & 62092; and City Directories.

Howland Manor Sanborn, 1915 to 1954, 5A: 581; Record of Building Permits 1928; <u>Ind. Construction Recorder</u>, May 12, 1928, p. 11; & City Directories.

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Commercial Building Sanborn, 1915 to 1954, 5A:581; and City Directories.

Branch Bank "Bank to Build at 38th and Salem," <u>Indianapolis News</u>, June 12, 1939; and City Directories.

Sloanewood Sanborn, 1915 to 1954, 5A: 582; Ind. Construction Recorder, March 24, 1928, p. 12; & City Directories.

Powell-Evans House Sanborn, 1915, 5:582; Bass Photo Co. neg. # 26643, #26644, & #26787; & City Directories.

#### Edgewood

Sanborn, 1915 to 1954, 5A: 582; City Directories; Corporation Archives, IN State Archives, and Record of Building Permits, 1927.

Harms House Sanborn, 1915, 5:582; & Baist, 1899, 1908 & 1916, plat 20; & City Directories.

Klee House Record of Building Permits, 1921; Bass Photo Co., neg. # 78363; & City Directories.

Dorchester Apartments Sanborn, 1915 to 1954, 5A: 581A; Record of Building Permits, 1920; & City Directories.

Martin Manor Sanborn, 1915 to 1954, 5A: 581A; City Directories, 1916-1962.

Peterson-Ewing Double Residence Sanborn, 1915 to 1954, 5A: 581; City Directories, 1938-1958.

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTIRCT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

ARCHITECTS Bohlen, D.A. & Son Cripe, Paul I. Dietz, H. Ziegler Eldridge, William K. Fleck, Arthur George & Zimmerman Kopf & Deery McGuire & Shook Osler & Burns

#### NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Shortridge-Meridian Street Apartments Historic District (SMSAHD) is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The district is significant for the many architect-designed apartment buildings, which give the district its distinctive character. This nomination documents these apartment buildings as the work of talented and prolific architects, most of whom specialized in the design of apartment buildings and transformed these two streets of the city's northside. Located in Indianapolis, the district includes both sides of North Meridian and North Pennsylvania Streets (parallel streets) between 34th and 38th Streets. SMSAHD is a highly concentrated area of apartment buildings, most of which were constructed in the decade of the 1920s. Some single-family houses and double residences date from the period of c. 1905 to c.1940. Commercial buildings were built in the 1939-1951 period, and the landmark 1928 Shortridge High School was listed in the National Register on September 15, 1983. This district is clearly distinguished for its collection of apartment buildings. Its character sets it apart from residential areas to the east, west, and north and the area immediately to the south (along Meridian), a mixed-use area of wide diversity, and the Meridian Park Historic District (National Register listed February 23, 1990).

This historic district was identified in part in the 1990 survey of Center Township of Marion County, a continuation of the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. That inventory identified the "North Meridian Street Apartments Historic District" as eight blocks of North Meridian Street from 30th to 38th Streets. The survey also identified nine scattered sites as National Register-eligible with the ratings of "outstanding" or "notable". They were apartment buildings and houses clustered along both sides of North Pennsylvania Street with one commercial building at 21 West 38th Street. The staff of the State Historic Preservation Office recommended

the configuration of this district as presented in this nomination. The eastern and western boundaries follow the rear property lines of the buildings on the edge of the district in the absence of an ally, which would have clearly defined these boundaries.

The Indiana General Assembly founded Indianapolis in 1821 to be the capitol city of the newly admitted (1816) State of Indiana. The original plat of 1821 designated a mile-square grid with a circular street in the center and four radiating diagonal streets. Meridian Street was the center axial street that divided the town into east and west halves as it continues to do today. Large mansions on large lots began to sprout up along North Meridian Street as the city enjoyed rapid growth and prosperity spurred on by the Civil War. North Meridian and her parallel sister streets, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Capitol were sought after by the growing class of merchants, industrialists, financiers and professionals. These northern streets provided the advantage of higher ground, being upwind from the smells and noise of the growing industrial southside with its smoke and railroad lines and working class inhabitants. The street railway system was inaugurated in 1864 and the following year a line followed Illinois Street northward to connect the heart of the city to the recently opened Crown Hill Cemetery at the 300 block of West 34th Street, with its appealing park-like landscape. The city's growing population resulted in the annexation of more and more tracts of land already platted with lots, streets, and houses or those under construction.<sup>1</sup>

The city's population continued to grow from 105,436 in 1890 to 169,164 in 1900, a 35.3 percent increase to 233,650 in 1910; a 38.1 percent increase. Population growth continued in the decade of the First World War; by 1920 the population grew to 341,194, a 34.4 percent population growth. What was once remote and rural in the nineteenth century, was now on the threshold of development. The city's growing population was pushing the city limits in all directions, with the upper-middle class heading north.<sup>2</sup>

In anticipation of the future growth several parcels of land in SMSAHD were platted in the nineteenth century. W.J. and Ida B. Hasselman platted the Hasselman Addition on the west side of Meridian Street extending south from 38th Street to mid point in the parcel containing Meridian Shoreland Apartments at 3710 North Meridian Street. The expanse of land on the east side of Pennsylvania from 34th to and including both sides of 36th Street was platted in 1890. Henry and Elva Eitel platted Eitel's North Meridian Street Addition in 1892. This plat lies in the very center of SMSAHD stretching from Meridian to Pennsylvania Street, creating the two streets of East 36th and 37th Streets. This plat included 34 small lots centered on both sides of 36th and 37th Streets. Other plats followed in rapid succession in the early twentieth century. Lazarus & Coleman's Harvard Place Addition on the west side of Meridian from and including 3590 to the south half of 3710 North Meridian. Immediately south of it was A.E. Meyer's Meridian Street Addition of 1906, stretching to 35th Street. Sortwell & Stockwell's Addition appeared in 1909

on the southeast corner of 36th and Pennsylvania Streets. The second decade of the century saw the plat of Corydon Park Place on the east side of Pennsylvania from 38th to and including the south side of 37th Street with Union Park Place immediately south of it in 1919. Almost half of the district's area was not platted, including the north half of the Meridian-Pennsylvania block north of the Eitel Addition and the stretch of the west side of Meridian from 34th to 36th Street. Bodner's Re-Subdivision of 1946 created the parcel on which Meridian Shoreland Apartments (3710 North Meridian) sits.<sup>3</sup>

Despite some of the early plat dates, little development took place in the district until the second decade of the twentieth century. Perhaps this area was slightly too far north. The area immediately to the south from Fall Creek to 34th Street was developing rapidly with mansions. Some of these mansions have survived, most notably the 1905 Louis Levey Mansion, the 1904 Schnull-Rauch House, and the 1910 Alfred Glossbrenner Mansion, all of which are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Others include the Bliss House and the Fairbanks House at 2880 and 2960 North Meridian, respectively.

The Sanborn map of 1915 records only twenty houses facing Meridian Street with the boundaries of SMSAHD containing only one, 3662 North Meridian, of mass and scale comparable to those noted above. Of the twenty, only one, a modest bungalow at 3502 North Meridian Street, has survived. In contrast, the same 1915 map recorded twenty-three modestly-scaled houses on Pennsylvania, 36th, and 37th Streets, of which eighteen have survived.<sup>4</sup> Before the four-block stretch of Meridian and Pennsylvania between 34th and 38th Street could fill up with stylish, large, single-family houses, entrepreneurial developers in the 1910s realized the opportunity to satisfy the market demand for attractive, stylish apartments in a fashionable location well served by public transportation. The insatiable demand for apartments is illustrated by construction chronology of the district.

Setting the stage for development, the City of Indianapolis annexed a large area, including the SMSAHD area in 1902. The 1915 Sanborn Map documents the absence of apartment buildings in the district, with the exception of three double residences at 3460-62 North Meridian, 21-23 East 36th and 42-33 East 37th Street, only single-family houses had been established.<sup>5</sup> As the city grew in the early twentieth century, it became clear to some that unbridled growth and change was not all good and that neighborhoods should be protected from undesirable elements. A state statute empowered Indiana cities to regulate land uses with planning and zoning. Indianapolis lost little time adopted the its first zoning ordinance on December 20, 1922. The city plan commission designated an area which included the SMSAHD as "U2", an apartment houses use district requiring 600 square-feet per family on Meridian and 1200 square-feet per family on Pennsylvania Street. The ordinance also limited the height of buildings in the district to fifty feet. In contrast, the area immediately to the north, what is now the North Meridian Historic District, was zoned

### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

for "dwelling houses with 7,500 square-feet per family." The zoning designation helped to shape the character of SMSAHD by permitting the use of apartments and defining standards.<sup>6</sup>

The first apartment buildings built in the district are the matching pair of two-story wood-frame Martin Manor buildings at 3760 and 3766 North Pennsylvania in 1916. These modest Arts and Crafts-styled buildings each had eight units. Edgar G. Spink quickly followed in 1917 with the construction of three identical brick Arts and Crafts Style apartment buildings at 3707 and 3715 and 3736 North Meridian Street. That same year the brick Arts and Crafts apartment building, with six units at 3744 North Meridian, was constructed.<sup>7</sup>

In 1918 two wood-frame, two-story apartments were built at 3755 and 3753 North Meridian with the appearance of a Four Square Style house. Both buildings provided four units. 3753 was demolished in 1928 to make way for the 18-unit Howland Manor at the same address. The Braybeth at 3755 survives.<sup>8</sup>

Spink turned his attention to North Pennsylvania in 1919 and built two, wood-frame Arts and Crafts styled apartment buildings at 3515 and 3525. Both were originally named "The Spink". Penn Manor (3525) had a strong Craftsman character with terra cotta roof tiles, stucco wall finish and decorative wall tile. It has been remodeled (c. 1980?), covered with brick and stucco material, but it retains its shape and form. Later named the Wheeler in the 1940s, it provided four spacious apartments whereas the Penn Terrace (3515) provided 25 units and retains all of its character with hipped roof and clapboard siding.<sup>9</sup>

In 1921 Spink built the first of the district's nine courtyard-type apartment complexes; the solidbrick Dorchester at 3720 North Pennsylvania. E.G. Spink Company built the 54-unit "U" plan courtyard apartment building for the Dorchester Realty Company, a subsidiary of Spink's development, design, construction and management company.<sup>10</sup>

After a brief respite of a few years, apartment construction resumed in 1924 with the completion of the twin Winston and Oxmoor apartments at 3630 and 3640 North Meridian respectively. Each are 25-unit, 3 story buildings of solid brick construction with Colonial Revival details. Originally named the Glendower (Winston) and Rensselaer (Oxmoor), they were built by the State Construction Company for the Wilson Realty Co. after the designs of the architectural firm of McGuire & Shook.<sup>11</sup> That same year the Pennlawn at 3537 & 3543 North Pennsylvania and the four-unit corner building at 3702-06 North Pennsylvania/48 East 37th Street were built. Pennlawn was designed by local architect H. Ziegler Deitz for the Arthur Baynham & Company; and it is a variation of the courtyard type composed of two separate buildings providing 18 apartment units.<sup>12</sup> The Pennlawn retains its Arts & Crafts character, except for these main facade of the southern building (3537) with its rebricked face and two-story classical portico. The two-

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

story apartment building at the northwest corner of 37th and Pennsylvania provides four units. The original owner, Leet VanKirk had it constructed by the Walker-Brooks Co.<sup>13</sup>

Four apartment buildings constructed in 1925 added 106 units to the district. That year the threestory Park Lane and the three-story Schuyler, at 3536 and 3761 North Meridian, respectively added to the density of Meridian with 36 units each. Pennsylvania gained the eight units of Pennbroke Apartments another two-building courtyard variation at 3505 & 3511 North Pennsylvania situated on a deep lot.<sup>14</sup> The Pennwood Homes Apartments were developed by Arthur Baynham, adding 26 apartments in the "U" plan courtyard type.<sup>15</sup>

Meridian Plaza and the Mapleton Park Apartments were constructed in 1926. Meridian Plaza at 3726 North Meridian was designed by George and Zimmerman to provide 18 units behind a pleasing Renaissance Revival facade.<sup>16</sup> On Pennsylvania at 3454 and 3450 twin, brick-constructed apartment buildings of six units each were completed. Originally named Penn-Main (3454) and Shawmut (3460), the former's name was unchanged to Penn-Ridge in the 1930s; Philip Yant was the developer. They now have 12 units each and are known as Mapleton Park Apartments.<sup>17</sup>

Charmwood Condominiums, at 3419 and 3435 North Pennsylvania came into being in 1927 when Arthur Baynham redeveloped the former house (c. 1906) of Robert W. Furnas, by subdividing it into apartments and adding a complex "L" plan apartment building creating a landscaped courtyard. Baynham hired architect Deitz to transform the house and lot to create 30 apartment<sup>18</sup> units. The Edgewood Apartments at 3510 North Pennsylvania is another "U" plan courtyard apartment building. Constructed by Dollman Construction Company which also developed it, Edgewood is an attractive complex with finely detailed sculpted limestone entry portals in classical style.<sup>19</sup> The Biltmore (3540 North Meridian) was designed in the Renaissance Revival Style by George & Zimmerman, providing 36 units.<sup>20</sup>

In the last two years of the 1920s decade, five apartment buildings were added to the district. The year 1928 was extremely busy with the addition of five buildings providing 120 additional apartments. Architect H. Ziegler Dietz designed both Llanhurst at 3541 North Meridian and the courtyard wing added to the John S. Kittle house, creating Sloanewood Apartments at 3444 North Pennsylvania. Both Llanhurst and Sloanewood border Shortridge High School at 3401 N. Meridian St. (also completed in 1928), and are the two apartment buildings closest to the school. Both apartments are "L" plan courtyard variations.<sup>21</sup> Howland Manor and Meridian Mark Tower, at 3753 and 3777 N. Meridian respectively, added to the apartment density of the north end of the district. Meridian Mark Tower is one of the few examples of a tower type, rising to seven stories.<sup>22</sup> Everett Schofield developed and built Vernon Court at 3420 N. Meridian, opposite Shortridge, on the west side of Meridian. It is the southernmost apartment building in the district

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

and was completed the same year Shortridge opened.<sup>23</sup>

On the eve of the stock market crash and the Great Depression, Barrington Court at 37 & 57 East 38th and the nearby Buchanan Apartments at 3758 North Pennsylvania were completed in 1929. Barrington Court is a Tudor Revival block of 36 units designed by George & Zimmerman.<sup>24</sup> The more modest neo Classical Buchanan, originally Kuntz apartments named for its developer Ed Kuntz, provided eight units.<sup>25</sup>

The Great Depression period of the 1930s saw the addition of only two apartment buildings:

Bauer Apartments in 1937 and Shortridge Apartments in 1938, both on North Meridian Street at 3720 and 3601, respectively.<sup>26</sup> In 1951 two apartment towers, Frontenac Apartments at 3470 North Meridian and Meridian Shoreland Apartments at 3710 North Meridian, were opened, adding 338 units to the established apartment district. Both were the products of the L&L Building Corporation.<sup>27</sup> Later that decade two additional apartment buildings were added in 1953 on Pennsylvania Street; the Medford Apartments at 3524-3528 and Penn Plaza Apartments at 3671.<sup>28</sup> The two-story, circa 1990 apartment building at 3742 North Pennsylvania was the last apartment building constructed in the district. Medford, Penn Plaza and 3742 North Pennsylvania are non-contributing because of their recent vintage, but they do contribute to the district's significance as a district.

Although single-family houses preceded the apartment buildings in the district, they are secondary to the importance of the district. Only one house has survived on North Meridian, that at 3502. This bungalow was built around 1910 and served a single-family residence for a number of families. By 1938 the occupant opened a beauty shop, starting a commercial use that continues today as the home of Rademaker Financial Group.<sup>29</sup> Over time other Meridian Street houses were converted to office usage, especially for physicians and dentists, gradually ending the residential usage of the dwellings. Eventually the houses were demolished to make way for proper office buildings such as the Wabash Fire & Casualty Insurance Building at 3637 in 1958 ; and the 1957 office building at 3750. Demolition of houses accelerated in the 1960s and 1970s to make way for new office buildings and parking lots such as at 3450, 3610, 3733, and 3737 North Meridian Street.<sup>30</sup>

Pre-apartment period houses built between 1900 and 1915 are plentiful along the side streets of 36th and 37th and the stretch of the west side of Pennsylvania of the 3600 block. These houses were probably speculative houses built in Eitel's North Meridian Street Addition of 1892. Most of these houses are dated from around 1910, such as the 1907 residence of Charles Augustus Harms who lived there until 1917. Harms, a printer for the <u>Indianapolis News</u>, was succeeded by Ray Jencker who lived there several decades.<sup>31</sup> The Harms House is a good example of middle

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

class, Four Square Style, frame house with flared hipped roof, shingle cladding and concrete block porch piers. Similar frame Four Square houses are found in the 3600 block.

Whereas house construction had ceased on Meridian in the 1920s, single-family houses were built throughout that decade on Pennsylvania. Examples are those built by Taylor C. Power (1876? - 1934) who built five houses all in the 3600 block of North Pennsylvania in the Union Park Place addition of 1919. These houses are 102 Pennway, 3635, 3641, 3649 and 3655 North Pennsylvania.<sup>32</sup> Two large, stylish houses, 3435 and 3444 North Pennsylvania have survived because they were converted to apartments and apartment wings were added, creating courtyards. One large stylish house, the Frank Powell House at 3443, survives intact.<sup>33</sup>

The district contains two retail commercial buildings, a bank and a former filling station. All four of these buildings are concentrated at the intersection of 38th and Meridian Streets. The oldest of the four is the outstanding Colonial Revival branch bank at 21 West 38th Street at the extreme northwest corner of the district. The bank was completed in 1939 as the home of Merchants National Bank's first branch bank. The branch was first created in 1934, following a 1931 change in state law permitting banks to operate branches within the same county as the parent bank. In 1934 MNB's branch located in a former restaurant, the Mustard Pot, near the site. The bank made a concerted effort to blend its Colonial Revival Style branch into the residential neighborhood.<sup>34</sup> The two commercial retail buildings are one-story in height and use smooth ashlar limestone in their facades and both were constructed in 1948 housing neighborhood related business and services such as restaurants, drug and retail stores.<sup>35</sup>

The contributing buildings in this district exhibit the range of architectural style diversity popular from 1900 to 1950. This stylistic range applies to the diverse building types of house, apartment building, commercial building, and school. Neo Classicism, especially popular for public buildings from 1895 to 1940, is found in Shortridge High School with its limestone Corinthian columns, symmetrical massing of plan, decorative panels, inscriptions, gardens and entablature. Although it is designated as non-contributing, the Wabash Fire and Casualty Insurance Building echoes Shortridge with its Neo Classical limestone portico, limestone details and brick walls.

The Arts and Crafts, or Craftsman Style, was a unique style not based on any historical antecedents. Emphasis was on simplicity, function and the nature and qualities of the building materials. Typical elements are wide eaves, casement windows and rectilinear forms. Bungalows and Four Square Style are variations of Arts and Crafts Style. Arts and Craft Style is found in apartment buildings as well as houses. Craftsman Four Square houses can be found in the 3600 block of North Pennsylvania Street, all built around 1910. Apartment buildings reflecting Arts and Crafts details are Martin Manor at 3766 North Pennsylvania, dating from 1916, with its hipped gable and wide overhang. Other Arts & Crafts apartments are Spink's triplet New Yorker

apartments and Wellspring at 3707 & 3715 and 3736 North Meridian as well as Braybeth at 3755 North Meridian; also Sloanewood and Mapleton Park at 3444 and 3454 North Pennsylvania.

Two popular architectural styles of the 1920s were Colonial and Tudor Revival. Colonial Revival expressed the popular interest in early American history and its classically derived architecture. Tudor Revival was inspired by 15th and 16th century English manors. Examples of Colonial Revival Style are easily found in the district on North Pennsylvania including houses at 3649, 3655 and 3563 on that street; all dating from the early 1920s. Two late examples of the style are two doubles at 3705-3707 and 3709-3711 North Pennsylvania. The finest Colonial Revival example is the 1939 branch bank at 21 West 38th Street. The twin Winston and Oxmoor apartments exhibit the style in their facades at 3540 and 3540 North Meridian Street. Tudor Revival Style is represented by Howland Manor, Barrington Court, Llanhurst Apartments, Meridian Mark Tower and the Schuyler Apartments. Renaissance Revival has a number of examples in the district such as the Biltmore, Meridian Plaza, Meridian Apartments and the Powell House. Mission Style influence, also popular in the 1920s, is found on a number of examples such as Pennlawn and Pennview Apartments.

The Bauer Apartments and Shortridge Apartments, both built during the 1930s, exhibit Art Deco detailing as does the 1948 commercial building at 3762-3768 North Meridian with its fluted piers, and Art Deco panels. Art Moderne examples include the 1948 commercial building at 1-25 East 38th, Frontenac Apartments, Meridian Shoreland Apartments, but the finest example is the late version of the 1958 office building at 3590 North Meridian with its squat, round corner tower, ribbon windows, and contrasting smooth ashlar limestone and polished red granite. Despite these stylistic qualities, this office building does not meet the National Register's fifty-year criterion.

Despite the stylistic diversity, a handful of architects were responsible for most of the designs of the district's buildings. The architects whose names appear repeatedly are George & Zimmerman, H. Ziegler Dietz, William K. Eldridge and Arthur Fleck. Developers had their favorite architects, or had them as project partners or on staff. With the exception of D.A. Bohlen and Son's design of the branch bank at 21 West 38th, the large, established firms were conspicuously absent from the listing of SMSAHD.

Merchants National Bank commissioned the accomplished local firm of D.A. Bohlen and Son to design its first branch bank. Both the bank and the architect were long-established in Indianapolis. Merchants was founded in 1865 and German immigrant architect Diedrich August Bohlen (1827-1890) opened his office in 1853. Bohlen's firm continued for four generations as his sons, grandson and great grandson succeeded him. The firm exists today as Bohlen, Meyer, Gibson and Associates, however no Bohlen has been in the firm since 1970. The Bohlen firm went on to design other branch banks for Merchants (2134 West Washington Street) and also for Indiana

National Bank (215 East 38th Street). Merchants was acquired by National City Bank of Cleveland in 1992 and the branch at 21 West 38th Street became a National City Bank outlet. Many Bohlen buildings are listed in the National Register individually, such as City Market and Saint John's Catholic Church, both in Indianapolis, and as part of districts such as the Immaculate Conception Convent and Chapel in the Oldenburg (IN) Historic District.<sup>36</sup>

Henry Ziegler Dietz (1878-1951) specialized in the design of hotels and apartment buildings. His obituary lists hotels in Lafayette and Evansville, IN and Huntington, WV. A native of Pennsylvania, he resided in Indianapolis from 1913 until his death. His work in the district included Llanhurst Apartments, 1928; Charmwood, 1927; Sloanewood, 1928; Meridian Apartments 1929; Pennlawn, 1924; and Pennwood, 1925. He probably designed Pennview, 1925 for developer Arthur Baynham. Without exception, Dietz' documented work in the district is with or for Baynham as developer or contractor or both. Dietz and Baynham also worked together on the landmark Drake Apartments at 3060 North Meridian in 1930. Baynham & Company, Inc. was incorporated in 1923 "to buy, sell and improve real estate...renting and collecting rents".<sup>37</sup>

Edgar George Spink (1867-1927) was the great apartment pioneer of Indianapolis in the 1910s and 1920s. Spink was responsible for transforming Indianapolis with its moniker "city of homes" with rapid development of apartment buildings of varying shapes, sizes and styles. Thus solving the housing shortage problems the city experienced during the First World War and into the 1920s. Spink led the way for others such as Arthur Baynham and Thomas A. Moynahan with vertical consolidation. E.G. Spink Company acted as realtor, developer, designer, builder, owner, and manager of the many apartments that bore the name "The Spink". Spink built apartments and hotels and acquired existing apartments. Spink's legacy in this district is six buildings: Wellspring, the two New Yorkers, Dorchester, Penn Terrace, and Penn Manor. Many other Spink apartments are located in other National Register districts such as the Old Northside, St. Joseph Neighborhood and others.<sup>38</sup> William K. Eldridge (1858-1928) was the architect for E.G. Spink Company. Eldridge was a graduate engineer of Purdue University arriving in the city in 1900. He served as the architect for Spink for fifteen years. The above-mentioned six Spink buildings are Eldridge's work.<sup>39</sup>

The architectural firm of George & Zimmerman is credited with the design of four apartment buildings in SMSAHD. These apartments are Biltmore, 1927; Meridian Plaza, 1926; Howland Manor, 1928; and Barrington Court, 1929. This firm also designed other noteworthy apartments including the Sheldrake at 2254 N. Meridian, 1925; and the Warren apartments at 2140 North Meridian, 1925. This design duo was made up of Lawrence W. George and Daniel J. Zimmerman. George had previously been a partner in the local architectural firm of George, MacLucas & Fitton, c. 1914-1920, then George & MacLucas until 1924; and then he paired up with Zimmerman until the early 1930s. George's work has been identified in the Meridian Park

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Historic District and the North Meridian Street Historic District. George & Zimmerman designed both the Biltmore and Meridian Plaza for developer Herbert L. Moody.<sup>40</sup>

Apartment developer Thomas A. Moynahan (1877-1957) was another apartment builder and developer who followed Spink's example and bought a substantial number of Spink's buildings. Moynahan developed, built, owned and managed the 1928 Meridian Mark Tower. This apartment building was probably designed by architect Arthur Fleck, designer of Moynahan's Admiral Apartments at 3035 North Meridian Street and the Union Title Building at Market and Delaware Streets. Moynahan also built and developed the Commodore Apartments at 3015 North Meridian, which is a mirror image of the Park Lane Apartments, a.k.a. Meridian-Salem at 3536 North Meridian.<sup>41</sup>

Other architects who designed in the district were Osler & Burns, responsible for the Schuyler for developer Henry G. Dollman. Dollman was also the principal in the Edgewood Villa, Inc., developer of that apartment at 3510 N. Pennsylvania. Willard C. Osler (1886-1978) and Lee Burns (1872-1957) were associated only briefly from 1926 to 1927. Both had distinguished careers.<sup>42</sup> McGuire & Shook founded in 1916 and still in business designed the twin Oxmoor and the Winston for Wilson Realty Co.<sup>43</sup>

Paul Cripe designed three 1950s apartments for L&L Building Corporation. His firm, Paul I. Cripe, Inc. designed most of L&L's projects and is still in business today. L&L's principals were Maurice and Leo Lippman who also developed the distinctive Meadows Apartments on East 38th Street. Cripe's works are Frontenac, Meridian Shoreland Apartments, and Medford Apartments.<sup>44</sup>

Taylor C. Power (1876-1934) was a retail grocer who built five speculative houses in the 3600 block of North Pennsylvania from 1921 and 1923. He became involved in construction and development in 1920.<sup>45</sup>

Shortridge High School was constructed in 1927-1928 after the design of the local firm of Kopf and Deery. Jacob Edwin Kopf (1893-1942) founded the firm in 1920 with partner Kenneth Wooling, who left in 1926, succeeded by John A. Deery. Shortridge High School is the largest building in SMSAHD. It is an architectural and cultural landmark of Meridian Street and the city. The Indianapolis Board of School Commissions purchased the 10.9 acres of land from M.M. Topp in 1921 in anticipation of moving Shortridge High School from its outgrown downtown site at Michigan and Pennsylvania Street. Shortridge moved northward to serve the new residential neighborhoods of the northside. At 3401 North Meridian the new school was centrally located on Meridian and well served by public transportation. The construction of Shortridge took place at the same time apartments were underway. Shortridge was completed and the first classes were held on December 3, 1928. The landmark high school closed in 1981 but was remodeled and

### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

reopened as Shortridge Jr. High School. Shortridge High School was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.<sup>46</sup>

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE END NOTES

1. David J. Bodenhamer, Lamont Hulse, and Elizabeth B. Monroe, <u>The Main Stem of North</u> <u>Meridian Street</u> (Indianapolis: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1992), pp 4 & 5.

2. David J. Bodenhamer and Robert G. Barrows, <u>The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis</u> (Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1994), p. 1504.

3. Plat Records, Marion County Recorder's Office, Indianapolis.

4. Sanborn, 1915.

5. Sanborn; and Special Ordinance Number 1, Common Council of Indianapolis, 1902.

6. "Zoning" <u>Encyclopedia of Indianapolis</u>, p. 1475, and Indianapolis Zoning Ordinance, General Ordinance Number 114-1922, City Planning Commission, City of Indianapolis, December 20, 1922.

7. R.L. Polk & Co., Indianapolis City Directory (Indianapolis: R.L. Polk & Co., 1918 & 1919); Record of Building Permits, 1928. Permits # 935 & #3857, City of Indianapolis; <u>Indiana</u> <u>Construction Recorder</u> (ICR), May 12, 1928, p.11.

8. Martin Manor: City Directories 1916-1989/90; and Spink: City Directories, 1917-1989/90, and Bass Photo Co. neg. # 62092 of Nov. 4, 1917, # 213817 and # 213818 of Oct. 7, 1929, Indianapolis Historical Society.

9. 3515: City Directories 1919 & 1920; Blaley Permit 1918; 3525: City Directories 1919-1963; and Bass Photo Co. negative # 69791, March 23, 1920.

10. City Directories, 1920-1933; Record of Building Permits, 1920. Permits # 8331, 8332, & 8333.

11. Winston: Records of Building Permits 1924, permit # 10324; Oxmoor: permit 16179; ICR, Jan. 19, 1924 & Feb. 9, 1924, City Directories for both.

12. City Directory; Record of Building Permits, 1924 permit #2331; Indiana Construction Recorder, Feb. 24, 1923 and April 12, 1924.

13. Indiana Construction Recorder, May 24, 1924, p.14; City Directory.

14. City Directory; Pennbroke: Indiana Construction Recorder, April 18, 1925, p. 7.

15. Indiana Construction Recorder, Dec. 5, 1925, p. 7.

16. Indiana Construction Recorder, April 25, 1925, p. 5.

17. City Directory, 1926-1989/90; <u>Indiana Construction Recorder</u>, Sept. 12, 1925, p.7. Bass Photo Co. neg. # 228746 from May 19, 1934.

18. City Directory, 1905-1989/90; INC, May 15, 1926, p.3.

19. City Directory; Record of Building Permits, 1927, permit #1538.

20. City Directory; Indiana Construction Recorder, May 29, 1926, p. 7; Bass Photo Co. neg. #200957 F of Feb. 5, 1927.

21. Llanhurst: Indiana Construction Recorder, July 16, 1927; Sloanewood: City Directory, Indiana Construction Recorder, March 24, 1928, p. 12.

22. Howland: Record of Building Permits, 1928, demolition permit # 935 (demolition of 2-story dwelling), and permit # 3857 construction of apt; <u>Indiana Construction Recorder</u>, May 12, 1928, p.11. Meridian Mark Tower: Record of Building Permits, 1928, permit #1137.

23. Indiana Construction Recorder, April 2, 1927, p. 5.

24. Indiana Construction Recorder, May 5, 1928, p.11.

25. Record of Building Permits, 1928; permits # 6679 & 7947.

26. City Directory, 1936-1941.

27. "Maurice B. Lippman," obituary. <u>Indianapolis News</u>, October 24, 1962, p. 21; Start New Apartment House August 15, <u>Indianapolis Times</u>, April 27, 1950; "Something New on North Meridian," <u>Indianapolis News</u>, January 6, 1951, p. 15.

28. Sanborn, 1915-1954; City Directory. <u>Indianapolis News</u>, photo caption clipping not dated, identifies Medford Apartments by L&L Building Corporation.

29. City Directory, 1914-1989/90.

30. Sanborn, 1915 corrected to 1954 & 1956 corrected to 1969.

31. Baist Atlas, 1908, City Directory, 1904-1957.

32. "T.C. Power, Builder, Dies," <u>Indianapolis Star</u>, June 29, 1934; Record of Building Permits, 1921.

33. City Directory, 1908-1989/90; Bass Photo Co. neg. # 26643 & 26644 (September 15, 1911) & 26787 (December 5, 1911).

34. <u>The City and the Bank 1865-1965</u> (Indianapolis: Merchants National Bank, 1965), pp. 82 & 83; "Branch Bank Gets New Colonial Home," <u>Indianapolis Star</u>, December 3, 1939; "Bank to Build at 38th and Salem," <u>Indianapolis News</u>, June 12, 1939.

35. Sanborn, 1915 corrected to 1954 and City Directory.

36. "Bohlen, Diedrich August" & "Bohlen Meyer Gibson and Associates", <u>Encyclopedia of</u> <u>Indianapolis</u>, pp. 333-334; Bohlen Research Files, Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission, Indianapolis.

37. "Henry Z. Dietz, Retired Builder, Architect Dies," <u>Indianapolis Star</u>, February 7, 1951, p. 21; <u>Indiana Construction Recorder</u>, February 24, 1923; December 5, 1925; May 15, 1926; December 11, 1926; July 16, 1927; March 24, 1928; and June 30, 1928. Incorporation Records. IN State archives.

38. Paul Donald Brown, ed. Indianapolis Men of Affairs (Indianapolis: American Biographical Society, 1923). p. 573; <u>Indianapolis Star</u>, March 18 & 19, 1927.

39. "William K. Eldridge", obituary, Indianapolis Star, Dec. 31, 1928. City Directories.

40. <u>Indiana Construction Recorder</u>, October 14, 1922; February 17, 1923; June 14, 1924; August 9, 1924; April 25, 1925; May 29, 1926; October 15, 1927; March 17, 1928; and May 5, 1928.

41. <u>Indiana Construction Recorder</u>, October 15, 1927; December 18, 1926; October 15, 1927; April 21, 1928; September 21, 1929; June 13, 1925; and <u>Indiana Today</u> (Indianapolis: Indiana Editors' Association, 1942). pp. 357 & 435.

42. <u>Indiana Construction Recorder</u>, April 26, 1924, p. 7; "Willard C. Osler" Obituary, <u>Indianapolis News</u>, January 20, 1978, p. 28; and "Lee Burns, 84," <u>Indianapolis News</u>, January 8, 1957.

## SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

43. "Wilber B. Shook, Architect Dies," <u>Indianapolis Times</u>, January 18, 1961; "W.C. McGuire Dies", <u>Indianapolis Star</u>, January 28, 1960; <u>Indiana Construction Recorder</u>, January 19, 1924, p. 14.

44. Indianapolis Times, April 27, 1950; June 6, 1951 p. 15.

45. Indianapolis Star, June 29, 1934.

46. Shortridge High School National Register Nomination, Sept. 15, 1983; "Shortridge", <u>Encyclopedia of Indianapolis</u>, pp. 1259-60; and Laura S. Gaus, <u>Shortridge High School</u>, 1864-1981 (Indianapolis: IN Historical Society, 1985), pp. 149-154.

 $< \epsilon$ 

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Baist, G. William (compiler). Real Estate Atlas Surveys of Indianapolis and Vicinity, Indiana. Philadelphia: G. William Baist, 1899, 1908, 1916, 1927, & 1941.

Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis.

- Bodenhamer, David J.; & Barrows, Robert G. <u>The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis</u>. Indianapolis: Indianapolis. Indianapolis.
- Bodenhamer, David J.; Hulse, Lamont; & Monroe, Elizabeth B. <u>The Main Stem of North</u> <u>Meridian Street</u>. Indianapolis: Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1992.
- Brown, Paul Donald, ed. Indianapolis Men of Affairs. Indianapolis: American Biographical Society, 1923.

"Chronological List of Projects in Files of Bohlen Meyer Gibson & Associates, Inc." Unpublished,

typewritten, n.d.

- The City and the Bank, 1865-1965. Indianapolis: Merchants National Bank, 1965.
- Gaus, Laura S. <u>Shortridge High School, 1864-1981</u>. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1985.
- Indiana Construction Recorder, 1922-1929.

Indiana Today. Indianapolis: Indiana Editors' Association, 1942.

Indianapolis News, 1939, 1951, & 1962.

Indianapolis Star, 1927, 1928, 1934, 1939, 1951, & 1960.

Indianapolis Times, 1950, 1951, & 1961.

Land Records, Marion County Recorder's Office, Indianpolis, IN.

Pictorial and Biographical Memoirs of Indianapolis and Marion County, Indiana. Chicago: Goodspeed Bros., 1893.

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

Polk, R.L. & Co. Indianapolis City Directory. Indianapolis: R.L. Polk & Co., 1900-1989/90.

Prodeedings of the Indianapolis Common Council, 1902 & 1922.

Record of Building Permits, 1918-1929. City Microfilm Division, City of Indianapolis.

Sanborn Map Company, <u>Insurance Maps of Indianapolis, Indiana</u>. New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1887 through 1956 corrected to 1969.

Shortridge High School, National Register of Historic Places Nomination. U.S. Department of the Interior, 1983.

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

#### Verbal Boundary Description

Commencing at the southeast corner of West 38th Street and North Salem Street the boundary line proceeds eastward following the southern right-of-way of 38th Street crossing North Meridian Street continuing to the southwest corner of East 38th Street and North Pennsylvania Street. The line then turns south along the west right-of-way line of Pennsylvania Street approximately 136 feet then eastward crossing Pennsylvania and proceeding east along the south edge of the alley approximately 131.5 feet to northeast corner of Lot 26 of Corydon Union Park Place Addition. The line then turns southward following the lot lines of said plat to, and crossing East 37th Street and proceeding southward approximately 470 feet along the property lines to and crossing East Pennway and continuing southward following the east lot lines of Lots 1-3 of said plat. The line then proceeds due southward approximately 179 feet through Lot 91 of Washington Park Addition, then south to and crossing 36th Street and proceeding due south approximately 100 feet to the north lot line of Lot 90 of Washington Park where the boundary turns east to the east end of said lot where it turns south along the east line of Lots 90, 89, 88, 87 and 86 when it turns westward along the south line of Lot 86 to Pennsylvania Street where it crosses it and turns southward approximately 185 feet along the west right-of-way of said street to the north right-ofway of East 34th Street where the boundary turns westward to North Meridian Street where the line turns north approximately 115 feet when it turns westward to and crossing North Meridian Street, and continues westward approximately 140 feet the south lot line of lot containing Vernon Court Apartments (3420 North Meridian) then northward along the west line of said lot to the south line of the lot containing 3450 North Meridian Street then westward to the east right-ofway line of North Salem Street. The line proceeds along North Salem Street to the south rightof-way of West 35th Street, then eastward approximately 100 feet where it proceeds northward crossing West 35th Street. The line continues northward approximately 150 feet to the south line of Lot 60 of A.E. Meyer's Meridian Street Addition then westward to the east right-of-way of

North Salem Street then northward to the north line of Lot 65 of said plat then eastward along said lot line approximately 130 feet then northward along the property line approximately 144 feet to the south right-of-way of West 36th Street then eastward approximately 53 feet then northward to and crossing West 36th Street and proceeding approximately 50 feet across Lot 57 of said plat to the north property line of said lot turning westward to the east right-of-way line of North Salem Street, then northward approximately 100 feet, then eastward approximately 110 feet along the north lot line of Lot 54 of said plat. At this point the line turns northward following the property lines to the south line of Bodner's re-subdivision at which point the line turns westward the east right-of-way line of North Salem Street, then north Salem Street, then northward approximately 120 feet then north lot line of Lot 54 of Said plat.

### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

approximately 94 feet to the north lot line of Lot 9 of said plat then westward to the east right-ofway of North Salem Street. At this point the line proceeds northward 80 feet then turns eastward approximately 112 feet, then northward approximately 108 feet then westward to the east rightof-way of North Salem Street turning northward approximately 273 feet to the southeast corner of North Salem and West 38th Streets to the point of origin.

### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

### **Boundary Justification**

The boundaries of the Shortridge-Meridian Street Apartment Historic District encompasses all the historic resources of the east and west sides of two streets; North Meridian and North Pennsylvania bound by 34th Street on the south and 38th Street on the north. The purpose of the nomination is to recognize the importance this area with its extensive collection of apartment buildings, percent of which were constructed between the years of 1920 and 1930. The district boundary was carefully drawn to include all contributing resources and to avoid vacant lots found at the southwest corner, the southeast corner and the northeast corner of the district. The irregularities of the western boundary line is necessary because of the large apartments that stretch from Meridian to Salem Streets and the interest to follow property lines. The district has retained its density and integrity.

Immediately southeast of SMSAHD is a residential district omposed mostly of large upscale houses dating from circa 1892 to 1933. This Meridian Park Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1990. Two blocks to the north, centered on Meridian Street, is the southern boundary line of the North Meridian Street Historic District, listed in the National Register in 1986. This district is recognized for its collection of large mansions on large lots constructed between 1900 and 1936. To the east of SMSAHD is residential area of single family houses constructed between circa 1905 and circa 1930. To the west of SMSAHD, starting at Salem Street is a collection of smaller houses and bungalows. The eastside of Salem Street abutting SMSAHD has less than twenty houses, having lost its density and integrity to parking lots and neglect. This area is not relevant to the theme of SMSAHD. The area immediately south of SMSAHD on Meridian Street between 30th and 34th Streets was originally identified in the Center Township Marion County Interim Report of 1991 as the southern half of a proposal North Meridian Street Apartments Historic District. It was determined by the SHPO staff that this southern portion, despite four buildings individually listed in the National Register, did not retain its integrity and density. The boundaries of SMSAHD as delineated by this nomination were opined by SHPO staff.

 $\chi$ 

## **INVENTORY OF DISTRICT RESOURCES**

Address	Name	Type/Use	Status*	Year Blt
North Merid	lian Street			
3401	Shortridge H.S.	School.	C-NR	1928
3420	Vernon Court Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1928
3450	Cent. IN Reg. Blood Ctr.	Office Bldg.	NC	1961 & c.1990
3470	Frontenac Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1951
3502	Rademaker	House/Office Bldg.	С	c. 1910
3524	Professional Bldg.	Office Bldg.	NC	1962 & 1967
3536	Parke Lane Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1925
3540	Biltmore Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1927
3541	Llanhurst Apt.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1928
<b>35</b> 90	N.A.	Office Bldg.	NC	1958
3601	Shortridge Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1938
3610	Sanders Bldg.	Office Bldg.	NC	1964
3630	Winston Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1924
3637	Wabash Fire & Casualty	Office Bldg.	NC	1957
3640	Oxmoor Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1924
3707	New Yorker Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1917
3710	New Yorker Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1917
3715	Meridian Shoreland Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1951
3720	Bauer Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1937
3726	Meridian Plaza	Apt. Bldg.	С	1926
3733	N.A.	Office Bldg.	NC	c. 1975
3736	Wellspring	Apt. Bldg.	С	c. 1917
3737	Plaza 3737	Office Bldg.	NC	c. 1975
3744	N.A.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1917
3750	N.A.	Office Bldg.	NC	1957
3753	Howland Manor Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	19 <b>28</b>
3755	Braybeth Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1918
3761	The Schuyler Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1925
3762-3768	N.A.	Comm. Bldg.	С	1948
3777	Meridian Mark Tower	Apt. Bldg.	С	1928
3778	National Auto Alarm	Comm. Bldg.	C	c. 1950
North Pennsylvania Street				
3419 & 3435	Charmwood Condominiums	Apt. Bldgs.(2)	С	c.1906 & 1927
3444	Sloanewood Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	c.1910 & 1928

Address	Name	Type/Use	Status*	Year Blt
North Penns	ylvania Street			
3445	Powell-Evans House	House	С	1911
3454	Mapleton Park Apts	Apt. Bldg.	С	1926
3455	Children's Bureau	Apt. Bldg.	NC	<b>c</b> . 1990
3460	Mapleton Park Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1926
3505 & 3511	Pennbroke Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1925
3510	Edgewood Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1927
3515	Penn Terrace Apts.	Apt. House	С	1919
3524-3538	Medford Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	NC	c. 1953
3525	Penn Manor	Apt. Bldg.	С	1919
3535		House	С	1916
3537-3543	Pennlawn Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1924
3540-3542	Pennwood Homes Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1925
3552	-	House	С	c. 1910
3560		House	С	<b>c</b> . 1910
3561	Carter House	House	С	c. 1910
3598		House	С	c. 1916
3601	Dillon Law Office	House	С	c. 1912
3602	Harms House	House	С	1907
3608		House	С	<b>c</b> . 1900
<b>36</b> 10		House	С	c. 1910
3614		House	С	c. 1910
3618		House	С	c. 1910
3619		House	С	<b>c</b> . 1920
3623		House	С	c. 1929
3624		House	С	c. 1910
3627		House	С	1921
3628		House	С	c. 19 <b>28</b>
3630		House	С	c. 1907
3635	Klee House	House	С	1922
3641	Power-Cottingham House	House	С	1921
3649	Tuttle-Morse House	House	С	1921
3655		House	С	1922
3663		House	С	c. 1920
3671	Penn Plaza Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	NC	1953
3702-3706 &	-	Apt. Bldg.	С	1924
3703	Williams House	House	С	1924
3705-3707		Dbl. Residence	С	c. 1922

Address	Name	Type/Use	Status*	Year Blt
North Penn	sylvania Street			
3710		House	С	c. 1910
3709-3711	Peterson-Ewing Dbl.	Dbl. Residence	С	1940
3720	Dorchester Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1921
3736	Pennview Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1925
3742	N.A.	Apt. Bldg.	NC	c. 1990
3746	Gemmer House/Apts.	House/Apt. Bldg.	С	c. 1910
3758	Buchanan Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1929
3760	Martin Manor	Apt. Bldg.	С	1916
3766	Martin Manor	Apt. Bldg.	С	1916
East Pennwa	ay			
102		House	С	1924
East 36th St	reet			
1	Meridian Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1929
21-23		Dbl. Residence	С	c.1910
25	Wright House	House	С	c.1911
31	-	House	С	c.1900
33		House	С	c.1910
35	Talmadge House	House	С	c.1928
41		House	С	c.1910
42		House	С	c.1900
46		House	С	c.1910
East 37th St	reet			
22		House	С	c.1910
25		House	С	<b>c</b> .1910
29		House	С	c.1910
30		House	С	c.1930
33		House	С	c.1900
34		House	C C C	c.1911
37		House	С	c.1910
38		House		c.1902
41		House	С	c.1907
42-44		Dbl. Residence	С	c.1914

Address	Name	Type/Use	Status*	Year Blt.
East 38th Street				
1-25	N.A.	Commercial	С	1948
37 - 57	Barrington Crt. Apts.	Apt. Bldg.	С	1929
West 38th Street				
21	West 38th Street Branch Bank	Commercial	С	1939

\* C= contributing, NC= non-contributing, NR= individually listed National Register

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet Additional Documentation page: 38

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

**PHOTOGRAPHS** 

The following information is identical for all photographs.

Shortridge-Meridian Street Apartments Historic District Marion County, Indiana Marsh Davis April 20, 1999 IN Division Historic Preservation & Archaeology 402 West Washington Street, Room W274 Indianapolis, IN 46204

#1; Shortridge H.S., 3401 N. Meridian St.; View Northeast.

- #2; Shortridge H.S., N. Pennsylvania & E. 34th St.; View Northwest.
- #3; Shortridge H.S., Athletic Field, 3500 Blk. N. Meridian St.; View Southeast.
- #4; 3450 & 3470 N. Meridian St.; View West.
- #5; 3630, 3640, & 3710 N. Meridian St.; View Northwest.
- #6; 3700 Blk. N. Meridian St., East Side; View Southeast.
- #7; Meridian Apts., 1 E. 36th St.; View Northeast.
- #8; 3700 Blk. N. Meridian St., West Side; View Southwest.
- #9; 3524 N. Meridian St.; View Northwest.
- #10; 3733 & 3737 N. Meridian St.; View Northeast.
- #11; Vernon Court Apts., 3420N. Meridian St.; View Northwest.
- #12; Biltmore Apts., 3540 N. Meridian St.; View West.
- #13; 3753 & 3755 N. Meridian St.; View Southeast.
- #14; 3700 Blk. N. Meridian St., West Side; View Northwest.
- #15; Park Lane, 3536 & Biltmore Apts., 3540 N. Meridian St.; View Northwest.
- #16; Edgewood Apts., 3510 N. Meridian St.; View Northwest.
- #17; Dorchester Apts., 3720 N. Meridian St.; View Northwest.
- #18; Sloanewood Apts., 3444 N. Pennsylvania St.; View Northwest.
- #19; Charmwood Condominiums, 3419 & 3435 N. Pennsylvania St.; View Northeast.
- #20; 3762-3768 N. Meridian St.; View Southwest.
- #21; 1st Blk W. 38th St., at Salem St.; View Southeast.
- #22; 3637 N. Meridian St.; View Northeast.
- #23; Frontenac Apts., 3470 N. Meridian St.; View Southwest.
- #24; 3707 & 3715 N. Meridian St.; View Southeast.
- #25; Martin Manor, 3766 N. Pennsylvania St.; View Southwest.
- #26; 3600 Blk. N. Pennsylvania St., East side; View Southwest.
- #27; 3649, 3655 & 3663 N. Pennsylvania St.; View Northeast.
- #28; 3736 to 3766 N. Pennsylvania St.; View Northwest.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet Additional Documentation page: 39

#### SHORTRIDGE-MERIDIAN STREET APARTMENTS HISTORIC DISTRICT

#### **PHOTOGRAPHS**

#29; Powell-Evans House, 3445 N. Pennsylvania St.; View Southeast.

#30; 3707 & 3637 N. Meridian St. & 1 E. 36th St.; View Southeast.

#31; Winston Apts., 3630 & Oxmoor Apts., 3640 N. Meridian St.; View Southwest.

#32; West 38th St. Branch Bank, 21 W.38th St.; View Southeast.

#33; Sloanewood, 3444 & Mapleton Apts., 3454 & 3460 N. Pennsylvania St.; View Northwest.

#34; Harms House, 3602 N. Pennsylvania St.; View Southwest.

#35; Klee House, 3635 N. Pennsylvania St.; View Southeast.

#36; 3703, 3705-07, 3709-3711 N. Pennsylvania St.; View Southeast.

