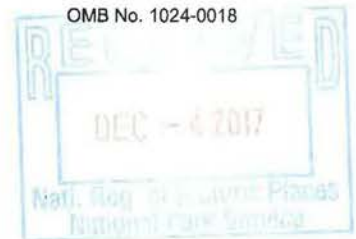


56-1968

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Princeton North Main Street Historic District

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

Name of Multiple Property Listing \_\_\_\_\_

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

### 2. Location

street & number Primarily 900- & 1000-blocks of North Main St. and 000-block of West Long St.  not for publication

city or town Princeton  vicinity

state Illinois county Bureau zip code 61356

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

Applicable National Register Criteria:  A  B  C  D

[Signature] 11/29/17  
Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date

Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register

other (explain:)

[Signature] 1-16-18  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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Name of Property

**Bureau, Illinois**

County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private  
 public - Local  
 public - State  
 public - Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
32	0	buildings
0	0	site
1	0	structure
0	0	object
33	0	<b>Total</b>

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

1

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic - Hotel

Commerce/Trade

Education-Library

Social-Clubhouse

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Commerce/Trade-Business

Commerce/Trade-Specialty Store

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian-Italianate

Late Victorian-Queen Anne

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American

Movements-Prairie School

Other-Arts and Crafts

Other-Mission Revival

Other-Sullivan-esque

Other-Vernacular Commercial

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Brick, Limestone, Concrete

walls: Brick, Stucco, Cast-concrete block

roof: Rubber membrane, Asphalt shingle

other:

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**Narrative Description**

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

**Summary Paragraph**

The Princeton North Main Street Historic District is a roughly three-block area in the city's north commercial district, one of two historic commercial areas in Princeton. (The other area, on the south end of Princeton, is being nominated separately to the National Register of Historic Places as the Princeton South Main Street-Courthouse Square Historic District.) The district includes roughly two blocks of buildings lining North Main Street, a significant portion of the city's historic commercial development dating from the 19th and 20th centuries, the south side of West Long Street between North Main Street and North Pleasant Street, and a building facing East Elm Place. The district exemplifies commercial uses and functions of historic importance to Princeton.

The district reflects a variety of building types and architectural styles from the 19th and 20th centuries. Commercial buildings are largely two-part and one-part commercial blocks. Stylistically, many buildings are Italianate in appearance, while the Queen Anne can be seen in a handful of structures. The Arts and Crafts is an important influence on several buildings from the 1890s and early 20th century. Other 20th-century buildings were built in the Vernacular Commercial style with simple, plain facades. Many buildings have minor exterior alterations, mainly storefront alterations and changes to window sash, that are characteristic of a continually-utilized commercial area. Taken together, all of these resources in the Princeton North Main Street Historic District exemplify the continued importance and vitality of Princeton's North Main Street as a historically-significant local center of commerce.

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**Narrative Description**

The Princeton North Main Street Historic District is located in the City of Princeton, the county seat of Bureau County, Illinois, approximately 100 miles west-southwest of Chicago and 65 miles east of the Quad Cities. Founded in 1832, the city was founded by a group of mainly New Englanders known as the Hampshire Colony. Today, Princeton has approximately 7,660 residents (2010 United States Census) and has long been the center of an agricultural community. It also has a number of industrial and commercial employers. The city's built environment consists primarily of single-family houses.

Main Street, a north-south route through town, serves as the main commercial spine for Princeton. At its southern end is the city's original commercial area, anchored by Courthouse Square, which developed in the wake of the city's founding in 1832. (This area is being proposed separately for National Register listing as the Princeton South Main Street-Courthouse Historic District). At the northern end of town, the city's train stations, both former and current, have served since 1854 as anchors for a second commercial area, which extends along Main Street for several blocks south of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy (C. B. & Q.) Railroad tracks. It is this commercial area being considered for National Register listing in this nomination. The area between these two Main Street commercial areas is largely comprised of older

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residences and non-historic commercial buildings and city service buildings not determined eligible for inclusion in either historic district.

The Princeton North Main Street District consists of a roughly three-block area containing 33 resources, divided into 32 buildings and 1 structure. (Although within the district, the former American Woman's League Building was previously individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is not counted as a resource for the district.) The structure is the historic brick paving on portions of W. Long/N. Pleasant Sts., W. Marquette St., and E. and W. Lasalle St. within the district dating from 1927. The surface parking lot at the southeast corner of South Main Street and East Elm Street is non-contributing to the district, but is not counted as a resource per National Register guidelines. The district is roughly L-shaped, with North Main Street forming a major north-south axis and one block of W. Long St. creating a short secondary east-west axis at the northern end of the district. The district is commercial in character, with almost all structures originally built for commercial functions. A few buildings are vacant as of the writing of this nomination.

The street pattern within the Princeton North Main Street Historic District is orthogonal on a north-south axis. Commercial buildings along North Main Street itself typically have zero lot line construction with shared side party walls, typifying the maximization of lot space practices that pervaded commercial development in America during the middle-to-late 19th century. The former American Woman's League Building at 1009 N. Main St., the former newspaper office at 14 E. Elm Pl., and the commercial building at 24 E. Long St. were built as free-standing buildings. There are alleyways behind buildings facing North Main Street, but not those along West Long Street or East Elm Place. The district's public rights-of-way have been improved with concrete sidewalks, curbs and gutters. Parking is largely on-street parallel, but some on-street diagonal parking exists on West Long Street.

Commercial buildings within the district are masonry construction and typically between one and three stories in height. The buildings in the district, the Cabbage Rose building (earlier the National Hotel) at 956 N. Main St. and the Maria's Pizza II Restaurante building (earlier Trulson drugs and paints), are three stories. The building at 956 N. Main is also the oldest documented building in the district, constructed in 1856, two years after the completion of the railroad into Princeton. A majority of commercial buildings have one storefront, but several wider buildings have two or more storefronts.

Most commercial buildings along North Main Street date from the 1850s through 1920s, with some built or remodeled as late as the 1960s. Typically, these buildings are two-part commercial blocks, in the nomenclature set forth by architectural historian Richard Longstreth in his influential book, *The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture*. Such buildings can be divided into two "zones," a street-level storefront and upper floors with offices, meeting halls or residential space. A small number are one-part commercial blocks or enframed window wall buildings, both one-story building types entirely devoted to street-level commerce.

Similarly to other small commercial buildings found throughout the Midwest, architectural detailing for many commercial buildings in the district consists of applied ornament, typically comprised of window or roofline decoration in the form of decorative lintels and cornices. Other commercial buildings have ornament that is based on the inherent visual characteristics (color and texture) of building materials such as brick and stone. These methods of ornamentation reflect the building fashions in place at the time of building construction or modification.

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Although a number of building types and architectural styles are present in the district, the buildings represent a cohesive collection of 19th and 20th-century architecture. Styles as varied as the Queen Anne, Prairie, Sullivanesque, and Vernacular Commercial are used for buildings. However, the most common architectural styles for the commercial buildings in the district are the Italianate and Arts-and-Crafts. Italianate-style buildings, typically from the 1850s through 1880s, have brick or (in one instance, stone) front facades, tall upper-floor windows, contrasting, often carved or molded window lintels made of stone or metal, and decorative-metal cornices with brackets and paneling. Such buildings originally had cast-metal storefront columns and other elements, although changes over time have sometimes obscured or eliminated these details. Arts-and-Crafts buildings, most often from the 1890s through 1920s, typically have a variety of brick colors that form wall patterns, including rectangles and diamonds, judicious use of stone used for contrasting decorative blocks and patterns, and spare roof parapets. The design of an institutional building, the former American Woman's League Building at 1009 N. Main St., was influenced by the Mission Revival, combining bungalow proportions with Arts-and-Crafts use of materials.

The district has remained a vital commercial center for Princeton throughout its history, and the city's prosperity in the 20th century can be seen in the remodeling of a number of building facades. Some of these exhibit Arts-and-Crafts love of contrasting materials, while others display the spare modernism used along America's small-town main streets in the post-World War II period. Most of these modernizations occurred within the district's period of significance and are considered historic.

The integrity of the district is excellent. Of the 33 resources in the district, all are considered contributing.

Properties associated with the history of the historic district, but that do not have sufficient historic integrity to be considered contributing to the district, exist on the edges of the district and have been excluded from the district. The most important of these properties are Darius Miller Memorial Park and commercial buildings at 125 and 127-133 North Main Street. The park underwent substantial changes in 1976 and 2015, outside the district's period of significance. The two commercial buildings on North Main Street have non-historic "slipcovers" that obscure the upper portion of their street facades. Due to the insufficient integrity of these properties, the current Princeton train station, although possessing individual significance and historic integrity, has been left out of the district as well, being separated spatially from the district by the altered Darius Miller Memorial Park.

The buildings within the Princeton North Main Street Historic District represent roughly 160 years of the city's history. As is typical of historic districts with small-scale commercial buildings devoted to commercial functions, most alterations to historic buildings within the district involve first-floor storefront configuration and material changes. Upper-floor alterations typically consist of window replacements in original openings, or downsizing and infill. Of the 33 resources in the district, all were created before 1967 within the district's period of significance. Most alterations of historic resources in the district are consistent with its historic character, and the district as a whole retains good- to-excellent historic integrity.

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**Building Catalog**

The following catalog lists resources (buildings, objects, structures and sites) within the Princeton North Main Street Historic District and contains the following information:

Address	Contributing / non-contributing
Name of resource or current main tenant	Already National Register-listed
Date - actual or estimated	
Architect / <i>builder</i>	
Short description	
Historic information	

Information about estimated dates, history and building tenants comes from several sources:

- Sanborn fire insurance maps available for 1885, 1892, 1897, 1906, 1911, 1918, 1931, and 1948
- Princeton city directories from 1903 to the 1970s - earlier directories were not typically useful as they did not include specific addresses for businesses or tenants.
- Newspaper articles and secondary sources such as town and county histories and family memoirs.
- The Bureau County Historical Society is the best local archives containing information on the history and built environment of Bureau County, including this historic district.

**14 E. Elm Pl.**

**Contributing**

**Bureau County Record Printing**

**1926**

***A.H. Stein***

Description: One-story brick commercial building / Vernacular Commercial. Simple brick geometric patterns in front facade.

History: The building was built by the Unholtz family as the offices for the *Bureau County Record*, which mentioned the building's construction in its issues of July 7, September 15, and September 22, 1926, issues. The paper ceased publication in 1934. Back-of-the-building apartments were then created in the building, behind street-facing commercial space.

**Brick paving on several streets in the district, including**

**Contributing**

- **LaSalle St. east and west of N. Main St.**
- **W. Long St. between N. Main St. and N. Pleasant St., and**
- **W. Marquette St. west of N. Main St.**

**1927**

Description: Red brick used as paving for several streets within and part of boundaries of the district.

History: The brick used to pave Lasalle, Long and Marquette streets was installed in 1927 (*Bureau County Record*, August 3, 1927).

**24 W. Long St.**

**Contributing**

**Hatties**

**circa 1860s**

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Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The red-brick building has a full-width front porch, first-floor display windows and round-arched second floor windows with 2-over-2, double-hung sash. The building's round-arched pediment is embellished with brick corbelling. Side elevations are largely free of windows. Painted "ghost signs" are on the front and east sides of the building, including one for Coca-Cola. A one-story side addition built of concrete block is non-historic. A grassy side yard is to the east.

History: The building was occupied by Seth L. Bradley agricultural implements from 1885 to 1891. It then was the location for the Perfection Livestock Remedy Co. in 1909, the Princeton Hide Fur and Wool Company in 1941 and 1948, and Leonard's Repair Shop and Used Furniture Mart from 1964 to the 1970s.

**901 N. Main St.  
Princeton Tire Company  
1929-1930**

**Contributing**

Description: One-story automobile service station / Vernacular Commercial. The building is located on a corner lot and shares a party wall with the building to the north. The front facade has white-painted brick while the side elevation has orange brick. The building has a corner "cut-out" for a drive-through, with a horizontal band of windows and pedestrian entrance. A street-facing storefront is on the north end of the building. Several automobile garage entrances face the side street.

History: The building has been the home of automobile service and parts stores through its history. Early on, it was the home of the Malden Oil Company. Later, by the 1960s, the building housed the Princeton Tire Service.

**902 N. Main St.  
Super Wok  
1891; remodeled 1915 - 1916  
Parker Noble Berry (1915-1916 remodeling)**

**Contributing**

Description: Two-story brick and stucco building / Prairie & Sullivan-esque influences. The building occupies a corner lot and has a party wall to the north. The building's Main Street elevation combines red brick with stucco in horizontal bands, including a parapet band of red brick. Second-floor windows are outlined with red brick and ornamented with Sullivan-esque-style terra cotta ornament. The first floor storefront was remodeled circa 1950s with an aluminum canopy, large display windows and light brown brick. The side street elevation is older painted brick.

History: The building held a dry goods store in 1903, the Seelig Dry Goods store in 1909, W.T. Wiley and Co. and general merchandise in 1914. It was remodeled by an architect working at the time for Chicago architect Louis H. Sullivan, and the building shows influences of progressive architectural styles of the period, including Prairie and Sullivan-esque. It contained the Larson Furniture House from 1933 to 1986.

**906 N. Main St.  
Annie's Little Pots  
circa 1880s**

**Contributing**

Description: Two-story brick building with upper-floor bay / Queen Anne. The building has party walls and a painted-brick front facade. It retains most of its historic storefront. A wood-paneled side door leads

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to the second floor. A centrally-placed three-sided bay window on the second floor is flanked by round-arched windows with keystones. The roof parapet has been rebuilt and is plain.

History: The building had a grocery store in 1885 and 1897. It housed Cohlberg and Pierce restaurant in 1909, C.O. & P. mechanic in 1914, Gamble Skogmo, Inc. in 1941, Fahlberg's Sweet Shop in 1948, and Larson Furniture House from 1964 to 1986.

**909 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Princeton Shoe Repair  
circa 1900**

Description: One-story brick building / Vernacular Commercial. The building has party walls and a front facade of white-painted brick. Original wood-paneled storefront.

History: The building housed Unholz Brothers printing and the Bureau County Record in 1903, the Adams Express Co. in 1914, the Railway Express Agency in 1929, A.F. Landers Grocery in 1933, Nelson's Hardware in 1936, Speer Hardware in 1941 and 1948, and Kapraun Window Co. in 1964 and 1970.

**910 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Gordon Realty Systems  
circa 1890s, front remodeled 1950s**

Description: One-story brick building / Vernacular Commercial. Party-wall building with orange face brick on front facade. Aluminum canopy over storefront.

History: The building had a gentleman's furnishings store in 1885 and a confectionary in 1897. It housed Nelson P. Brood plumbing and heating in 1909, Andrew W. Burg barber and pool in 1914, John J. Groy plumbing and Harry W. Swanson electrician in 1929, and Groy's Plumbing and Heating from 1948 until at least 1980.

**911 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**vacant  
circa 1900**

Description: One-story brick building / Vernacular Commercial. The building has party walls and a front facade of white-painted brick. Original wood-paneled storefront.

History: The building housed Unholz Brothers printing and the Bureau County Record in 1903, Willer and Johnson plumbers in 1914, the Farmers Produce Co. in 1929, the Uptown Candy Store in 1933, Nelson's Hardware in 1936, the North End Coffee Shop in 1941 and 1948, and Morse Electric from 1964 until at least 1980.

**912 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Skoonerz  
circa 1900; remodeled circa 1960s**

Description: One story brick building / Vernacular Commercial. The building has party walls and a red brick facade with a corbelled parapet. Original storefronts have been bricked in and a new door and windows installed.



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History: The building housed a confectionary in 1885 and a millinery in 1897. It had the Model Shoe Store in 1903, Anderson and Anderson Shoe Store in 1920 and 1932, Charley Star's Shoe Repair in 1934 and 1948, and Dan's Pool Hall in 1964. (The facade remodeling probably dates from this last tenant.)

**913 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Three Daughters Woodworking  
circa 1900**

Description: One-story brick building / Vernacular Commercial. The building has party walls and a front facade of white-painted brick.

History: The building housed a postal sub-station in 1909 and 1914, Peterson Booteries in 1929, David Dingman Novelty Woodworking in 1936 and the Singer Sewing Machine Co. in 1941.

**915 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Covered Bridge Fudge  
circa 1900**

Description: One-story brick building / Vernacular Commercial. The building has party walls and a front facade of white-painted brick.

History: The building housed S. Nelson tailor in 1903 and 1909, George W. Walters shoemaker in 1914, the Downtown Cafe in 1929 and 1936, Andy's Shoe Repair in 1941, and Western Union in 1964.

**917 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Amma's  
circa 1900**

Description: One-story brick building / Vernacular Commercial. Wider than a single storefront, the building has party walls and a front facade of black-painted brick. A central entrance is flanked by display windows.

History: This two-storefront building housed a 5 and 10 cent store and W.G. Abel barber in 1903, John G. Allen Harnesses in 1909, Johnson and Johnson in 1914, Charley Starr Shoes in 1920 and 1934, the Swedish Home Bakery in 1929, Thompson's Bakery in 1933 and 1936, Walter J. Herman shoe repair in 1936, Henning and Sons bakery in 1948, and Willis Bakery in 1964.

**918 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Maria's Pizza II Restaurante  
circa 1860s**

Description: 3-story brick building / Italianate. The building is located on a corner, and has a party wall with the building to the south. Street facades are painted brick. The first floor has been remodeled. Upper-floor windows facing Main Street are slightly arched with keystones, with the third-floor windows taller, reflecting an old meeting hall on that floor. The building's parapet has brick corbelling and dentils. Upper floor windows facing Main either have wood boards over sash or new sash.

History: The building had a saloon in the basement and a grocery and drug store on the first floor in 1885, 1892 and 1897. It housed Palmer and Trulson drugs and paints in 1903, John Trulson Co. drugs and

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paints in 1909, the Modern Woodman of America Hall on the third floor in 1929, and Nelson Drug Store in 1964 and 1966.

**919 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Peterson's Barber Shop  
circa 1880s**

Description: One-story brick building / Italianate. Cast-metal storefront frame and cornice. Red brick front wall with the brick color partially obscured by white paint.

History: The building had a jewelry store in 1885. J.A. McDaniels dentist was in the building in 1903 and 1909, Swan Nelson tailor in 1914, John H. Kehm tailor in 1929, Harry's Electric Shop in 1933 and 1936, and Walter's Barber Shop from 1948 until at least 1980.

**923 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Antique shop  
circa 1860s**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of red brick. The storefront is largely intact, although transoms are no longer transparent and the store front door is changed. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones, and the parapet is corbelled and patterned brick.

History: The building had a jewelry store on the first floor and a milliner on the second floor in 1885 and a saloon in 1892 and 1897. It housed Elmer C. Carlson barber in 1909, Arthur J. Busch in 1914, Fred C. Leibeck barber in 1929, J. A. Warren barber in 1933, Donald D. Stevens barber in 1936, Loberg's Barber Shop in 1964, and Peterson's Barbershop in the 1970s.

**924 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Majestic Donuts  
Building circa 1880s; front facade circa 1940s and side elevation covered circa 2012**

Description: Two-story brick building / Vernacular Commercial. Building is located on corner lot and shares a party wall with the building to the north. The front facade is light-orange brick with a decorative panel below the parapet. The storefront has been filled in largely with brick and a new window and door. The side street elevation was recently re clad with fake stone and vertical metal cladding, and it has a secondary building entrance.

History: The building had a confectionary in 1885, a saloon in 1892, 1897 and 1906, the Hub Clothing Store in 1909, and a barber and billiards room in 1918. William H. Wirges soft drinks was in the building in 1929, Roggy and Sons billiards in 1933, and Ellberg Brothers lunch room in 1936 and 1941. Ellberg's Cafe and Tavern was there in 1948 and 1964, and the Corner Cafe in 1970 and 1976.

**925 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Curves  
Circa 1860s**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of red brick under a fake stone veneer. (The building is similar to 923 and 927 N. Main and they appear to have

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been built at the same time.) Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones, and the parapet is corbelled and patterned brick. The storefront is altered.

History: The building had a restaurant in 1885 and 1892 and a barber in 1897. It housed Tracey Williams cigars in 1909, Fabian Berg harnesses in 1929 and 1936, Carl J. Johnson in 1941 and Harvey L. Johnson in 1948.

**927 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Myrtle's  
circa 1860s**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has a party wall to the south and a front facade of red brick. The storefront is a historic configuration and has historic framing elements. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones, and the parapet is corbelled and patterned brick.

History: The building had a harness maker in 1885 and a billiard hall on the second floor. It had a saloon in 1892 and a jewelry store in 1897. It housed B.F. Strohl barber in 1903, John A. Omen undertaking in 1929 and 1936, Berg leather goods in 1941, Haynes leather goods in 1948 and Beaber's Lunch Room from 1964 until at least 1980.

**928 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Gleason Finance  
circa 1860s**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of red brick. (This building is similar to 930 through 952 N. Main St., and they appear to have been built at the same time.) The storefront is largely the historic configuration and has historic framing elements, including cast-iron posts, and store entrance doors. The door to the second floor is a replacement. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones. The parapet has brick corbelling and is missing the top half of the parapet.

History: The building had a "boots and shoes" store in 1885 and 1892, a hardware store in 1897, Gibbs Brothers and Co. hardware in 1903, a barber in 1906 and 1911, a post office in 1918, John A. Johnson plumbing and a postal sub-station in 1929, Washburn's Variety Store in 1933 and 1941, Taylor's Variety Store in 1948, Princeton Clean Towel Service in 1964, and Resor Music Company in the early 1970s.

**930 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Juniper and Mae  
circa 1860s**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of red brick. The storefront is largely the historic configuration, but has newer framing. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones. The parapet has brick corbelling.

History: The building had a store selling wood and wicker baskets on the first floor and furniture on the second in 1885, 1892 and 1897. P.G. Larson furniture and undertaking was in the building in 1903, 1906 and 1911. Johnson and Johnson was in the building in 1914 and a variety store was there in 1918. P.J. Anderson & Son shoes was in the building in 1929 and 1933, while V.A. Anderson clothing was there from 1936 until at least 2009.

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**934 N. Main St.  
HC Craft Mall  
circa 1860s**

**Contributing**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of red brick. The storefront has been rebuilt. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones and have smaller replacement windows. The parapet has brick corbelling.

History: The building had a restaurant and confectionary in 1885, 1892 and 1897, Brems bakery and restaurant in 1903, 1906 and 1909, a bakery and restaurant in 1911, Dreamland Theatre in 1914, Edward C. Uthoff bakery in 1929, 1933, 1936 and 1941, the Farm Air Company in 1948, and the Bonco Products Co. in 1964.

**938 N. Main St.  
Ann's Antiques  
circa 1860s**

**Contributing**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of red brick. The storefront is largely the historic configuration and has historic framing elements, including cast-iron posts, and store entrance doors. The door to the second floor is a replacement. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones. A former round-arched door is split with 942 N. Main. The parapet has brick corbelling.

History: The 1885, 1892 and 1897 Sanborns show a men's clothing store here. In 1903, the Hub men's furnishing goods was here. A clothing store was here in 1906, while a warehouse was here in 1911. Fred C. Liebeck barber was here in 1914, a grocery store was here in 1918, and Fred A. Washburn variety store was here in 1929. The building held Simon S. Johnson furniture in 1936, the Standard Oil Co. and Princeton Electric Sales and Service in 1948, and Goodrum's Standard Service and the Gospel Book Store in 1964 and 1970.

**942 N. Main St.  
Sundance Gallery  
circa 1860s**

**Contributing**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of red brick. The storefront is largely the historic configuration and has historic framing elements, including cast-iron posts, and store entrance doors. The door to the second floor is a replacement. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones. A former round-arched door is split with 938 N. Main. The parapet has brick corbelling.

History: A grocery store was in the building in 1885, 1892 and 1897. The building housed W.A. Hamlin grocery in 1903 and 1906, and an unnamed grocery in the 1911 Sanborn. The building had Elmer E. Townsend grocery in 1914, and an unnamed grocery in 1918. The Larkin Co. grocers was in the building in 1929, 1933 and 1936, while Kroger's was in the building in 1941. The building held O.K. Rubber Welders from 1948 until at least 1976.

**944 N. Main St.  
Milk Mustache**

**Contributing**

**Princeton North Main Street  
Historic District**

Name of Property

**Bureau, Illinois**  
County and State

**circa 1860s**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of painted brick. The storefront is largely the historic configuration, but has been somewhat modernized. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones. The parapet has brick corbelling.

History: The building had a grocery store in 1885, 1892 and 1897. Frank L. Eckdahl clothier was in the building from 1903 to at least 1929. A successor firm, Frank L. Eckdahl & Son clothier, was in the building from 1933 until at least 1970.

**948 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Flour House**

**circa 1860s**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of painted brick. The storefront is largely the historic configuration with modifications. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones. The parapet has brick corbelling.

History: The building had a clothing store in 1885 and a drug store in 1892 and 1897. The Vandusen's Drug Store was listed as in the building in 1903, 1906, 1909, 1911 and 1914. From 1919 to 1978, the building housed the Priestly Hardware Co.

**950 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Zearing Computer**

**circa 1860s**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of painted brick. The storefront is largely the historic configuration and has historic framing elements, including cast-iron posts, and store entrance doors. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones. The parapet has brick corbelling.

History: A hardware store is believed to have been in the building from its construction until 1983, under different ownerships. Priestly Hardware was here the longest from 1881 to 1983.

**952 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Beetz Me**

**circa 1860s**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building has party walls and a front facade of painted brick. The storefront is largely the historic configuration and has historic framing elements, including cast-iron posts, and store entrance doors. The door to the second floor is a replacement. Second-floor windows are round-arched with keystones. The parapet has brick corbelling.

History: A hardware store is believed to have been in the building from its construction until 1983, under different ownerships. Priestly Hardware was here the longest from 1881 to 1983.

**Southeast corner of N. Main St. and E. Elm Pl.**

**Non-contributing**

**Parking lot**

**956 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Princeton North Main Street  
Historic District**

Name of Property

**Bureau, Illinois**  
County and State

**Cabbage Rose  
1856**

Description: Three-story brick building / Italianate. Located on a corner lot, the building has a party wall to the south and street facades of painted brick. The two storefronts are largely the historic configurations and has historic framing elements. Upper floor windows have flat lintels. The parapet has brick corbelling.

History: The building held the National Hotel in 1876 and 1877. A grocery store was in it in 1885, along with a drug store. The Hotel Powell was in the building in 1897, while Seelig dry goods was there in 1903 and 1908. The Knox Hotel was here in 1906, 1911, and 1914. The building held the Northern Hotel in 1929 and 1933 and the Hotel Princeton in 1936. It was the Northern Hotel in 194 through at least 1962, while the Northern Cafe occupied part of the first floor from 1950 to at least 1970.

**1001 N. Main St.  
Sophisticuts  
circa 1860s**

**Contributing**

Description: Two-story brick building / Italianate. The building is on a corner lot and has a party wall with the building to the north. Street elevations are red brick. The entrance is on the corner and has replacement doors. Second-floor windows have replacement sash. There is a bricked-in window above the entrance.

History: The building housed a tin shop in 1885, a dry goods store in 1892 and 1897, the Palace bowling alley in 1903, the Bureau County Record in 1909 and 1914, the Bureau County Tire Company in 1929, 1933, and 1936, the Royal Blue Super Market in 1941 and 1948, and the Chicago Bearing and Power Drive Co. in the 1970s.

**1003-1005 N. Main St.  
BC Tech  
Building built by 1885**

**Contributing**

Description: One-story brick building / Arts-and-Crafts. Storefront has historic configuration.

History: The building had a meat market in 1885, 1892 and 1897. It housed the North Star Meat Market in 1903 and 1909, the Star Meat Market in 1914 and 1929, the Star Market in 1933 and 1936, Daisy's Ice Cream Co. in 1941, Weissenburger's Farm and Home Equipment in 1948, and the Del Monte Heating Co. in 1964.

**1007 N. Main St.  
Rodeo Tacos  
Building built by 1885**

**Contributing**

Description: One-story brick building / Arts-and-Crafts. Storefront has historic configuration.

History: The building was vacant in 1885 and had a harness maker in 1892 and a saloon in 1897. It housed the Princeton Plumbing and Heating Co. in 1914, the Amco Service Store in 1929, Foster's

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Wallpaper Store in 1933 and 1936, the Commercial Trading Co. in 1941 and 1948, and White Brothers Monuments from 1964 until at least 1976.

**1009 N. Main St.**

**National Register listed**

**American Woman's League Building  
1910**

**Helpfenstellar, Hirsch & Watson / Hed & Holmes**

Description: One-story stucco-clad building / Arts and Crafts - Mission Revival. Bungalow-like building built for woman's group. Cross-gable roof. Stone work over entrance and under roof eaves decorated with stylized heads and flowers.

History: The building was built for the American Woman's League, which occupied the building from 1910 to 1920. Helpfenstellar, Hirsch & Watson was a St. Louis, Missouri, firm hired by the founder of the League, magazine publisher Edward Gardner Lewis, who published *Woman's Magazine* and *Woman's Farm Journal*. Five classes of buildings were designed for the League by this firm, depending upon size of chapter. The Princeton chapter house was the only "Class IV" chapter headquarters building believed to be built according to this scheme, and it was meant to house 140 to 200 members. After the League disbanded, the building was then owned by the City of Princeton from 1920 to 1980, and it was the North End Library from 1929 to 1980. Since then it has been in private hands and now is occupied by an Allstate Insurance office. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places under the "American Woman's League Chapter Houses Thematic Resource" nomination.

**1019 N. Main St.**

**Contributing**

**Tri-County Opportunities Council  
Building built by 1885**

Description: Two-story brick building with cast-concrete-block front facade / Vernacular Commercial. The storefront retains historic framing elements. The side elevation is red brick.

History: The building had a general store in 1885 and a harness and carriage maker in 1897. It housed Jackson and Hiddleton farm implements and machinery in 1903, 1909 and 1914. The Bureau County Farm Bureau was in the building from 1929 to at least 1948. Hensel Bros. Co. was in the building in 1964.

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Historic District**

Name of Property

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Commerce

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1856-1967

**Significant Dates**

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation** (if applicable)

**Architect/Builder**

Berry, Parker Noble

Helpfenstellar, Hirsch & Watson



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

The Princeton North Main Street Historic District in Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois, is locally significant under National Register Criteria A in the areas of Commerce as a physical exemplification of Princeton's evolution over time as a vibrant local commercial center in Bureau County in the 19th and 20th centuries. The district is one of two historic centers of commercial and retail in Princeton, the other being the commercial district along South Main Street adjacent to Courthouse Square. (That area is being nominated separately to the National Register of Historic Places as the Princeton South Main Street-Courthouse Square Historic District.)

The district developed as Princeton's second downtown, built in response to the 1854 coming of the railroad to Princeton and the construction of a train depot at this location. It is comprised of the commercial buildings that developed in close proximity to the train station. The district contains roughly three blocks of largely commercial buildings along North Main Street, West Long Street, and East Elm Place that were built during this downtown area's historic period of development.

The district is further eligible under Criteria C in the area of Architecture as an intact collection of commercial buildings representing architectural styles from the mid-19th to the mid-20th centuries. The district's buildings exemplify building types and styles commonly found in small-town American towns and cities. Two-part and one-part commercial block building configurations dominate the district's streetscape. Dominant styles include the Italianate and Arts-and-Crafts, but there are examples of the Queen Anne, Prairie, Mid-Century Modern, and Vernacular Commercial styles. The district retains good integrity and a sense of visual "density" and place, and it exemplifies dominant architectural expressions of its period of significance.

The period of significance begins in 1856, which marks the date of construction of the earliest extant building in the district, and ends in 1967, the fifty-year cut off for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The district's pattern of uses as a significant commercial and retail area for the city of Princeton continued up to the fifty-year cut off of 1967 and continues to this day.

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

**History of Princeton**

The first ethnic-European settlers arrived in the Princeton area in 1831 as part of a religious group that had organized in the East before migrating to the new "West." The Hampshire Colony, as the group was known, were members of the Congregational faith. They formed their group in Northampton, Massachusetts, and it included persons from the neighboring communities of Belchertown, Amherst, Springfield, Conway, and Warwick, as well as Putney, Vermont.<sup>1</sup>

Princeton was originally called Greenfield, but when the town was platted in 1832, officials decided to rename it. Legend states that the three town commissioners, John P. Blake, Roland Moseley, and John Musgrove, dropped their suggestions for a name into a hat and a neutral party drew the winner. Musgrove's choice of Princeton was selected; he was originally from Princeton, New Jersey.<sup>2</sup> The new community plan also included

<sup>1</sup> Historical Committee, *The Hampshire Colony Congregational Church – Its First Hundred Years, 1831-1931* (Princeton, Illinois: Bureau County Record, 1931), pp. 3-5.

<sup>2</sup>H.C. Bradsby, *The History of Bureau County, Illinois* (Chicago: World Publishing Company, 1885), p. 409.

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a public square, something the New England emigrants were accustomed to back home.<sup>3</sup> The commercial and governmental center of the new community grew up adjacent to this public space, now Courthouse Square, and it today is the area that comprises the Princeton South Main Street – Courthouse Square Historic District.

The rich prairie lands surrounding Princeton made it an agriculture-based community. There were acres of public land that could be purchased at the minimum government price of \$1.25 per acre.<sup>4</sup> Much early wealth was based in agriculture, and town shopkeepers and businessmen through the years were mindful of farmers' needs.<sup>5</sup>

One of the greatest and most lasting influences on Princeton's history was the coming of the railroad. In 1854, the Central Military Tract Co. laid rails into the north end of Princeton, opening up new opportunities for the small community of 2,200 residents.<sup>6</sup> Two years later the Central Military Tract merged with the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy (C.B. & Q.) Railroad.<sup>7</sup> The railroad passing through Princeton, connecting it with the wider world, remained the C. B. & Q. from 1856 until 1970.<sup>8</sup> Because of the topography of the land, the railroad tracks were laid no closer than a mile from the heart of town, including Courthouse Square and its adjacent commercial area, Princeton's original business district. Over time, a second business area grew around the depot area that still exists today and is the focus of this National Register nomination.<sup>9</sup>

Consequently, Princeton developed through the latter half of the 19th century and the 20th century with two downtown commercial areas separated by a mainly residential area. The original area, anchored by Courthouse Square, was often known as the South End, while the smaller district next to the train depot was the North End. A distance of more than twelve city blocks sits between the two commercial areas. This Midtown area is a mix of older residences and newer commercial buildings and city service buildings. The separation of the two commercial areas was most pronounced in the late 1800s through the mid-1900s. Each area maintained its own fire department, post office, and library.<sup>10</sup> The visual character of the Midtown area remains largely residential and non-historic commercial in nature and creates a sense of visual separateness between the two historic commercial areas.<sup>11</sup>

Although both commercial areas developed with similar commercial building types and similar basic kinds of businesses, including grocery stores, clothing and shoe stores, restaurants and bakeries, they developed somewhat different characters. The South Main Street commercial area next to Courthouse Square was considered during much of the city's history as being the area with finer shopping, while the North Main Street area was more utilitarian. In addition, the North Main Street area had agricultural and industrial businesses such as grain elevators dependent on a railroad to transport or receive their freight that the original South Main

<sup>3</sup> *Bureau County Republican*, July 16, 1936.

<sup>4</sup> David J. Baxter, "William Cullen Bryant: Illinois Landowner," *Western Illinois Regional Studies* 1 (Spring 1978), p. 4.

<sup>5</sup> *Bureau County Record*; 16 July 1902; *Bureau County Record*, 29 April 1914.

<sup>6</sup> Federal Writer's Project, *Princeton Guide* (Princeton, Illinois, 1939), p. 17.

<sup>7</sup> *Princeton Post*, July 9, 1856.

<sup>8</sup> "Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad." Wikipedia; [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chicago\\_Burlington\\_and\\_Quincy\\_Railroad](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chicago_Burlington_and_Quincy_Railroad) (accessed January 30, 2017).

<sup>9</sup> Isaac Smith, *Sketches of the Early Settlement and Present Advantages of Princeton* (Chicago: C. Scott Printer & Binder, 1857), p. 22.

<sup>10</sup> *Polk's Princeton (Illinois) City Directory, 1929*, (Chicago: R.L. Polk & Co., 1929) pp. 101, 104, 105. *Smith's Directory of Princeton for 1909-1910*, (Rock Island, Illinois: Edgar Smith, 1909) pp. 106, 113.

<sup>11</sup> Bureau County Historical Society - Pamela Lange, Kathleen O'Malley, Carolyn Workman, editors, *Princeton "The City of Homes" Then and Now, 1914-2014* (Princeton, Illinois: Bureau County Republican, 2014), pp. 61, 64.

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Street area did not have.<sup>12</sup> Because of this, the North Main Street area was considered less socially desirable than South Main Street.<sup>13</sup> That notion was reinforced in conversation; early residents spoke of traveling to the South End as going uptown and to the North End as going downtown.<sup>14</sup>

Ethnically, many immigrants from Sweden and Germany came to Princeton in the mid-1800s. They brought their customs and skills to this new home and many started commercial and retail businesses.<sup>15</sup> They were admired for their work ethic. An 1857 history of Princeton deemed that Swedes and Germans were a very good class of citizens. "Not only are they enterprising, industrious and intelligent, but also exhibit a high degree of refinement," stated the author.<sup>16</sup> By 1875, a quarter of the businessmen in Princeton were Swedish or German immigrants.<sup>17</sup>

A number of Princeton's pioneers were college educated. They worked to establish an excellent school system and sound government along with prosperous businesses.<sup>18</sup> Princeton is home to Illinois' first township high school, a handsome five-story building that opened to students in 1867. American poet William Cullen Bryant delivered the commencement address in 1871.<sup>19</sup>

Over the years, Princeton became recognized for its culture and fine architecture. Churches flourished, literary and musical groups were organized, and successful residents built large, stately homes.<sup>20</sup> The town was also known for hosting a variety of reformers, politicians, lecturers, and preachers. Among the noted visitors were Abraham Lincoln, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Frederick Douglass, Susan B. Anthony, Mark Twain, and Billy Sunday.<sup>21</sup> In those early years, Princeton was often referred to as the "Boston of the Middle West" because its New England-influenced style of culture.<sup>22</sup>

The wealth that Princeton displayed in its homes and cultural institutions also manifested itself in commerce. The city became a locally important center of retail and business for Bureau County. Early shops tended to cluster near the public square (now Courthouse Square) after the town was officially laid out. After the railroad reached Princeton in 1854, North Main Street began to build up with businesses, including a hotel at 956 N. Main St. in the district's oldest documented building.

On Main Street, early wood-framed storefronts were replaced in time by brick "business blocks." In October 1867, a large fire destroyed 15 business buildings in the South Main Street area. Three weeks later,

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<sup>12</sup> Smith, *Sketches of the Early Settlement and Present Advantages of Princeton*, p. 27.

<sup>13</sup> Federal Writer's Project, p. 6.

<sup>14</sup> Jane Gronwald interview, February 9, 2017.

<sup>15</sup> Smith, *Sketches of the Early Settlement and Present Advantages of Princeton*, p. 22.

<sup>16</sup> Smith, *Sketches of the Early Settlement and Present Advantages of Princeton*, p. 39.

<sup>17</sup> *Atlas of Bureau County and the State of Illinois*. (Chicago: Warner & Beers, 1875), p. 8.

<sup>18</sup> Bureau County Architectural Preservation Society, *Princeton's Architectural Heritage, A Self-Guided Tour of Princeton's Historic Homes and Buildings* (Princeton, Illinois: Republican Printing Company, 1983), p. 2.

<sup>19</sup> Richard Alston Metcalf, *Souvenir Echoes of the Princeton Township High School, 1867-1892* (Princeton, Illinois: T.P. Streeter, printer & Republican Job Department, 1892), pp. 10, 30, 86.

<sup>20</sup> *Bureau County Republican*, June 11, 1925.

<sup>21</sup> Doris Parr Leonard, *Big Bureau and Bright Prairies, A History of Bureau County, Illinois* (Moline, Illinois: Desaulniers & Co., 1968), p. 247; William and Jane Ann Moore, *Owen Lovejoy - His Brother's Blood* (Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 2004), p. 80.

<sup>22</sup> Bureau County Craft Guild, *Princeton, The City of Elms and Beautiful Homes, Princeton Pilgrimage, 1951* (Princeton, Illinois: Republican Printing Company, 1951), p. 10.

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a similar fire was even more devastating to North Main Street, destroying 25 business buildings.<sup>23</sup> The town council acted quickly to lessen the possibility of another such disaster taking place, and to make sure wooden buildings would not replace the burnt structures. By November 21, they declared that no wooden structures could be erected for business use south of the railroad.<sup>24</sup> Today, brick structures from those rebuilding years are still standing on North Main Street, and it is remarkably free of wood-frame buildings.

The establishment of the C. B. & Q. Railroad through Princeton strengthened economic ties with Chicago. It was now much easier to conduct business between the two cities. From Chicago, for example, well over two million feet of lumber were received in 1857 for Princeton's growing construction needs.<sup>25</sup> Along with building materials, the train allowed easier access to Chicago-based architects. They were brought to Princeton to design buildings for Main Street, city services, and residential areas. Sometimes the architects included Princeton's own, as in the case of Parker Noble Berry. Berry worked in Chicago, but had been raised in Princeton. He was working for noteworthy architect Louis H. Sullivan when he (Berry) drew up plans in 1915 for the remodeling of the two-story building at 902 N. Main St. for a dry goods store.<sup>26</sup>

Perhaps the most important Princeton native living in Chicago was Darius Miller. He was president of the C. B. & Q. Railroad in 1910 and commissioned a new depot for Princeton. It was dedicated in 1911 and is still in use today.<sup>27</sup> Miller was always fond of his hometown of Princeton and continued to support the community through the years. He and his wife were known to visit Princeton to attend fundraisers, including the annual ball hosted by the Fire Department and the Alumni banquet.<sup>28</sup> Adjacent to the depot is Darius Miller Memorial Park, a block of green space that contains a memorial plaque to Miller. Previously a grassy park owned by the C. B. & Q. and called Railroad Park, it was donated to the City of Princeton in 1929 by the railroad.<sup>29</sup>

In addition to the railroad, other forms of transportation had a significant influence on Princeton and its businesses. The electric railway, or interurban as it was known, served the community from 1907-1929, and it gave people more freedom to travel to other towns.<sup>30</sup> The fare from Princeton to LaSalle was fifty-five cents, with service offered every hour.<sup>31</sup> "Ladies soon talked casually of shopping in LaSalle, and people traveled to the neighboring county seat of Ottawa."<sup>32</sup> Cars stopped for anyone standing along the line, even if they were out in the country. By 1912, the "Illini Trial" from Princeton to Joliet was one of the longest lines in the state.<sup>33</sup> Eventually, automobiles made the interurban obsolete in rural areas.

The automobile had a major impact on Main Street Princeton, too, both positive and negative. As roads improved in Bureau County, people in the small towns were inclined to drive their vehicles to Princeton and shop, rather than stay in their own communities. But in later years, the construction of Interstate 80 made it

<sup>23</sup> *Bureau County Republican*, October 24 and November 7, 1867.

<sup>24</sup> *Bureau County Republican*, November 21, 1867.

<sup>25</sup> *Bureau County Republican*, February 9, 1860; Smith, *Sketches of the Early Settlement and Present Advantages of Princeton*, p. 27.

<sup>26</sup> "Pamela Lange, "Bringing Prairie Style Architecture to Bureau County: Parker Noble Berry" *Historic Illinois*, 34 (October 2011), p. 10-11.

<sup>27</sup> *Bureau County Republican*, December 8, 1910; *Bureau County Tribune*, December 22, 1911.

<sup>28</sup> *Bureau County Republican*, June 12, 1902.

<sup>29</sup> Doris Parr Leonard, *A Pioneer Tour of Bureau County, Illinois*, p. 52.

<sup>30</sup> Bureau County Historical Society - Pamela Lange, Kathleen O'Malley, Carolyn Workman, editors, *Princeton "The City of Homes" Then and Now, 1914-2014*, p. 15.

<sup>31</sup> *Bureau County Republican*, July 18, 2012.

<sup>32</sup> Duncan Bryant, "The Interurban, A Brief History from the Viewpoint of the People of Princeton, Illinois," Princeton, Illinois: Princeton Public Library History Room Collection, 1972, p. 4.

<sup>33</sup> *Bureau County Republican*, July 18, 2012.

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easier for both Bureau County and Princeton residents to drive to larger cities for shopping, dining, and entertainment.<sup>34</sup>

Princeton enjoyed their share of the pre-World War I prosperity and confidence that was sweeping across the country. Several important buildings were added to the community in the years from 1910-1916, including the American Woman's League Building at 1009 N. Main St.<sup>35</sup>

After World War I, merchants focused on growing their businesses. In the 1920s they banded together to attract as many customers to Princeton as possible. Once a month, the businessmen took out a double page ad in the local newspaper, promoting a "Big Monday" of bargains in all of their stores. "It is obvious," said Alfred Shoemaker, president of the Retail Merchants' Association, "that by this common sales day we pull a volume of trade we wouldn't otherwise. They will drive in from a distance of thirty-five miles for that where they wouldn't for an individual sale."<sup>36</sup>

The relationship between Princeton and surrounding farmland has been described as "a marriage of urban and rural endeavor."<sup>37</sup> Farmers who worked the land surrounding the community also supported the Main Street businesses. Merchants realized that and strived to accommodate farmers' needs. Along with an inventory geared toward the rural customer, some businessmen adjusted their hours during the busy growing season. They stayed open late in the evening so farm families who were in the fields and barns during the day could do their shopping at night.<sup>38</sup>

The golden age of business in Princeton is considered by many to be the 1930s through the 1950s. In the depression years, stores were open from 7:30 in the morning until 9:00 or 10:00 at night. Princeton was a Saturday night town. People used to park their cars on Main Street early and walk home. Later they would walk back to town, sit in their cars, and watch the people and visit with whomever stopped by.<sup>39</sup>

As early as 1856, newspapers had encouraged community residents to shop local. At that time, it was door-to-door salesmen who were creating a challenge for local merchants, in addition to the age-old problem of residents buying goods in another city. Charles Faxon, editor of the *Princeton Post*, urged citizens to resist the pressure of a "traveling agent," and if an item was needed, purchase it from a local business. In his words, it was "the duty of every good citizen to promote the welfare of the community in which he lives by encouraging, and patronizing home, or local interests, and business. Every individual has a direct and tangible interest in the welfare of every other individual in the community. It re-enacts upon himself. In an important sense, the welfare of one is the welfare of all."<sup>40</sup>

Later, mail order houses like Sears, Roebuck, & Co. were established in the 1880s and quickly became popular with rural Americans. Main Street merchants were concerned about the survival of their businesses. The newspapers in Princeton ran articles encouraging residents to trade in their hometown, while at the same time

<sup>34</sup> Dr. Harold Hutchinson interview, 1988.

<sup>35</sup> Bureau County Historical Society - Pamela Lange, Kathleen O'Malley, Carolyn Workman, editors, *Princeton "The City of Homes" Then and Now, 1914-2014*, pp. 8, 18, 24, 151, 157.

<sup>36</sup> *Chicago Tribune*, February 6, 1927.

<sup>37</sup> *Princeton, Illinois "Where Tradition Meets Progress"* (Princeton, Illinois: Tribune Printing Company, 1978), p. 5.

<sup>38</sup> *Bureau County Republican*, April 24, 1913.

<sup>39</sup> Jane Gronwald interview, February 9, 2017.

<sup>40</sup> *Princeton Post*, December 18, 1856.

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asking local businessmen to consider why people found the catalogs more appealing.<sup>41</sup>

Today there is a different type of mail order house that businesses must compete with – the internet. Once again consumers are finding it easy to shop at home and have goods delivered to the front door. Yet aside from the lure of internet shopping, there is a movement back to Main Street businesses and away from big box stores and malls. Townspeople and visitors alike are re-discovering the small-town charm and unique shops of Princeton's historic Main Street.

**Commerce in the Princeton North Main Street Historic District**

The Princeton North Main Street Historic District exemplifies the town's history as a significant commercial center for Bureau County. As such, the district historically has been the location over time for many commercial and retail establishments of the sort typical and characteristic of such Illinois towns, and served local farmers with agricultural-related businesses, including farm-implement stores. Retail and other types of commerce continued to be a strong component of this commercial area into the 1960s and later.

Rail transportation and the establishment of Princeton's first train station adjacent to the district in 1854 encouraged the development of commerce near the station, extending down Main Street towards the south. This became one of Princeton's two main commercial areas over the next century, along with the earlier and larger commercial area on South Main Street adjacent to Courthouse Square. As this North Main Street commercial district developed, it became the location for many retail and commercial establishments, including groceries, shoe and clothing stores, drug stores, printing shops, meat markets, millinery shops, fraternal halls, billiard parlors, saloons, harness and carriage makers, barbers, farm implement stores, undertakers, an early theater, and a hotel.

The following is a sampling of downtown businesses and other property functions based on available city directories, Sanborn fire insurance maps, newspaper articles, and other documents. More information about specific buildings and their functions can be found in the building catalog in Section 7.

The Princeton North Main Street Historic District has been the location of a plethora of small-scale retail shops and other establishments of the kind that once thickly populated small-town downtown areas. Examples from the 900-block of South Main Street include 901 N. Main, the location of automobile service and parts stores throughout its history, including the Princeton Tire Service. Dry goods stores were in the building at 902 N. Main both before and after its Sullivanesque-Prairie remodeling in 1916 by Parker Noble Berry. It later was the home for the Larson Furniture House from 1933 to 1986. 906 N. Main St. had a grocery store in 1885 and 1897, Cohlberg and Pierce restaurant in 1909, and Fahlberg's Sweet Shop in 1948. The one-story storefront buildings from 1909 to 1919 N. Main St. housed a variety of retail and business establishments, including (working from south to north and to name only a few) a printer in 1903, the Railway Express Agency in 1929, Kapraun Window Co. in 1964, Willer and Johnson plumbers in 1914, the North End Coffee Shop in 1941 and 1948, Peterson Booteries in 1928, S. Nelson tailor in 1903 and 1909, Western Union in 1964, a 5 & 10 cent store in 1903, John G. Allen Harnesses in 1909, the Swedish Home Bakery in 1929, Willis Bakery in 1964, Harry's Electric Shop in 1933 and 1936, and Walter's Barber Shop from 1948 until at least 1980. 910 N. Main St. housed a gentleman's furnishings store in 1885 and a confectionary in 1897. Later in the 20th century, plumbers and electricians were in the building until at least 1980. 912 N. Main St. had a millinery shop in 1897, the Model Shoe Store in 1903, and Dan's Pool Hall in 1964. The building at 918 N. Main St. had a

<sup>41</sup> Newspaper article from Princeton Public Library, newspaper unknown, date possibly 1916.

**Princeton North Main Street  
Historic District**

Name of Property

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grocery and drug store on the first floor and a basement saloon in 1885, 1892 and 1897. It later had stores selling drugs and paints in 1903 and 1909. The Modern Woodman of America meeting hall was on the building's third floor in 1929. In the 1960s the building housed the Nelson Drug Store.

923 N. Main had a jewelry store on the first floor and a milliner on the second floor in 1885. It housed barbers by 1909 and afterwards into the 1970s. The building at 924 N. Main had a confectionary in 1885, a saloon from at least 1892 to 1906, the Hub Clothing Store in 1909, and a billiards room in 1918. Ellberg Brothers lunch room occupied the building in 1936 and 1941, and under the name Ellberg's Cafe and Tavern remained until at least 1964. The Corner Cafe was here in the 1970s. 925 N. Main St. had a restaurant in 1885 and 1892 and a barber in 1897. Tracey Williams's cigars was here in 1909 and Fabian Berg harnesses in 1929 and 1936. Next door at 927 N. Main St., a harness maker was present in 1885 on the first floor, while a billiard hall was on the second floor. It had a saloon in 1892 and jewelry store in 1897. John A. Omen undertaking was here in 1929 and 1936, leather goods stores were present in the 1940s, and Beaber's Lunch Room was located in the building from at least 1964 until 1980.

930 N. Main St. had stores selling wood and wicker baskets on the first floor and furniture on the second floor in 1885, 1892 and 1897. P.G. Larson furniture and undertaking was in the building in 1903, 1906 and 1911. A variety store was present in 1918, P.J. Anderson & Son shoes was there in 1929 and 1933, and V.A. Anderson clothing was there from 1936 until at least 2009. 934 N. Main St. had a restaurant and confectionary in 1885, 1892 and 1897, Brems bakery and restaurant in 1903, 1906 and 1909, Dreamland Theatre in 1914, and a bakery from at least 1929 through 1941. 938 N. Main St. had a men's clothing store in 1885 through at least 1906. A grocery store was here in 1918 and Fred A. Washburn variety store was here in 1929. A furniture store occupied the building in 1936 and a gospel book store was here in 1964. A grocery store was in 942 N. Main St. as early as 1885 and as late as 1941, when Kroger's occupied the building. A welding company was here from at least 1948 until the 1970s. 944 N. Main St. also had a grocery store in the 1880s and 1890s, while Frank L. Eckdahl clothier was here from 1903 until at least 1929. A successor store, Frank L. Eckdahl & Son clothier, was present from 1933 until at least 1970. 948 N. Main St. had drug stores during much of its early existence, until at least 1914. From 1919 to 1978, it housed the Priestly Hardware Co. Buildings at 950 and 952 N. Main St. also were part of Priestly Hardware.

956 N. Main St., the oldest documented building in the district, held a hotel by a succession of names over time. In 1876 and 1877, the National Hotel was here. By 1897, the Hotel Powell was here, while the Knox Hotel was in the building in 1906, 1911 and 1914. The Northern Hotel was her in 1929 and 1933, while the Hotel Princeton in 1936. The Northern Hotel was here from 1941 until at least 1962. The building also housed retail establishments, including a grocery store, drug store, Seelig dry goods, and the Northern Cafe.

The 1000-block of South Main had a number of retail and business establishments, several of which directly served farmers. 1001 N. Main St. had a dry goods store in 1892 and 1897, the Palace bowling alley in 1903, the Bureau County Record in 1902 and 1914, the Bureau County Tire Company in the late 1920s and 1930s, and the Royal Blue Super Market in the 1940s. The building at 1003-1005 N. Main St. had meat markets and grocery stores from at least 1885 until 1936, Daisy's Ice Cream Co. in 1941, Weissenburger's Farm and Home Equipment in 1948 and the Del Monte Heating Co. in 1964. 1007 N. Main St. was vacant in 1885, but housed a harness maker in 1892. It contained the Princeton Plumbing and Heating Co. in 1914, the Amco Service Store in 1929, Foster's Wallpaper Store in the 1930s, and the Commercial Trading Co. in the 1940s. 1019 N. Main St. had a general store in 1885 and a harness and carriage maker in 1897. It was the location of Jackson and

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Hiddleton farm implements and machinery in the early 1900s, while the Bureau County Farm Bureau was housed here from 1929 until at least 1948.

The one-story building at 14 E. Elm Pl. has been the home of the Bureau County Record Printing Co., while the two-story building at 24 W. Long St. was occupied by Seth L. Bradley agricultural implements from 1885 to 1891. It then was the location for the Perfection Livestock Remedy Co. in 1909, the Princeton Hide Fur and Wool Company in 1941 and 1948, and Leonard's Repair Shop and Used Furniture Mart from 1964 to the 1970s.

One institutional building in the district is the American Woman's League Building at 1009 N. Main St. It was built to house a political organization founded by magazine publisher Edward Gardner Lewis in 1908. The League promoted feminist causes, especially the women's suffrage movement, while also touting Lewis's women's magazines. After 1920, the City of Princeton owned the building until 1980 and it was the North End Library from 1929 to 1980. Since then the building has been in private hands.

**Building types and architectural styles in the Princeton North Main Street Historic District**

The Princeton North Main Street Historic District is a cohesive collection of commercial buildings representing property types and architectural styles from the mid-19th to the mid-20th centuries. They are local examples of property types exemplary of building construction in small towns and cities during the district's period of development. These types include commercial building types such as one-part and two-part commercial blocks.

In addition, these properties collectively are local examples of architectural styles that exemplify the period of the district's development. Many buildings are Italianate or Arts-and-Crafts in style or manner of design. Others are fine examples of the Queen Anne, Sullivaneseque / Prairie, Mission Revival, and Vernacular Commercial.

Taken together, these buildings exemplify the historic themes of commerce that define this historic area of Princeton. These property types are collectively locally significant Princeton examples of buildings that, in Illinois towns large and small, typically make up their historic downtowns.

Like most buildings from the 19th and early 20th centuries, most buildings within the Princeton North Main Street Historic District were constructed using locally-available building materials with specialty products ordered and shipped by rail from across the country. The city's location on a major railroad line made obtaining distant products easier and more affordable.

Very little is known about the architects and builders that designed and constructed most buildings within the district. As was typical in many small towns and cities, many buildings may have been designed by local builders without an architect's direct involvement. Since most commercial buildings had party walls and only one street elevation that needed stylistic embellishment, their design could be readily handled with the assistance of widely available manufacturer catalogs through which building components were sold, including storefront systems and cornices.

Along with these more vernacular buildings, the district is embellished with a handful of visually distinctive buildings, some by respected architects. The Sullivaneseque-Prairie-style commercial building at 902 N. Main St. was remodeled in 1915-1916 by Parker Noble Berry, a Princeton native working at that time for famed



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Chicago architect Louis H. Sullivan. Built in 1910, the American Woman's League Building at 1009 N. Main St. combines the influence of the Mission Revival with the Arts-and-Crafts and is the work of St. Louis architects Helfenstellar, Hirsch & Watson, who designed a number of chapter houses for the organization throughout Illinois.

*Building types*

Using terminology popularized by architectural historian Richard Longstreth in his book, *The Buildings of Main Street*, the most common property type in the Princeton North Main Street Historic District is the **two-part commercial block**. It is the most common configurations of what popularly are known as “storefront buildings.” Two-part commercial blocks have first floors devoted to retail establishments that historically made themselves known to passersby with large glass storefronts. Above, on upper floors housing apartments, offices or meeting halls, smaller windows often decorated with ornamental lintels pierce walls usually clad with brick. Decorative-metal cornices typically topped roof parapets of 19th-century buildings, although many buildings nationwide lost such decoration in the post-World War II era. Later 20th-century buildings more often had decorative parapets of brick and stone. Two-part commercial blocks occasionally had decorative bays projecting from upper floors.

The North Main Street District is well represented with 20 two-part commercial blocks. A visually-distinctive group of them are those from 928 to 952 N. Main St., built circa 1860s with upper-floor round-arched windows are brick-corbelled parapets.

There are 11 **one-part commercial blocks**, including those at 1003-1005 and 1007 N. Main, built by 1885. One-part commercial blocks are one story high and consist just of storefronts, looking rather like two-part commercial blocks without the upper floors. Another kind of one-story commercial building is the **enframed block**, where wall surfaces surround a large expanse of storefront glass. A local example is the Princeton Tire Co. building at 901 N. Main St., built in 1929-1930, with its expansive storefront windows sheltered under an automotive drive-through.

*Architectural styles*

Many of the buildings in the district are **Italianate** in style. The Italianate was an extremely popular architectural style which began in England as part of the 19th-century Picturesque movement, loosely based on the Renaissance farmhouses of rural northern Italy. The style rose to prominence in the 1840s for high-style houses and commercial buildings in East Coast cities, then was disseminated throughout the United States during the next quarter century. Decorative elements of the style as typically found in buildings—prominent window lintels or hoods, bracketed cornices—lent themselves to prefabrication and sale through catalogs or dealers. As a result, the style could be readily adopted and used by a variety of builders, both sophisticated and naive. The style's popularity began to decline in the 1870s, but vernacular use continued into the 1880s. Characteristics of the style as found in commercial architecture included a symmetrically arranged masonry facade with cast-iron storefront columns and lintel; tall and narrow upper-story windows, often with arched openings and decorative window ornament; and a projecting cornice with brackets and panels, sometimes of wood but increasingly of metal. Such buildings in the context of towns and small cities such as Princeton were typically two or three stories in height, although the style can be seen in taller buildings where such made financial sense.

There are many examples of the Italianate style identified in the district. The earliest documented building in the district is the former hotel building at 956 N. Main St., built in the Italianate style and dating from 1856. The

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already-mentioned row at 928 to 952 N. Main St. is a visually-coherent group of Italianate-style buildings. 923, 925, and 927 N. Main St. are also fine examples of the style, as is 24 W. Long St.

The **Queen Anne** style is used for a number of buildings in the district. Originally based in England on a revival of late 17th and early 18th-century English architecture, the Queen Anne style evolved in America to become the quintessential Victorian-era style in small towns and cities. It is visually elaborate, with typically a plethora of building materials and forms creating building forms of complexity. For commercial buildings, this typically takes the form of projecting bays and turrets and applied ornament, including terra cotta and molded brick details. An example of the style in the district is the building at 906 N. Main St. with its upper-floor projecting bay.

Many buildings in the district display the influence of the **Arts and Crafts**. Perhaps more a way of conceptualizing design than an actual style, the Arts and Crafts is based on architectural ideals espoused by a number of 19th-century architectural and art critics, including the English John Ruskin and William Morris. Arts-and-Crafts tenets advocated for the "honest" use of building materials, emphasizing their inherent colors and textures as a significant focus of building ornament. A number of buildings in the district have relatively little applied ornament that is based on historic design esthetics such as Classicism or medievalism, but they have beauty and visual appeal from contrasts of building colors, sometimes creating geometric designs in exterior walls.

Although many buildings with identifiable styles such as the Italianate can also be said to express the Arts and Crafts, specifically Arts-and-Crafts buildings typically were built between roughly 1890 and the 1930s, with many from the decade and a half before World War I. Examples of Arts-and-Crafts buildings in the district include the one-story buildings at 1003-1005 and 1007 N. Main St.

The **Prairie** architectural style can be seen in the design of the building at 902 N. Main St. The style originally was based on the personal design innovations of Chicago-area architect Frank Lloyd Wright, then popularized by other architects of varying talents. Designed by Parker Noble Berry, 902 N. Main St. has a brick-clad first floor and an upper-floor stucco wall with rectangular areas defined by brick. In addition, the building has terra-cotta ornament based on Louis Sullivan's personal foliate architectural ornament. Such **Sullivan-esque** decoration is unusual in the context of 1910s small-town architecture.

The design of the American Woman's League Building at 1009 N. Main St. is influenced by the Mission Revival, the Arts and Crafts, and early 20th-century bungalows. The **Mission Revival**, a style loosely based on the early colonial Spanish missions built in California during the 18th century, gained some popularity in the early 20th century as Americans became attracted to the romance of colonial American architecture of various ethnic-European origins, including Spain, France, and Holland, as well as Great Britain. It is characterized often by stucco-clad walls and rooflines that recall the varied, often rounded, parapets of historic missions.

Some buildings in the district are best categorized as built in the **Vernacular Commercial** style. Dating from the early to mid-20th century, they tend to lack any definitive stylistic influences through the use of simplified exteriors without ornamentation. Examples include 901 through 917 N. Main St., 910 and 912 N. Main St., 924 N. Main St., and 14 E. Elm Pl.

**Conclusion**

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The Princeton North Main Street Historic District is locally significant under National Register Criteria A in the areas of Commerce as a physical exemplification of Princeton's evolution over time as a vibrant local commercial center in Bureau County in the 19th and 20th centuries. The district is one of two historic centers of commercial and retail in Princeton, the other being the commercial district along South Main Street adjacent to Courthouse Square.

The district developed as Princeton's second downtown, built in response to the 1854 coming of the railroad to Princeton and the construction of a train depot adjacent to the present-day district. It is comprised of the commercial buildings that developed in close proximity to the train station. The district contains roughly three blocks of largely commercial buildings along North Main Street, West Long Street, and East Elm Place that were built during this downtown area's historic period of development.

The district is further eligible under Criteria C in the area of Architecture as an intact collection of commercial buildings representing architectural styles from the mid-19th to the mid-20th centuries. The district's buildings exemplify building types and styles commonly found in small-town American towns and cities. The district retains good integrity and a sense of visual "density" and place, and it exemplifies dominant architectural expressions of its period of significance.

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository: Bureau County Historical Society, Princeton, IL

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**Princeton North Main Street  
Historic District**

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 5.5

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	<u>41.384900</u> Latitude	<u>-89.464434</u> Longitude	3	<u>41.383229</u> Latitude	<u>-89.465754</u> Longitude
2	<u>41.383224</u> Latitude	<u>-89.464450</u> Longitude	4	<u>41.384667</u> Latitude	<u>-89.466287</u> Longitude

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

The boundaries for the Princeton North Main Street District are as follows: Starting at the intersection of North Main Street and the north property line of 1019 N. Main St., then east along said line to the east property line of said property, then south along said line and the alley east of and parallel to North Main Street to the center of East Elm Place, then east along said street to the east property line of 14 E. Elm Pl., then south along said line to the rear property line of said property, then west along said line to the alley east of and parallel to North Main Street, then south along said alley to the center of East Lasalle Street, then west along said street and West Lasalle Street to the alley west of and parallel to North Main Street, then north along said alley to the rear property line of 24 W. Long St., then west along said line to the center of North Pleasant St., then north along said street to the center of W. Long St., then east along said line to the center of North Main Street, then north along said street to the point of origin.

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

The boundaries for the Princeton North Main Street District include the most historically significant and intact concentration of the city's North Main Street historic commercial area that retains sufficient historic integrity to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. District boundaries were drawn to include major historic resources associated with the historic themes of significance to the district, while minimizing the number of non-contributing resources, especially along the district's edges, and excluding structures built outside the period of significance.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title R. Terry Tatum and Pam Lange date September 15, 2017  
organization Landmarks Illinois/  
Bureau County Historical Society telephone 773-852-9886 (Tatum)  
street & number 6434 N. Washtenaw Ave. email rttatum2@att.net  
city or town Chicago, IL state IL zip code 60645

**Princeton North Main Street  
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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **GIS Location Map (Google Earth or BING)**
- **Local Location Map**
- **Site Plan**
- **Floor Plans (As Applicable)**
- **Photo Location Map** (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

**Princeton North Main Street  
Historic District**

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**Photographs:**

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

**Photo Log**

<b>Name of Property:</b>	<u>Princeton North Main Street Historic District</u>		
<b>City or Vicinity:</b>	<u>Princeton</u>		
<b>County:</b>	<u>Bureau</u>	<b>State:</b>	<u>Illinois</u>
<b>Photographer:</b>	<u>Pam Lange</u>		
<b>Date Photographed:</b>	<u>September 6, 2016; January 13, 2017; March 14 &amp; 15, 2017</u>		

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0001

1000-block of North Main Street, east side, looking northwest from intersection of North Main Street and East Elm Place.

Photo 2 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0002

900-block of North Main Street, west side, looking northwest.

Photo 3 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0003

900-block of North Main Street, east side, looking southeast.

Photo 4 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0004

900-block of North Main Street, west side, looking northwest from intersection of North Main and LaSalle Streets.

Photo 5 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0005

24 W. Long St., looking south.

Photo 6 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0006

Brick-paved East Long Street, looking northeast towards 1000-block of North Main Street.

Photo 7 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0007

1019 N. Main St., looking east.

Photo 8 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0008

American Woman's League Building, 1009 N. Main St., looking northeast.



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Photo 9 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0009  
1007 N. Main St., looking east.

Photo 10 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0010  
956 N. Main St., looking west.

Photo 11 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0011  
952 N. Main St., looking west.

Photo 12 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0012  
938 N. Main St., looking west.

Photo 13 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0013  
930 N. Main St., looking west.

Photo 14 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0014  
Brick paving in West Marquette Street (just west of North Main Street) and (in background) 923, 925 and 927  
N. Main St., looking east.

Photo 15 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0015  
923 N. Main St., looking east.

Photo 16 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0016  
919 N. Main St., looking east.

Photo 17 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0017  
918 N. Main St., looking southwest.

Photo 18 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0018  
912 N. Main St., looking west.

Photo 19 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0019  
910 N. Main St., looking west.

Photo 20 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0020  
906 N. Main St., looking west.

Photo 21 of 25:

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IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0021  
902 N. Main St., looking northwest.

Photo 22 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0022  
Sullivan-esque-style terra-cotta detail, 902 N. Main St., looking west.

Photo 23 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0023  
909 N. Main St., looking east.

Photo 24 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0024  
901 N. Main St., looking northeast.

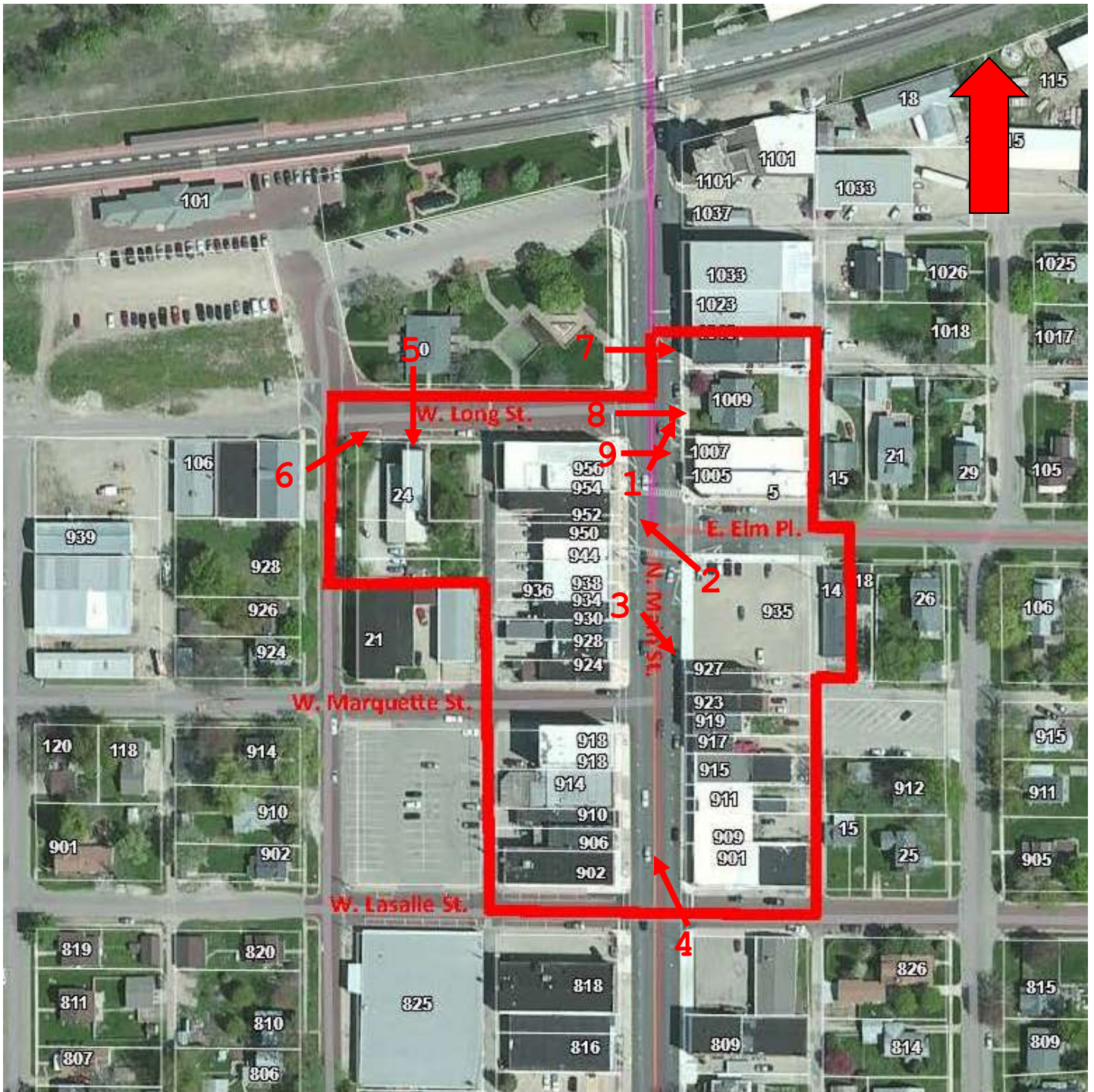
Photo 25 of 25:

IL\_Bureau County\_Princeton North Main Street District\_0025  
14 E. Elm Pl., looking south.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

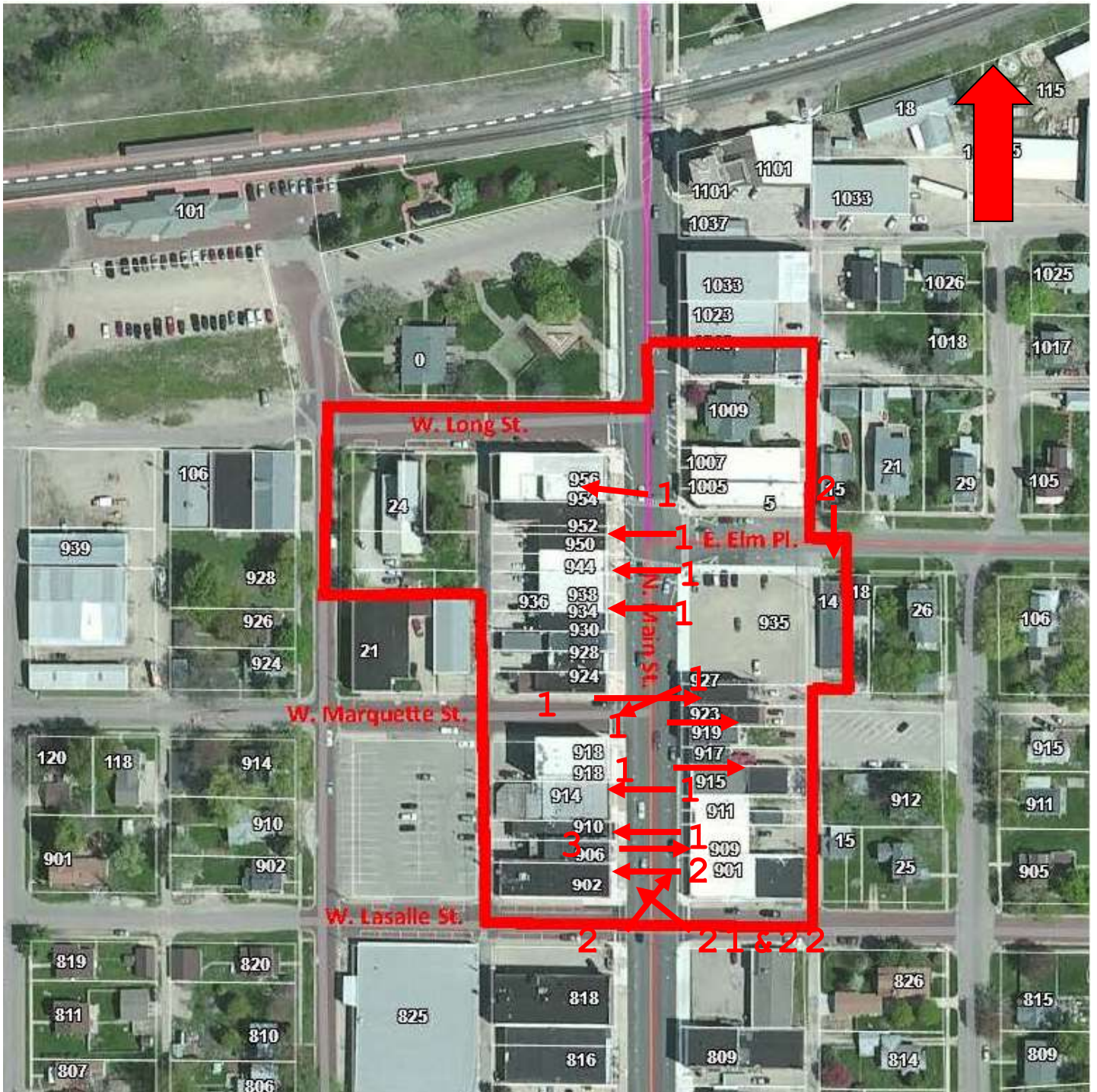
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form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

Property name: Princeton North Main Street Historic District  
Illinois, County: Bureau



Photograph key (# 1 - 9) for the Princeton North Main Street Historic District

Property name: Princeton North Main Street Historic District  
Illinois, County: Bureau



Photograph key (# 10-25) for the Princeton North Main Street Historic District

**Property name: Princeton North Main Street Historic District**  
**Illinois, County: Bureau**

**List of Figures**

(Resize, compact, and paste images of maps and historic documents in this section. Place captions, with figure numbers above each image. Orient maps so that north is at the top of the page, all document should be inserted with the top toward the top of the page.

Figure # 1 - Google Map of Princeton, Illinois, with the Princeton North Main Street Historic District marked with a red star.

Figure # 2 - Google Map of the Princeton, showing Princeton North Main Street Historic District and Princeton South Main Street – Courthouse Square Historic District

Figure # 3 - GIS map of the Princeton North Main Street Historic District.

Figure # 4 - Aerial map of Princeton North Main Street Historic District, including building addresses.

Figure # 5 - American Woman's League Building, photo date and photographer unknown.

Figure # 6 - 902 N. Main St., photo date and photographer unknown.

Figure # 7 - Interior of Priestley Hardware, which was in three buildings, 948, 950, and 952 N. Main St. (Doris Parr Leonard, *Big Bureau and Bright Prairies*).

Figure # 8 - Interior of Trulson's drugstore, 918 N. Main St. (Doris Parr Leonard, *Big Bureau and Bright Prairies*).

**Property name: Princeton North Main Street Historic District**  
**Illinois, County: Bureau**

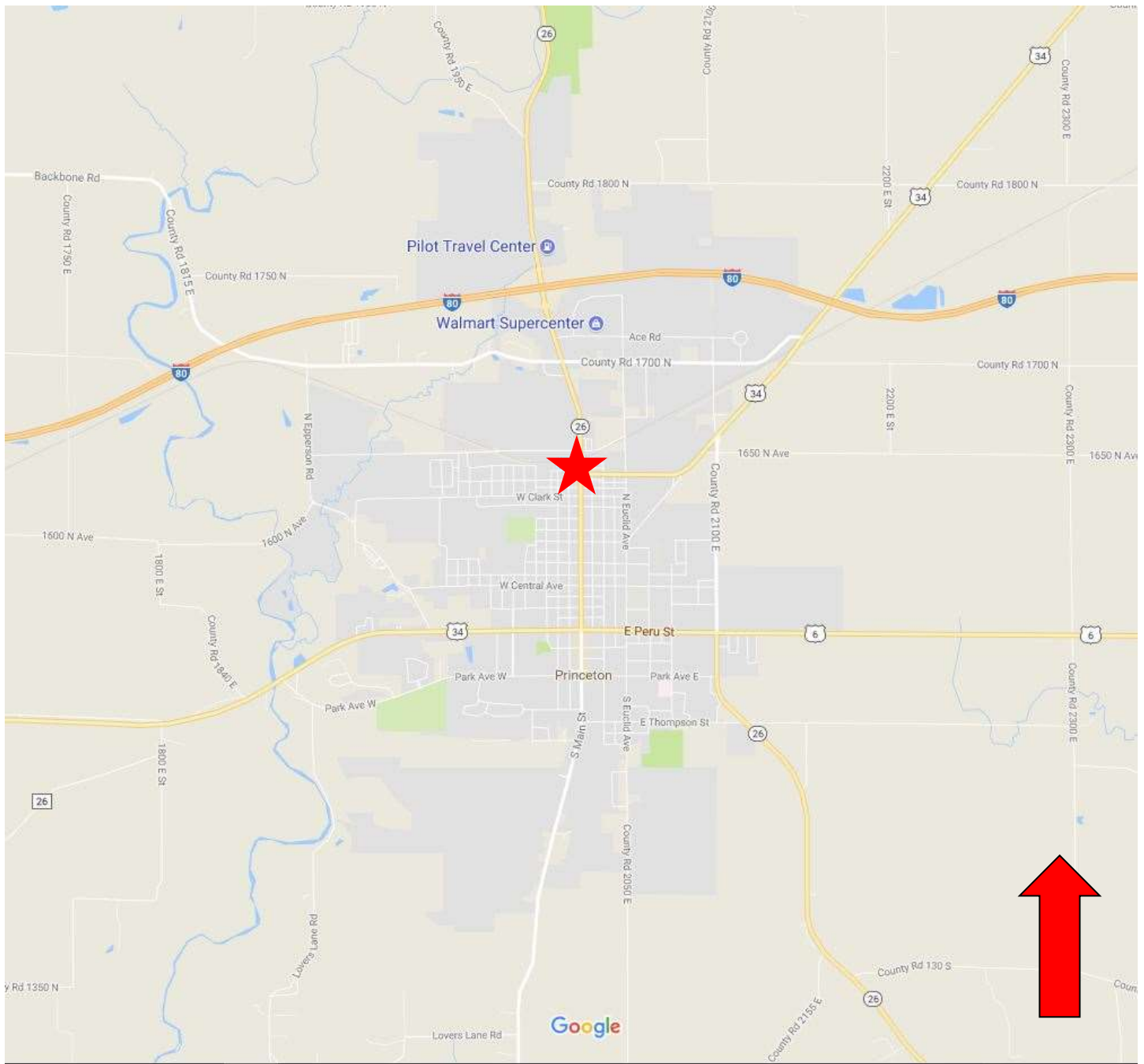


Figure # 1 - Google Map of Princeton, Illinois, with the Princeton North Main Street Historic District marked with a red star.

Property name: Princeton North Main Street Historic District  
Illinois, County: Bureau

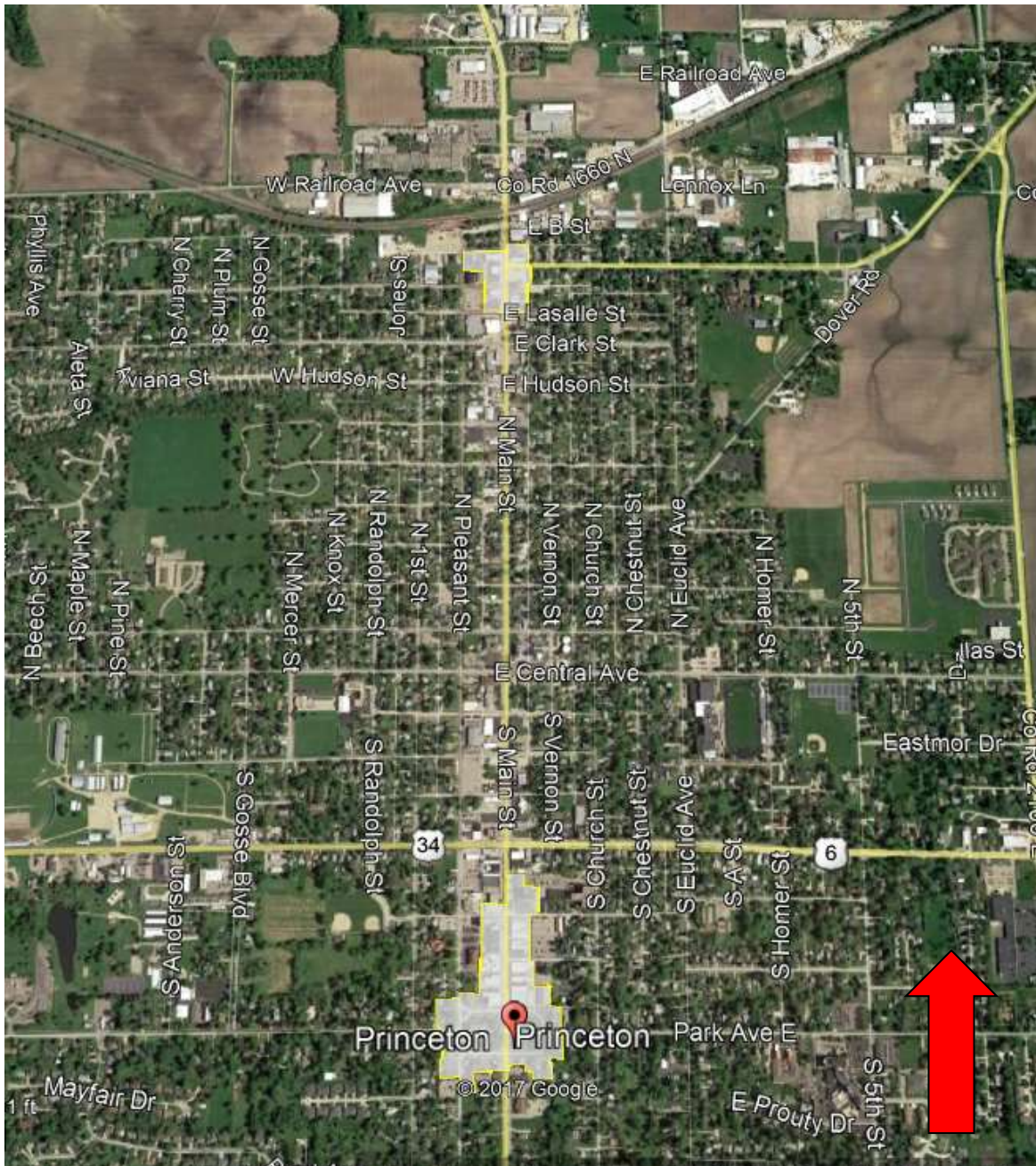


Figure # 2 – Google Map of the Princeton, showing Princeton North Main Street Historic District (shaded polygon at the top of the page) and Princeton South Main Street – Courthouse Square Historic District (shaded polygon at the bottom of the page).

Property name: Princeton North Main Street Historic District  
Illinois, County: Bureau

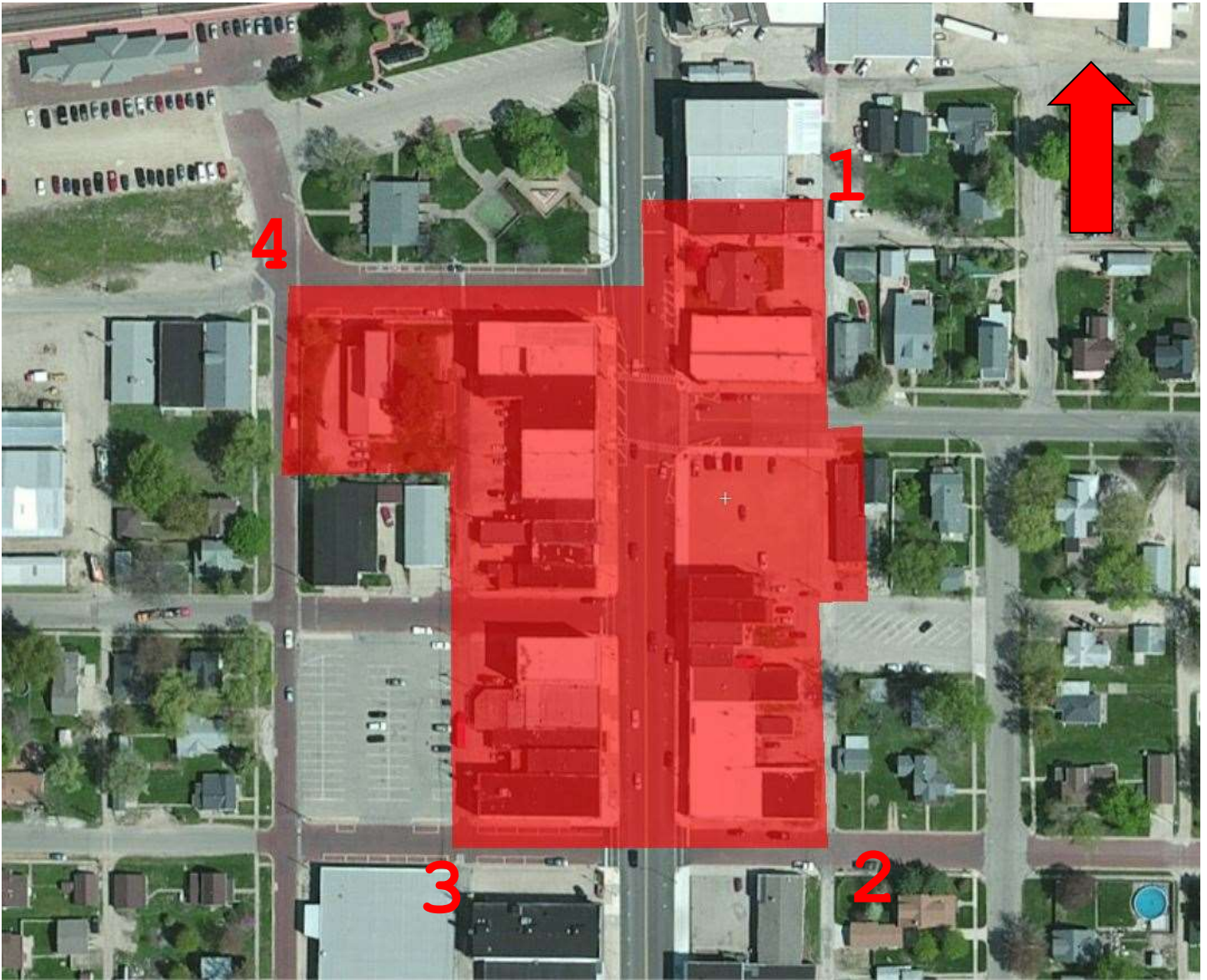


Figure # 3 - GIS map of the Princeton North Main Street Historic District

Coordinates:

- |    |           |             |
|----|-----------|-------------|
| 1. | 41.384900 | -89.464434  |
| 2. | 41.383224 | - 89.464450 |
| 3. | 41.383229 | -89.465754  |
| 4. | 41.384667 | -89.466287  |



Property name: Princeton North Main Street Historic District  
Illinois, County: Bureau

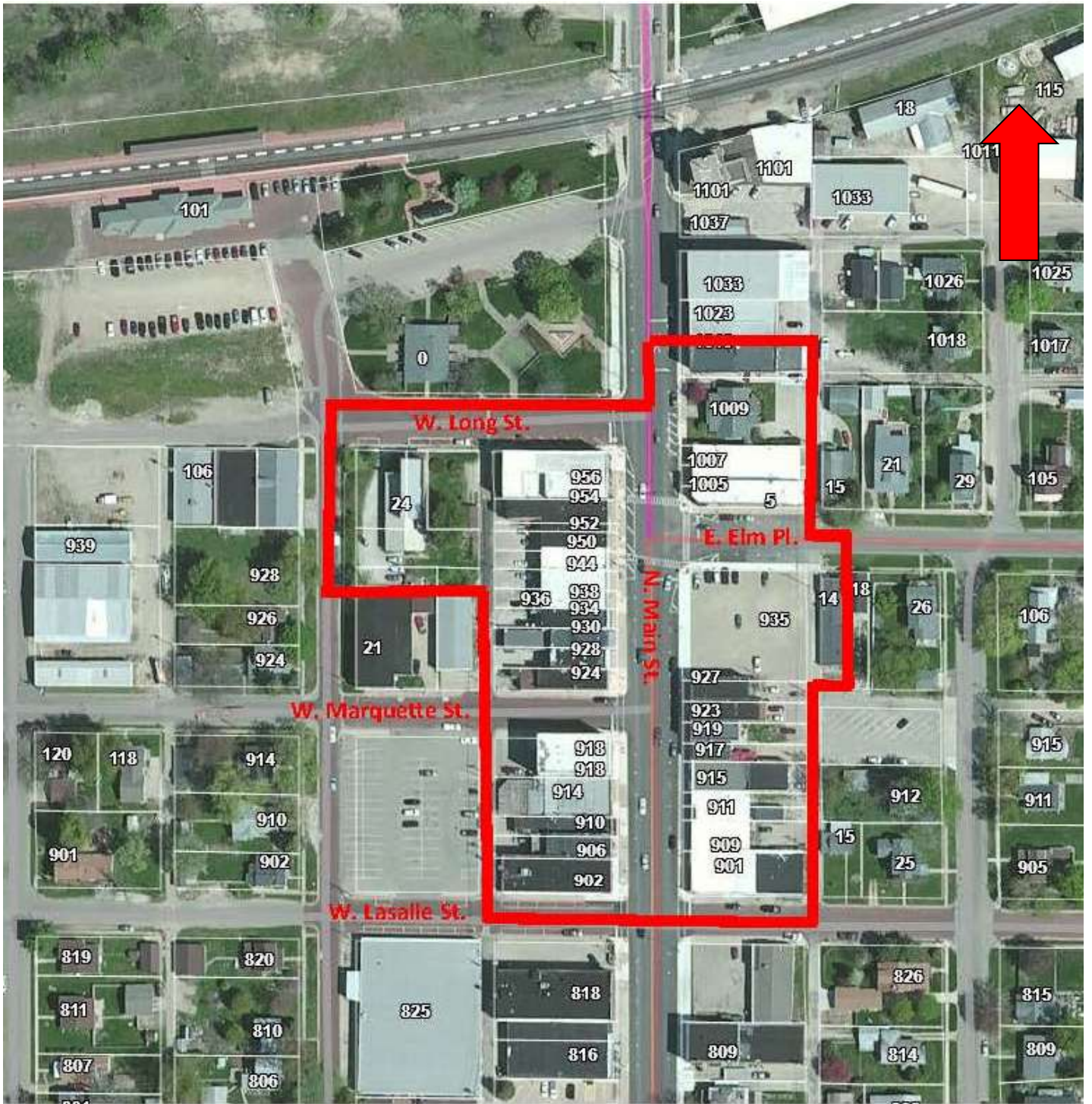


Figure # 4 - Aerial map of Princeton North Main Street Historic District, including building addresses. All buildings contribute and 935 N. Main St. is a vacant lot.

Property name: Princeton North Main Street Historic District  
Illinois, County: Bureau



Figure # 5 - American Woman's League Building, photo date unknown.



Figure # 6 - 902 N. Main St., photo date unknown.

Property name: Princeton North Main Street Historic District  
Illinois, County: Bureau



Figure # 7 - Interior of Priestley Hardware, which was in three buildings, 948, 950, and 952 N. Main St. (Doris Parr Leonard, *Big Bureau and Bright Prairies*).



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ELM PLACE

NORTH  
ILLINOIS  
26

ROD TACOS

BC TECH

Sophisticated

SOPHISTICATED  
Salon & Day Spa  
BOUTIQUE

Allstate



Anne's  
**ANTIQUES**

OPEN

SUNDANCE GALLERY

MILK MOUSTACHE

Flour House Computer Tech

Golden Years

Golden Years



9425

OPEN

H  
←

5th St



Curves GRAND OPENING

Amma's

PRINCETON TIRE SERVICE

PRINCETON TIRE SERVICE



超級 SUPER WOK

SUPER WOK  
OPEN  
11:30 AM - 10:00 PM

The Original Maria's Pizza II Restaurant









101 N. MAIN

Tri-County Opportunities Council  
Community Action Agency  
  
BUREAU COUNTY  
FOOD PANTRY



Allstate

THE ALLSTATE GROUP  
BRANSON, MISSOURI, MO.  
800-451-3000

Allstate

1005  
Allstate

OPEN

# RODEO TACOS

HAMBURGERS

OPEN

NACHOS  
BURRITOS

Major  
Lite

OPEN



AIN STREET

Cabbage Rose

Cabbage Rose





34 ILLINOIS 26  
← →

MAIN STREET

ter Tech

BOOTS  
NE!

goods & wares extraordinaire

BOOTS  
NE!

BOOTS  
NE!

BOOTS  
NE! Est. 1995

BOOTS  
NE!



Welcome



Anne's **ANTIQUES**

OPEN

SUNDA

942½

936





juniper & mae

HC Cr...

CLOSED

ELECT  
Janice  
**WAMHOFF**  
Aurora County Clerk

Dawn  
**REGLIN**  
Circuit Clerk





Curves GRAND OPENING

STOP

MAIN

PETERSON'S BARBER SHOP



OPENING

ANTIQUES - COLLECTIBLES  
RETAIL - RESALE  
CONSIGNMENT STORE

BA



PETERSON'S  
**BARBER SHOP**

919

OPEN

Handicap Access  
In Rear



**NELSON** Prescription **DRUGS** Rx

34 WEST SOUTH  
26

MAIN  
MARQUETTE

918

Rx

FedEx

SKOONERz  
Grill Bar  
"Home Of The Big One"

The Original



AHEAD





**GUIDON**  
Realty Systems

910

**ACCOUNTING**  
**SERVICES**  
**INC.**

372-14

U.S. PASSAICUM  
INDUSTRIAL GALLERY  
1/2 NORTH PLEASANT  
ONE BLOCK WEST  
THEN GO SOUTH  
THURSDAY - SAT. 10 TO 5  
NO PHONE 872-7981

Paint  
your  
own  
potter

Located in  
the Cellar of  
James Little Pot  
Walk on in -  
no appointment needed

Blue  
Light





MAIN ST

超級 SUPER WO





**PRINCE**

**PRINCETON**   
**SHOE REPAIR**

**SHOE REPAIR**

909

901

**KUMHO**  
TIRES



PRINCETON TIRE SERVICE

PRINCETON TIRE SERVICE

SHOE REPAIR

Firestone  
Firestone  
Firestone

PRINCETON TIRE SERVICE

PRINCETON  
TIRE SERVICE  
PRINCETON





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 12/4/2017      Date of Pending List: 1/4/2018      Date of 16th Day: 1/19/2018      Date of 45th Day: 1/18/2018      Date of Weekly List: 1/19/2018

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal           | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL            | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request     | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape       | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver           | <input type="checkbox"/> National        | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP             | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG             |   |

Accept       Return       Reject      1/18/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary  
Comments:

Recommendation/  
Criteria

Reviewer Barbara Wyatt      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2252      Date \_\_\_\_\_

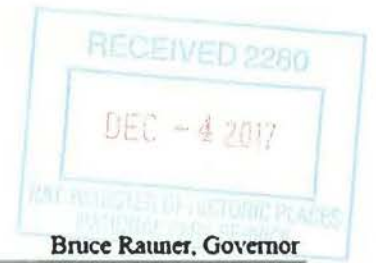
DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



## Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271  
www.dnr.illinois.gov



Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

November 30, 2017

Ms. Barbara Wyatt  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Wyatt:

Enclosed are the disks that contain the true and correct copies of the National Register nomination recommended for nomination by the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council at its October 27, 2017 meeting and signed by the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:

**Promontory Point -- Chicago, Cook County**  
**Princeton South Main Street-Courthouse Square Historic District – Princeton, Bureau County**  
**Princeton North Main Street Historic District – Princeton, Bureau County**

Please contact me at 217/785-4324 if you need any additional information. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Andrew Heckenkamp, Coordinator  
Survey and National Register program  
Illinois State Historic Preservation Office  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources

enclosures