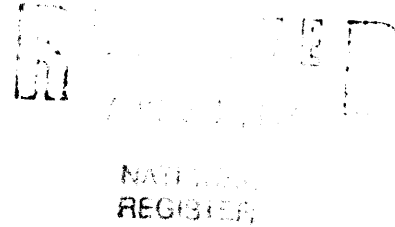


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



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

1. Name of Property

historic name Silver Lake Historic District

other names/site number 085-591-8600

2. Location

street & number 100 blocks of N. & S. Jefferson and E. & W. Main Not for publication

city or town Silver Lake N/A vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Kosciusko code 085 zip code 46982

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Stitch R. Kalston 7-16-92
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper Alonzo Byers entered in the National Register Date of Action 9/1/92

Silver Lake H.D.
Name of Property

Kosciusko County, IN
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
19	3	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
19	3	Total

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

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE: Specialty store
COMMERCE: Department store
COMMERCE: Restaurant
COMMERCE: Financial institution

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE: Specialty store
COMMERCE: Restaurant
COMMERCE: Financial institution
DOMESTIC: Multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate
Romanesque Revival
Classical Revival
Commercial Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE
walls BRICK
CONCRETE
roof ASPHALT
other METAL

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

c.1865 - c.1920

Significant Dates

NA

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory

Silver Lake H.D.
Name of Property

Kosciusko County, IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 3.4

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 16 | 592960 | 4547190
Zone Easting Northing
2 | 16 | 593190 | 4547190

3 | 16 | 593200 | 4547030
Zone Easting Northing
4 | 16 | 592960 | 4547030

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cynthia J. Brubaker

organization Portfolio Design, Inc. date January 21, 1992

street & number 222 N. College Ave., Suite 300 telephone 812/334-2488

city or town Bloomington state IN zip code 47404

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

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

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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

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

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Silver Lake Historic District

Function or Use

Historic Functions

DOMESTIC/hotel
GOVERNMENT/fire station
GOVERNMENT/post office

Current Functions

GOVERNMENT/fire station
GOVERNMENT/post office
HEALTH CARE/medical office

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Section number 7 Page 1

Silver Lake Historic District

The Silver Lake Historic District is comprised of a small collection of commercial buildings that define the town's central crossroads. The largely brick, two story buildings fill most of their lots, sit right on the sidewalk, and share exterior walls. The district stretches along the first half blocks of North and South Jefferson Street (State Road 15) and East and West Main Street (State Road 14) in this small town in south central Kosciusko County. Decorative concrete block is the second most common building material after brick among this group of late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings. This significant mass of substantially intact historic buildings successfully portrays the feeling of a historic small town business district.

Although the total number of resources in the district is only 22, 19 of which are contributing, and the scale of the buildings is quite small, the district portrays a feeling of expansiveness due to the extreme width of the two main streets along which it stretches. Architectural styles represented in the district include Italianate, Romanesque and Classical Revival, and Twentieth Century Commercial. These mostly one and two story buildings have survived the years with relatively few character-altering changes. Some have received modern facades, shake shingle roofed canopies at sidewalk level, and covered window openings, however, the only noncontributing buildings are three built since the period of significance.

One lone, mature street tree grows on the west side of South Jefferson Street, and one lone street bush grows on the north side of East Main Street. The lower density residential areas that immediately surround the district are heavily landscaped with many mature trees, which adds further contrast between the commercial district and the surrounding town of large single family homes.

ITALIANATE

The commanding presence of the district is established by the circa 1865, Italianate building at 103 North Jefferson, the northwest corner of the central intersection (photo 2). This two story, painted brick structure gives the appearance of an arcaded facade with its barrage of round arched window and door openings on both levels and along both facades. The main or east facade is composed of three and one half bays. Each of the full bays has three openings on both floors. The half bay, between the two northernmost bays, has one narrow, round arched opening with a wood panel door on the ground level. The northernmost bay and its adjacent half bay appear to have been added at a later date.

The two southernmost bays are almost identical. Both have a central round arched opening with a recessed double, wood panel and glass door, which is flanked by two round arched openings with large single-paned windows and a

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Section number 7 Page 2

Silver Lake Historic District

multi-light, fan-shaped transom above. These openings are evenly spaced, of uniform height, and have decorative, painted, pressed metal keystones attached to the surface of the brick arches. Above each of these openings on the second floor are narrower, round arched openings with double hung, two-over-two, wood frame windows. These openings have decorative, painted, pressed metal hoods with keystones like those on the first floor, round arched molding, and terminal dripstones. The center opening of the center bay has a wood panel door with a four light glass above and round arched top. The northernmost bay is similar, but has a single, wood and glass door with transom, and bricked-in arch above, in the center, and four-light, round arched, wood frame windows in the flanking openings on the ground floor. The three second floor openings in this bay differ from those to the south only in that the windows are four-over-four. A corbelled brick cornice runs the length of the facade and is accentuated by simple, evenly spaced, brick brackets.

The secondary or south facade is mostly solid brick on the first floor, except for two window openings and a door opening at the westernmost end of the facade. The second floor consists of six evenly spaced window openings across the western two thirds of the facade, the westernmost three stacked directly above the first floor openings, and two, more widely spaced window openings at the east end. All of the openings are like those described on the main facade with four-over-four windows and a wood panel door. The door opening also differs in that it is lower than the window openings and it has a concrete stoop and steps leading down to the sidewalk. The same cornice detail is found along this secondary facade as is found along the main facade. The rear facade is an unadorned brick elevation with several smaller, flat arched window openings with double hung, one-over-one, wood frame windows along an intermediate floor level and the second floor level.

The interior of the building is divided into three sections that correspond with the three bays on the main facade. The first floor rooms are large, open rooms with high, decorative, pressed metal ceilings. An intermediate level stretches across the back of the center section. The second floor is divided into smaller rooms.

Separated from 103 by one other building to the north at 107 North Jefferson is a nearly identical two story, brick building, which appears to have been built within five or ten years of the corner building (photo 6). Between them is a less ceremonious Italianate, three story, brick building at 105 North Jefferson (photo 6).

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Silver Lake Historic District

ROMANESQUE REVIVAL

The opposite corner of the intersection is occupied by a two story, brick building at 101-107 East Main, which has Italianate and Romanesque Revival influences (photo 8). Built approximately twenty years after the building at 103 North Jefferson, the original building was constructed in three separate sections each with three bays. An arcaded facade across the main or south elevation is achieved by two story height brick pilasters with undulating arches above the second floor windows. The window and door openings have decorative pressed metal keystones attached to the surface of their flat brick arches. A decorative brick cornice, similar to the one at 103 North Jefferson, runs along the top of the building.

First floor openings in the two westernmost sections have double wood and glass doors with glass transoms above in the center bays and large single pane windows with glass transoms above in the flanking bays. Double hung, one-over-one, wood frame windows remain in the flanking bays on the second floor of the westernmost section, however, the center bay of that section has been closed up and the windows in all three bays on the second floor of the two easternmost sections are covered with grooved wood boards. All of the brick surfaces on the westernmost section have been covered with a layer of stucco and the decorative brick cornice removed. The first floor of the easternmost section has been completely rebuilt with a newer wood, glass, and brick storefront. There is also a newer, one story, wood, glass, and brick addition on the east end of the building.

The arcade detail is continued along the seven bays of the secondary or west facade. The brick here is also covered with a layer of stucco, the cornice detail removed, and most of the window openings are boarded. There are two diamond shaped windows on the first floor in the third and fifth bays and a replacement door in the second bay.

Five other brick buildings in the district display elements of the Romanesque Revival architectural style. Characteristics of the style present among the buildings at 109 North Jefferson (photo 6), 108 South Jefferson (photo 4), 108 East Main (photo 10), 102 East Main/101 South Jefferson (photo 11), and 103 South Jefferson (photo 11) include more squat proportions, wide flat-arched openings separated by pilasters, and cornice patterns reminiscent of blind arcades.

CLASSICAL REVIVAL

The former Enos Hotel at 110 South Jefferson is a two story, brick and concrete block, Classical Revival structure that anchors the district at the southern end (photo 4). The circa 1915 building has an ell-shaped plan, flat arched window

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Silver Lake Historic District

and door openings, and a two story porch. The Classical detail is achieved with quoins, string courses, columns, and a cornice built of shaped concrete block that resembles rusticated stone. The main or east facade is contrasted with brick and the secondary facades are completely of shaped concrete block. This building remains relatively unaltered and is currently used for apartments.

SHAPED CONCRETE BLOCK

Three other buildings in the district have facades built with shaped concrete block. All three were built within a year or two of each other and are associated with the automobile. Two of these, **109-111 East Main (photo 9)** and **105 West Main (photo 5)**, have similar shapes and sizes and are automobile repair facilities. At opposite ends of the district on its east-west axis, both have a block with the date 1909 indicating the year of construction and both have their pedestrian entrance on a diagonal facing the center of town. The former is a two story structure with ashlar shaped block and has two one story additions: one from 1911 to the rear and one from 1912 to the east. The latter is a one story structure with rusticated shaped block and has large additions to the west and south that are relatively recent metal clad pole barn construction.

The present day municipal building at **108 North Jefferson** is the third example of concrete block construction (**photo 7**). A two bay garage was added to the south and a unifying brick facade applied across the two story, circa 1910 building and its addition sometime in the 1950's. The rusticated shaped block is still clearly visible on the north and rear or east facades.

TWENTIETH CENTURY COMMERCIAL

Five brick buildings built within the first two decades of this century are found at **102, 104, and 106 South Jefferson (photo 1)** and **104 and 110 East Main (photo 10)**. Basic geometric forms are outlined on the facades with variations in the brick, which is characteristic of this typical commercial style.

NONCONTRIBUTING

Three noncontributing buildings were built since the period of significance. These are found at **106 and 108 East Main (photo 10)** and a garage behind 101-107 East Main. The first two are among a row of brick buildings and blend well with the character of their surroundings. The garage is situated on the rear portion of its lot, is not highly visible from the street, and does not detract from the character of the district.

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Silver Lake Historic District

SUMMARY PARAGRAPH

The Silver Lake Historic District encompasses the central business district of a small community in south central Kosciusko County, Indiana. Located at the crossroads of two broad, major state roads, this dense collection of brick and concrete block, two story buildings is significant for its association with the commercial and social development of the town as well as, for its representation of architecture prevalent between the Civil War and the 1920's. The surrounding town is distinguishable from the district by its less dense composition of single family homes on well landscaped lots. The design, setting, materials, workmanship and association of these buildings adequately portray a sense of the history and architecture of this small business community.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

The Silver Lake Historic District can be evaluated in the context of other small town business districts throughout the county with similar resources dating from the time of the Civil War until around 1930. The development of most of the towns in the county is largely linked to the development of the railroads. The coming of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago railroad through the county in the mid-1850's created the town of Pierceton, which was chartered in 1852, affected the growth of Warsaw, Etna Green laid out in 1853, and Atwood laid out in 1857. The Cincinnati, Wabash and Michigan railroad cut across the county from south to north in 1870 and greatly affected the growth of Silver Lake, which was laid out in 1859, caused the town of Claypool to spring up in 1873, and contributed to the further growth of Warsaw, Leesburg, and Milford, which were all established in the 1830's. The Baltimore and Ohio railroad brought growth and prosperity to the towns of Syracuse and Milford Junction in the northern part of the county with its arrival in 1874. The fourth and final railroad to chart its way across the county in 1882 was the New York, Chicago and St. Louis, which cut across the county's southern townships from east to west and produced the town of Sidney in 1881, Burkett, Mentone and Packerton in 1882, and further affected the growth of Claypool.

The village of Silver Lakeville was laid out and platted in 1859 by Jacob Paulus. Paulus and his brother Daniel, operated a store and post office out of a log house within the town limits as early as 1853 and built a new frame structure for their business the year the village was surveyed. Other commerce of the village's early period included a steam powered sawmill run by Henry B. Funk a few miles northeast of town and established in 1848; a steam powered grist mill run by Hall and Paulus and established in 1859; two physicians by 1862; the Silver Lake House, a hotel established in 1864; a drug store operated by Elisha Worley and after 1868, also Adam Stout; a grain elevator, also operated by Stout, near the railroad in the 1870's; and the American House, a second hotel in 1871. As early as 1876, the town's name appears as simply

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Section number Photographs Page 1

Silver Lake Historic District

The following information is the same for all the photographs listed:

Silver Lake Historic District

Silver Lake, Indiana

Photographer: Cynthia Brubaker

Date of photograph: April 7, 1991

Location of original negative: Portfolio Design Inc., 222 North College Avenue,
Suite 300, Bloomington, Indiana 47404, 812/334-2488

1. 102-110 South Jefferson
Streetscape, photographer facing southwest
2. 103-109 North Jefferson
Streetscape, photographer facing northwest
3. 102-106 East Main and 101-103 South Jefferson
Streetscape, photographer facing southeast
4. 108-110 South Jefferson
Individual buildings, photographer facing northwest
5. 105 West Main
Individual building, photographer facing southwest
6. 103-109 North Jefferson
Individual buildings, photographer facing west
7. 108 North Jefferson and 101 East Main
Individual buildings, photographer facing southeast
8. 101-107 East Main
Individual building, photographer facing north
9. 109-111 East Main
Individual building, photographer facing northeast
10. 102-110 East Main
Individual buildings, photographer facing southwest
11. 101-103 South Jefferson
Individual buildings, photographer facing northeast

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Silver Lake Historic District

Silver Lake. An 1879 history of Kosciusko County lists three dry goods and grocery stores, two groceries, three drug stores, one agricultural implement store, one hardware store, a marble works, a photographer, a bakery, a furniture dealer and manufacturer, a broom factory, a grist mill, and a saw mill as Silver Lake's commercial and industrial ventures. Some of these businesses were housed in frame buildings on the south side of East Main, which were destroyed during a fire in 1883.

Although an 1887 history of the county states that Silver Lake was one of the most prosperous towns in the county until the railroad arrived, commerce in the town continued to grow and the town thrived with the arrival of the railroad. That same historical account lists contemporary business and industry including: a livery operated by Preston W. Brown; Fred Wiltrout, a tailor; Charles E. Rantz, who shipped the first load of livestock on the railroad for Hire, Bybee & Company; John F. McKrill a blacksmith; A.C. Chandler a coach and wagon manufacturer; Charles W. Shipley, who ran the town's only restaurant; Henry D. Geiger with the Silver Lake mineral baths; and L.D. Keller, who had a sawmill near the railroad and a planer and pump factory in the downtown area. Two "handsome brick blocks" are also listed, one at the corner of Main and Jefferson run by Henry Paulus with boots, shoes, harnesses and clothing for sale on the first floor and harness manufacturing on the second floor, and the other run by Levi W. Myers with a saloon and billiard parlor.

One of those "handsome brick blocks" was probably the Italianate, commercial building at **103 North Jefferson**, which was built in the 1860's or early 1870's and is reported to have housed grocery stores, a furniture store, a doctor's office, a filling station, a tire store, and a barber shop (**photo 2**). This two story, brick building, and a similar smaller version at **107 North Jefferson**, are two of the earliest buildings in the district, which makes them significant for their association with the early history of the town (**photo 6**).

A nearly identical, two story, brick, Italianate, commercial building still stands in Claypool (085-080-71013). The Claypool Post Office at the northwest corner of Main and Calhoun, was probably built soon after the town's founding in 1873, making it a contemporary of the Silver Lake structures. The Claypool building is in very good repair and retains most of its original exterior design, materials, and features. Three other resources in the Silver Lake district, **105 and 109 North Jefferson**, and **101-107 East Main** are survivors of fires in 1883 and 1899, and the only other buildings in the district constructed before the turn of the century (**photos 6 and 8** respectively). These three brick, two and three story, Italianate and Romanesque Revival influenced, commercial buildings can be compared to similar resources in most of the other small towns in the county. In particular, the Pierceton Historic District has

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Section number 8 Page 3

Silver Lake Historic District

several commercial resources built in the same style and during the same period (085-510-41001-035). Similar resources also survive in the Leesburg Historic District (085-350-31001-023). Although a much larger town with a larger and more dense collection of commercial buildings, Warsaw also has many examples of buildings built in the Italianate commercial style (085-662-46001-079).

By far, the majority of resources remaining in the Silver Lake Historic District were constructed after the turn of the century until the 1920's. These Classical Revival and basic Commercial style structures built of brick and the innovative concrete block can be compared with many similar resources in the Pierceton, Leesburg and Warsaw Courthouse Square Historic Districts. Due to the size of the towns and the scale of the districts, it is most appropriate to compare the Silver Lake Historic District as a whole with the Pierceton and Leesburg districts.

The Leesburg district is unique for its combination of commercial and residential resources, which are neatly tied together by its charming brick streets, and for its association with the early history of Kosciusko County. The Pierceton district is unique for its total domination by the advent of the railroad, its wide range of resource types, and the predominance of brick as a building material. Silver Lake, although it prospered due to the coming of the railroad, does have a history associated with its small town crossroads context, for which a dominant and striking Italianate, commercial block serves as a strong focus (photo 2). The district's association with road and, in this century, automobile travel is accentuated by the presence of several concrete block, automobile related resources (photos 5, 7, and 9).

CRITERION A

The Silver Lake Historic District is significant under criterion A, for its association with the history of Silver Lake and Kosciusko County. The early history of Silver Lake and the general periods of development of other towns in the county is outlined above as part of the historic context discussion. As mentioned above, there are five resources, all located north of Main Street, that date from before the turn of the century. These include the entire northwest quadrant of the district at 103 to 109 North Jefferson (photo 2) and the large commercial block at 101-107 East Main (photo 8). Two fires, one in 1883 the other in 1899, contributed to the loss of historic resources from before the turn of the century. Jefferson Street, which is State Road 15, has always served as a link for horse drawn travel and later, for automobile travel, between Warsaw and Wabash, the next large town and county seat of Wabash County to the south. Similarly, Main Street, which is State Road 14, links Silver Lake with Rochester, county seat of Fulton County to the west, and Fort Wayne to the east. This function as a crossroads location undoubtedly contributed to the

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Silver Lake Historic District

growth of the town before the coming of the railroad, and emerged as an important function once railroad travel subsided and automobile travel surged.

An association with automobile travel is reflected by the presence of several buildings built around 1910 as automobile garages and which continue to function as such. These include **105 West Main** built in 1909 (**photo 5**), **109-111 East Main** built in the same year (**photo 9**), and **108 North Jefferson** built around the same time (**photo 7**). All three are located at the edge of the district with ample room for vehicles to gain access, have large garage door openings, and are built of a more utilitarian and low maintenance concrete block in a very utilitarian style.

Silver Lake, located northwest of the town, was developed as a recreation area in 1907 by Charles Pierson and Francis Rager. Recreational cottages, amusements, and a dance hall were constructed and provided entertainment until the 1930's. This recreational development, while not directly associated with the downtown area, surely contributed to the development of the district with its many resources from this period. Those arriving by train east of town passed through the downtown by necessity to reach the lake as would most road travellers from all directions. The town's hotels, stores, automobile garages and post office all would have been of service to vacationers as well as, those operating and employed by the recreational facilities.

CRITERION C

The Silver Lake Historic District is also significant under criterion C for its association with the characteristics of several architectural styles popular during the time of its development. The Italianate style is well represented by the striking example of **103 and 107 North Jefferson (photos 2 and 6)**. These brick, two story structures with characteristic round-arched window and door openings, and detailed cornice are in very good repair, also retaining much of their original interior floor plan and materials. Two other structures in the same block, **107 and 109 North Jefferson**, display similar characteristics as well as, a more Romanesque Revival feeling at **109 North Jefferson** with its squat, horizontal orientation, segmental-arched openings, and regular, blind arcade cornice (**photo 6**). Due to the largely unaltered state of this group of buildings, one is easily afforded a sense of small town business in the 1860's, 1870's and 1880's as well as, of the context of an ongoing commercial block up until the present time. The Italianate and Romanesque Revival influence is also represented across the street at **101-107 East Main**, which although altered with the addition of stucco and the removal of cornice detail on the west three bays, window infill and storefront changes on the east six bays, and a one story addition to the east, successfully portrays a sense of its time with a two story arcaded facade, segmental-arched openings with pressed metal keystone

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Silver Lake Historic District

medallions, and two intact street-level storefronts (photo 8).

As stated above, the majority of the district's resources date from after an 1899 fire. Several buildings from the first two decades of this century in the district continued in the Romanesque Revival tradition including 103 and 108 **South Jefferson**, and 102 and the west building of 108 **East Main** (photos 1, 4 and 10). These simple brick structures have pilastered facades, segmental-arched openings, horizontal massing, and repetitive, arcaded cornices. The district's one example of the Classical Revival style stands at 110 **South Jefferson**, the former **Enos Hotel**, built between 1912 and 1914 (photo 4). This two story structure combines brick and rock-faced concrete block with quoins, columns, string courses and a modillioned cornice providing the classical detail.

Three buildings built in and around 1909 make use of shaped concrete block and a plain, Commercial style with little embellishment beyond the shaped block, a block bearing the date of construction, and rectangular window and door openings. These automobile related structures are found at the edges of the district at 105 **West Main**, 109-111 **East Main**, and 108 **North Jefferson** (photos 5, 9 and 7 respectively). Alterations of the first two are limited to changes of windows and doors, while the latter has a newer brick facade, windows and doors, and a newer one story addition with two garage bays. The remaining contributing buildings in the district were built between around 1910 and 1930 and are representative of a basic Commercial style with brick facades laid with slight geometric patterning, but without significant decorative detail. The corner building at 102 **South Jefferson** retains its interior character as well including a tiled floor around the entrance and wood floors throughout (photo 1).

INTEGRITY

The building at 102 **East Main** has a newer brick and stone veneer facade and aluminum frame windows and doors (photo 3) however, the original facade and character of the building is clearly visible along its west facade (photo 11). The four buildings that comprise 108 and 110 **East Main** have a shake shingle, sidewalk canopy and other storefront alterations (photo 10) however, as a group these early twentieth century buildings convey a distinct sense of Silver Lake's commercial character. There are only three noncontributing buildings in the district, all constructed after about 1970. Two, 106 and 108 **East Main**, maintain the scale, massing, materials, and street wall of their surroundings (photo 10). The third, a metal, pole barn, storage structure behind 101-107 **East Main** built within the last ten or fifteen years, is sited at the rear of its lot and does not draw much attention from the street (slightly visible in photo 8). Therefore, these noncontributing resources do not materially affect the districts ability to convey a sense of significance.

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Silver Lake Historic District

The decline of railroad travel, the decline of Silver Lake's recreational appeal and the emergence of four lane highways and later, interstate highways, none of which pass near Silver Lake, have contributed to the economic stagnation of the town, while insuring the preservation of its historic resources to a degree. Many of the commercial buildings in this small town now house antique shops, which gives State Road 14 and 15 users incentive to stop as well as, drawing visitors specifically for this purpose. This use encourages the preservation of the historic resources as an appropriate backdrop for selling "old things" and gives the district a modern day significance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Silver Lake Historic District

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National Park Service

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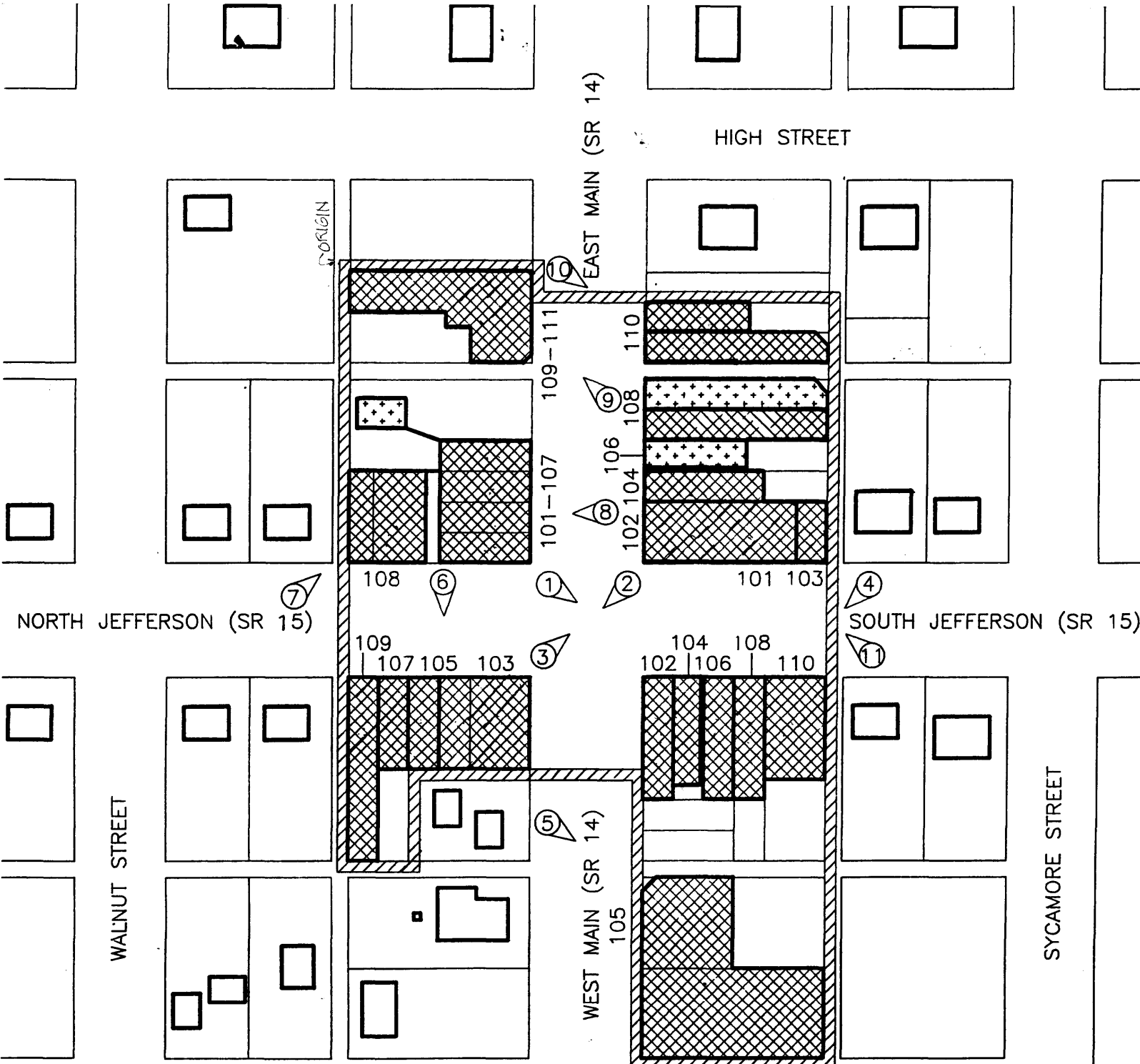
Silver Lake Historic District

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point at the northeast corner of the property at 109-111 East Main Street, proceed south to the north curblineline of East Main. Then proceed west along the north curblineline of East Main turning south at a point intersected by the east property line of 110 East Main. Cross East Main and proceed south to the south property line of 110 East Main. Turn west and proceed west along the south property lines of 102-110 East Main and 103 South Jefferson, cross South Jefferson and continue west along the south property lines of 110 South Jefferson and 105 West Main to the west property line of 105 West Main. Turn north and proceed along the west property line of 105 West Main to the south curblineline of West Main. Turn east and proceed along the south curblineline of West Main to a point intersected by the west property line of 103 North Jefferson. Turn north, cross West Main and proceed north along the west property lines of 103-105 North Jefferson. Then proceed west along the south property line of 107 North Jefferson and then north along the west property lines of 107-109 North Jefferson. At the northwest corner of the property at 109 North Jefferson, turn east and proceed along the north property line of said property, cross North Jefferson and continue east along the north property lines of 108 North Jefferson and 101-111 East Main to the point of beginning.

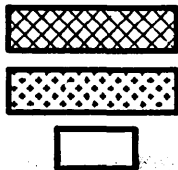
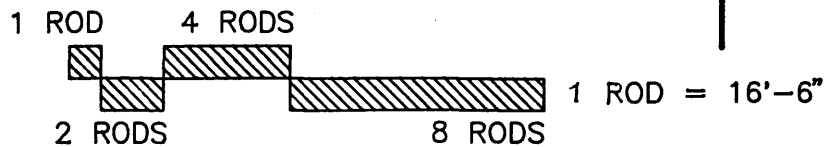
Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Silver Lake Historic District include all of the commercial resources located along the first blocks of Jefferson (State Road 15) and Main (State Road 14), the town's main intersection. This collection of buildings is densely clustered and easily segregated from its surroundings by virtue of their function, massing, scale, and materials. The surrounding buildings are lower density residential areas, heavily landscaped with many mature trees and large single family homes. The area to the west of the district is open farm land and wooded areas.





SILVER LAKE HISTORIC DISTRICT

SILVER LAKE, INDIANA



CONTRIBUTING BUILDING
 NONCONTRIBUTING BUILDING
 BUILDING OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT

105 HOUSE NUMBER
 PHOTOGRAPH REFERENCE
 DISTRICT BOUNDARY