

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAR 6 1986

date entered JUN 22 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic COLUMBIA CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT

RECEIVED

and/or common

AUG 03 1985

2. Location

street & number Approximately 26 blocks roughly bounded by Jefferson, Walnut, Ellsworth,
and Wayne Streets, plus North Chauncy Street

DIV. OF HIST.
PRES. & ARCHIVE
N/A not for publication

city, town Columbia City N/A vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Whitley code 183

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Whitley County Recorder's Office

street & number Whitley County Courthouse

city, town Columbia City state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

National Register:
title Whitley County Courthouse has this property been determined eligible? yes no

National Register listings:
date Whitley County Courthouse (2/16/79) federal state county local

depository for survey records National Park Service

city, town Washington state D.C.

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Columbia City, the seat of Whitley County, Indiana, is situated near the geographical center of that county, in Columbia Township. The city is sited on the prairie bluffs on the north banks of the Blue River, a creek which runs to the south and east of the city.

The focal point around which the community is centered is the courthouse square, which is formed by Van Buren, Market, Main, and Chauncy Streets. To the east, west, and south of the square the city consists of a regular gridiron plan on which most structures face north or south. To the north of the square, however, the predominant orientation of the buildings is east or west, and the principal streets, Main, Chauncy, and Line, are only infrequently crossed by lateral streets. (see District Map).

The area here nominated includes both the central business district and the majority of the central residential areas which adjoin it. The structures in the area date predominantly from the years 1850 to 1940, the period of significance chosen for the nomination on the basis of historical research of the properties.

The central business district is primarily centered along Van Buren Street to the west of Main Street (Photo 42) and extends to Walnut Street (Photos 43, 44). To a lesser extent, commercial buildings are also along Van Buren Street to the east of Main Street to Whitley Street (Photos 49, 50), along the south side of the square (Photo 47), and on the east side of the square (Photo 48), where the commercial area extends to the south as a series of modern roadside developments (Photos 51, 52); northern growth of the business district along Main Street was contained by the presence of a major estate (Photo 12) and a large church (Photo 88). Related institutional uses, such as public buildings and churches, occur along the west side of the square (Photo 23) and at the fringes of the commercial district, particularly to the north, along Chauncy Street (Photos 25, 38, 39, 40, 41). Along the periphery of the commercial area, residential structures have been converted to office and commercial uses, and have in some cases been replaced by parking lots (Photos 45, 46).

Among the residential areas, the foremost is North Chauncy Street, where most of the major residences of the late nineteenth century were built (Photos 53, 54). North Chauncy Street is unusual in that the large residences are located almost without exception on the west side of the street; the east side of the street is lined with houses which range in size from cottages to bungalows. (Photos 55, 56) (No satisfactory explanation for this phenomenon has been discovered).

In the remainder of the residential areas included in the nominated area, there is a mixture of house types both in terms of historical types and in physical size. Houses ranging from Greek Revival examples from the 1860's are found alongside Craftsman style houses built in the early twentieth century (Photos 69, 76) and every major stylistic type built otherwise, including some modern houses, which are considered intrusions. If nothing else, this testifies to the continuous vitality of the city's central neighborhoods throughout their history.

The following examples are representative of the architectural quality and diversity of the structures found in the district, as well as the historical associations which the buildings possess:

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1840-1937 **Builder/Architect** various

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Columbia City Historic District contains the most intact grouping of historic and architectural resources in Whitley County, Indiana. This is largely by virtue of the fact that since it was founded as the county seat in 1839, the city has been the focus of not only the governmental affairs of the area, but its commercial and social development as well, and the central area of Columbia City, which is included in the district, has been the scene of most of those developments.

The site of Columbia (Columbia City after 1854) was chosen by the county commissioners in 1839 after its owner, Elihu Chauncy of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, offered to donate half of his 443 acres to the county, and that he would build a sawmill on the Blue River on his remaining tract. The city was platted in February 1840 by Chauncy, and the sale of lots around the public square began soon thereafter. The community grew as a center of the local farm economy until 1856, when the first railroad, a line from Fort Wayne to Chicago, was opened as far as Columbia City. A second north-south line connecting with Indianapolis followed within a decade, and the city soon grew as a shipping point not only for local grain, but for the products made from the abundance of local hardwood forests. These developments were the general trends of which the wealth and success of such families as the Clugstons, McLallens and others were the specific instances. This is not to belittle the significance of individuals, but rather to explain the nature of the opportunities which were open to them.

The most significant individual to come out of this era would surely have to be Thomas R. Marshall (1854-1925), who began his career as a local attorney, was Mayor of Columbia City, later Governor of Indiana (1909-1913), and Vice-President under Woodrow Wilson (1913-1921). Many of the properties included in the district are associated with Marshall's years in Columbia City, and it is likely that it was his fraternal associations that probably led to the commissions in the city which were designed by his Masonic brethren among nearby Fort Wayne's architects. Marshall's career and the associations such as those which are still reflected in the architectural heritage of Columbia City illustrate as well the extent to which the city had become a part of a larger mass society by the turn of the century.

The heritage of Columbia City which is represented by the structures in the Columbia City Historic District thus are the tangible portrayal of a history which is both local and regional in the significance of its historical and architectural values.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Charles Blanchard and Weston Goodspeed, Counties of Whitley and Noble, Indiana, Chicago: F. A. Battey & Co., Publishers, 1882.
S. P. Kaler and R. H. Maring, History of Whitley County, Indiana, Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen & Co., Publishers, 1907.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately 98 acres

Quadrangle name Columbia City

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>4</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	B	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>7</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>3</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	D	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>7</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u>
E	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>6</u> <u>4</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

see continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Craig Leonard, Historic Preservation Consultant,
for Columbia City Historic District Committee, City of Columbia City,
organization Joe Lumm, Chairman date July 1985

street & number 521 West Market Street telephone (219)-824-4010

city or town Bluffton state Indiana 219/824-4010

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

date 1-28-86

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Patrick Anders

date 6/22/87

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Columbia City

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Historic District

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INCLUSIVE STREET NUMBERS

NORTH-SOUTH STREETS

Walnut Street: 200 South to 310 South

Line Street: 300 North to 304 North (even only); 200 North to 204
North (even only); 130 North to 309 South

Chauncy Street: 339 North to 230 South

Main Street: 201 North to 207 North (odd only); 107 North to
209 South; 213 South to 229 South (odd only)

Washington Street: 208 North to 230 South

Whitley Street: 304 North; 209 North to 230 North; 201 North to
203 North (odd only); 130 North to 110 South;
113 South to 229 South (odd only)

Wayne Street: 129 North to 109 South (odd only)

EAST-WEST STREETS

Jefferson Street: 115 West to 213 West; 216 West to 230 West (even
only); 115 East to 229 East (odd only); 300 East
to 315 East

Jackson Street: 100 West to 230 West; 301 West to 329 West (odd only);
101 East to 115 East (odd only); 301 East to 329 East
(odd only)

Van Buren Street: 330 West to 330 East

Market Street: 401 West to 415 West (odd only); 330 West to 230 East

Ellsworth Street: 100 West to 114 West (even only); 115 West to 130
West; 200 West to 214 West (even only); 216 West
to 413 West; 112 East to 230 East (even only)

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1. Adams Y. Hooper Residence, 209 North Chauncy Street (Photo 1): This Greek Revival style house is among the oldest in the North Chauncy Street neighborhood. It is a two story brick structure whose rectangular gabled mass is oriented parallel to Chauncy Street and is punctuated by a regular fenestration pattern. The tops of the walls are enriched with a wide frieze and plain cornice, which form returns on the end wall in the manner characteristic of the Greek Revival style. Adams Y. Hooper, who built the house c. 1860, was locally prominent in several fields: at various times he was an attorney, newspaper publisher, schoolteacher, and elected official (he served variously as county auditor and a state senator). One of his daughters was engaged to Thomas R. Marshall, then a law clerk with Hooper, but she died tragically of tuberculosis the day before their wedding.
2. William Kepner Residence, 216 West Market Street (Photo 2): Another local example of the Greek Revival, this one in frame construction, is the house which was built c. 1860 by merchant William Kepner. The two story gabled rectangular mass of the main wing of the house is trimmed with a wide frieze with cornice returns on the gables, and plain casings are used around the openings. The house has a one story rear wing whose end gable is finished as a full pediment. Little is known of Kepner, who arrived in Columbia City in 1846 as a fur trader but soon became a hotel keeper. After 1868 he retired from this business to speculate in real estate; he was also the owner of farm land in both Whitley County and Kansas.
3. former Whitley County courthouse, 110 South Whitley Street (Photo 3): Although greatly altered over the years, this building which originally served as Whitley County's first courthouse is worthy of note for the mere fact that it has survived. Originally built in 1841 on the Chauncy Street site now occupied by City Hall (Photo 23), the building was used as a courthouse until 1850, when it was replaced by the second courthouse, which stood on the center of the square, where the present (third) courthouse now stands (Photo 21). The building was later (1877) moved to its present site and has been used as a residence since then. Its simple two story gabled rectangular mass originally contained a room used as a court on the first floor, and the upper level was divided into two offices.
4. Thomas Shorb Residence, 332 North Chauncy Street (Photo 4): This modest one and a half story brick cottage combines features of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The gable of the house faces the street in the manner first popularized by the Greek Revival, to which the design also owes the wide frieze and plain cornice. But the windows are capped with segmental arches with diamonded keystones, in the manner of the Italianate style. The one bay gabled porch may be original. This was the home of Thomas Shorb, who probably built it about 1875. Nothing could be found to reveal Shorb's historical identity.

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5. Cotton-Gruesbeck Residence, 208 South Walnut Street (Photo 5): This one and a half story brick cottage has a steeply-raked gabled roof, a characteristic of the Gothic Revival style. The tee-shaped massing of the house is of a type popularized by the Greek Revival and not usually found in Gothic Revival examples. Although the house is adorned only by the plain stone lintels over its openings, one of which (over the entrance) is detailed with a depressed lancet arch, it may have originally been enriched by scroll-cut verge boards on the gables, another common feature of Gothic Revival houses. The house was built by John Cotton in 1860; in 1866, however, the house was bought by Peter Gruesbeck, a Civil War veteran who returned to Columbia City to open a shoe store in that year. Gruesbeck's descendants owned the house for 120 years, until the last sold it to its present owners in 1981.
6. Erdmann-Black Residence, 341 North Chauncy Street (Photo 6): This two story brick Italianate house was built by August Erdmann, proprietor of a local brickyard, in 1871. The house is now occupied by Erdmann's granddaughter, Mrs. Jean Black. The two story hip-roofed mass of the house is topped by a frieze of dentils formed by brick corbels, and the front of the house has a central gable which is clad in patterned wood shingles. Both the front gable and the lancet tracery of the mullions of the second story front windows lend a Gothic Revival touch to what is otherwise a typical Italianate form. The Tuscan porch may be a later addition.
7. Dr. Allen Mitten Residence, 335 North Chauncy Street (Photo 7): This Italianate style house was built by a local physician in 1891, which makes it one of the latest examples of that style in the district. The house is notable for the shaped sandstone hood moldings which punctuate its brick walls, and for the broad bracketed cornice beneath the eaves of its low hipped roof. The square panelled piers of the front porch may have been added by Andrew Adams, to whom Dr. Mitten sold the house in 1893. At that time Dr. Mitten was off to California, where he became a successful businessman. Andrew Adams later built a Colonial Revival house next door to this one (Photo 15).
8. Benjamin Raupfer Residence, 202 South Line Street (Photo 8): This two story brick Italianate house was built in 1886 by Benjamin Raupfer, who was at that time the proprietor of a local brewery, as well as a successful real estate speculator. The bracketed cornice has been removed, but the house has flat sandstone lintels in the form of broken pediments with anthemions over its openings, and an original porch whose stop-chamfered posts, with their scroll sawn brackets and drop pendants, are typical of the Italianate style. One of Raupfer's later developments, the Raupfer Block (Photo 30) is also included in the district.

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9. Oliver Torbet Residence, 322 North Chauncy Street (Photo 9): This modest one and a half story frame cottage is typical of many not only on the east side of North Chauncy Street, but throughout the district as well. It is typical of the local examples of what is sometimes called "carpenter Gothic" or "Eastlake Gothic" in that its modest clapboard walls are enriched with mass-produced sawn trim, such as the turned posts and brackets of the front porch, and the gable ornament directly above. The house was built in 1889 by Oliver Torbet, a hardware merchant who was one of the founders and officers of the Farmers Loan and Trust Company.
10. William McNaghy Residence, 301 East Jefferson Street (Photo 10): This unusual one story hip-roofed cottage was built about 1880 by one of Thomas R. Marshall's law partners, William McNaghy. The house is a rambling collection of intersecting masses tied together by its complex roofline. The facade is unified by a porch which has Tuscan piers supporting a gallery of turned spindles and terminated by an end gable whose bell-cast form is unusual among Queen Anne examples. The house may have grown over the years as a matter of necessity: it once housed, among other things, McNaghy's 15,000 volume library.
11. Schaper Residence, 202 North Line Street (Photo 11): Although research into the origins of this house has been fruitless, it is associated locally with the Schaper name, and is one of the district's best examples of the Queen Anne style. It was probably built about 1890. The house repeats on a larger scale much of the same sort of ornamentation seen on the Torbet Residence (Photo 9), but does so using the roughly square, hip-roofed form associated with the Queen Anne. The gables are enriched with patterns of cut wood shingles and gable ornaments, and the two-sided porch has turned posts and balusters, as well as a diagonal corner gable.
12. Simon J. Peabody Residence, 207 North Main Street (Photo 12): This palatial Queen Anne mansion was completed in 1892 by Simon J. Peabody, who made his fortune as a hardwood lumber dealer. The design features a facade on which a steeply-raked gambrel gable is balanced by a conical-roofed corner turret. Originally, only the low gable of the front porch existed on the facade. The design was created by the Fort Wayne architects Wing and Mahurin, who included a rendering of it in their 1896 promotional brochure; the design represents one of their earliest uses of Colonial Revival details, especially on the interior, whose variety of hardwood finishes was used by Peabody to demonstrate the quality of his wares. Peabody was the donor of the city library (Photo 24), for which he donated a site adjacent to his home. After Peabody's death in 1932, the property was bought by the Smith Funeral Home, which subsequently added wings to both ends of the house and porch and still uses the house for its business. The matching carriage barn has been converted into Stuart Smith's residence.

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13. Philemon H. Clugston Residence, 317 North Chauncy Street (Photo 13): Although the cut-shingle cladding of this Queen Anne style residence is now concealed beneath siding, it is still one of the grand residences of North Chauncy Street. The house bears a similarity to the Peabody Residence (Photo 12), and it may have been designed by the same architects, since Wing and Mahurin did other commissions for the Clugston family's members (see Photos 28 and 31). This house was reportedly presented to lawyer Philemon Clugston by his wife in 1898 as a wedding present. The facade is dominated by a steeply-raked gambrel gable whose base contains a broad round-arched entrance onto a recessed porch. A conical-roofed turret is engaged on the northeast corner of the house, and a similar rounded end bay projects from the end of the porch on the opposite front corner.
14. Dr. John Brennaman Residence, 336 North Chauncy Street (Photo 14): This Queen Anne house is exemplary of the later residences along the east side of North Chauncy Street. As a stylistic example, it is also significant as one of a type which foreshadowed the form of the Craftsman style bungalow which became popular in the early twentieth century. The one and a half story form has a second floor contained within a broad gabled roof whose ridge is parallel to the front of the house, where the roof is punctuated by a large gabled dormer. The second floor gables are clad in shingles, and the first floor is clad in clapboard. Dr. Brennaman built his house in 1901, and the Brennamans made it their lifelong home. Mrs. Brennaman is notable as the legal secretary of the law firm Marshall, McNagny, and Clugston.
15. Andrew Adams Residence, 331 North Chauncy Street (Photo 15): Andrew Adams, a local attorney who found fame as a writer of fiction, had this house built by the local contractors Helblig and Keirn in 1901, presumably to replace his earlier residence (Photo 7). This house is one of the grandest examples of the Colonial Revival in the district. Its two story hip-roofed mass is finished with a dentilled frieze beneath broad eaves, and the form is punctuated by a projecting gabled frontispiece graced by second floor windows enframed within fluted Tuscan pilasters and a broken pediment. The front door with its sidelights and fanlight of bevelled plate glass is in the base of the frontispiece and is sheltered by the Tuscan porch which extends across the facade and is entered by steps to its projecting central bay.
16. William Waterfall Residence, 305 South Walnut Street (Photo 16): This house was built by local architect and builder William Waterfall in 1903. In 1909 the house was purchased by George Harrison, who was a partner in the Clugston Dry Goods Store which occupied the Clugston Block (Photo 28). After 1938 the house was owned by Harlan Weeks, another local merchant. In 1943 the house was sold to George Long, who was Principal of the Washington Township Schools and was instrumental in the consolidation which created the present Columbia City Joint High School. His daughter Martha now occupies the house. The design is a simplified version of the hip-roofed cubic massing characteristic of the Colonial Revival, and the form is given a symmetrical treatment. The sidelighted entrance under the center of the Tuscan porch corresponds with the central polygonal bay window on the second floor and the hip-roofed dormer on the roof above. Windows are symmetrically arranged to either side of these elements, and the sides of the roof have dormers which match the bell-cast outlines of the front dormer and the main roof.

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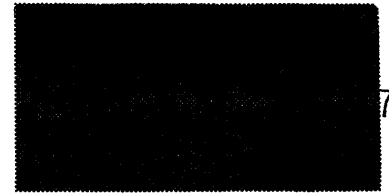
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17. Alcinda J. Nickey Residence, 339 North Chauncy Street (Photo 17): This house was built in 1909 by Mrs. Alcinda Nickey, widow of a successful Smith Township farmer. By 1938 the house was owned by Edward Metz, the operator of a local grain elevator. This cross-gabled gambrel-roofed form represents the more modest local type of Colonial Revival style house. The gables on the front (east) and side (north) have hip-roofed polygonal bay windows; the one on the side elevation is an oriel which contains the middle landing of the stairway within. The front porch has Tuscan colonnettes which stand on rock-faced piers, between which run sections of railing with turned balusters. The house is so much intact otherwise that the modern picture window under the porch is not a glaring alteration.
18. Elisha L. McLallen Residence, 216 North Chauncy Street (Photo 18): The only major residence to stand on the east, rather than the west side, of North Chauncy Street is the former home of one of Columbia City's most prominent residents, Elisha L. McLallen II, President of the First National Bank of Columbia City. McLallen's father had come to Columbia City after having formed a mercantile partnership at nearby Larwill with D. B. Clugston in 1857. In 1873 the elder McLallen formed a partnership with his brother Henry and they opened The Farmers' Bank, which was located in the Central Building (Photo 27) which they had erected. The younger McLallen thus was heir to an established mercantile and financial empire. He had this Tudor style house designed in 1905 by Fort Wayne architect Alfred Grindle, who had earlier been an employee of the firm Wing and Mahurin after he had arrived in Indiana from his native England in 1888. Grindle is significant in his own right as the architect of buildings in Fort Wayne, Muncie, and later Indianapolis and Bloomington, Indiana, where he was living at the time of his death in 1940. The present owners of the McLallen Residence possess original plans of the house, whose rambling gabled form is partially half-timbered and partially pan-tiled beneath its tile roof. The house is remarkably intact, and is the only major residence known to have been designed by its architect in northeastern Indiana.
19. Outcelt-Burnworth Residence, 202 South Walnut Street (Photo 19): This Craftsman style bungalow was built in 1916 by Henry Outcelt, who with William Brand operated one of Columbia City's first automobile dealerships. (The Premier Automobile was located in a former livery building in the center of the south side of the square, where Auer & Davisson Realty is now located; see Photo 47). In 1920 the house was bought by Job C. Burnworth, who is remembered as the donor of the community swimming pool located at the north end of Wayne Street. In the manner typical of a bungalow, the second story of this house is within the rake of its characteristically broad, low-pitched gabled roof, whose front rake is punctuated by a large gabled dormer. The recessed front porch is enclosed on one end as a sun room and extends past the eave of the main roof on the other end to form an end gable on the north side of the house. Other Craftsman style features of the house are its trestle brackets and the use of elephantine battered piers standing on a tapestry brick wall for the porch base.

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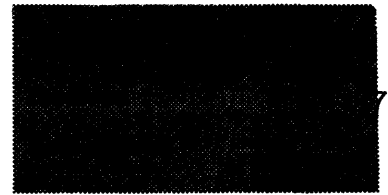
20. Charles Kiser Residence, 110 West Ellsworth Street (Photo 20): Charles Kiser built this Craftsman style house in 1922; little else is known about him. The design is a departure from the bungalow form more commonly associated with the Craftsman style, but its details identify it as such. The gable of the rectangular mass faces the street with a low rake and broad eaves which are supported by trestles. While the first floor of the house has brick walls, the gables and the shed dormers on the sides of the roof are finished with shingles. The porch which extends across the front of the house has a brick base on which battered elephantine piers stand to support the open eaves of the porch; the central porch gable has verges which match the sawn ends of the roof rafters.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

21. Whitley County Courthouse, Main and Van Buren Streets (Photo 21): Although it is already individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places, a description of this district would be incomplete without mention of the building which is not only its focal point, but also the landmark most readily identified not only with Whitley County government, but with the skyline of Columbia City. This neo-classical building is the third Whitley County Courthouse, replacing a brick building of 1850 which stood on this site until 1888. The design draws upon the precedents of the French Renaissance for such features as its symmetrical, horizontally layered composition and its stylized treatment of classical ornament, as well as its mansardic corner pavilions. The design of the central rotunda and dome recalls earlier works by its architect, Brentwood S. Tolan, such as the designs for Delaware County (1885) and his father, Thomas Tolan's design for Kosciusko County (1883). However, the design of the Whitley County Courthouse is otherwise unique among the repetitive designs produced by the Tolans over a span of thirty years' work throughout the Midwest, and is surpassed only by Brentwood Tolan's masterwork, the Allen County Courthouse (1897-1902).
22. Whitley County Jail, 116 East Market Street (Photo 22): This 1875 French Second Empire style structure is the third Whitley County Jail; it replaced an 1855 structure which stood on the site of the present City Hall (Photo 23). The present jail was designed by J. C. Johnson, who was also a successful designer of county buildings throughout Indiana. Johnson designed courthouses in the French style in Adams County (1871) and Randolph County (1872), as well as using the mansard mode for county infirmaries in Huntington and Wells Counties for identical buildings in 1876. His only other known jail design was in Marshall County (1881); it was a Queen Anne building which was listed on the National Register one week before its 1981 demolition. Johnson is also notable as the runner-up for the design of the Indiana State Capitol in 1880. In addition to its characteristic mansard roof punctuated by elaborate gabled dormers, the Whitley County Jail is distinguished by the sandstone trim which bedecks its pressed brick walls, including quoins and elaborately molded window hoods, whose forms are also used for the projecting bracketed canopy over the entrance and the dentilled, bracketed cornice of the main roof. The jail is presently slated for replacement by a new structure on the southwest corner of Main and Market Streets, and its future is uncertain.

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23. City Hall, 115 South Chauncy Street (Photo 23): This is the second city building, having replaced an Italianate style city hall and engine house which was built in 1877 after removing the former courthouse (Photo 3) from the site. The present City Hall was built in 1917, and its design is a mixture of the Craftsman and Beaux-Arts Classical styles then prevalent. Fort Wayne architects Church and Coover, whose only known work this is, used a symmetrical classical composition derived from the latter style, and combined it with the use of Craftsman style tapestry brick. This stylistic mix was further enriched by the use of glazed Spanish tile to cover the rake above the broad eaves of the modillion cornice, and the small-paned Tudor style sash which were originally used for the windows, including the large Palladian window above the entrance, which is still flanked by its original cast iron torcheres. The combination of these elements is a building which is at once both dignified and informal, a fitting symbolism for local government.
24. Peabody Library, 201 North Main Street (Photo 24): Rather than see funds for the building of a permanent home for the city library be provided by Andrew Carnegie, local magnate Simon J. Peabody provided both the site and funds for this Colonial Revival style building, which was built in 1919 adjacent to Peabody's home (Photo 12). (The library had until then been housed on the second floor of the Raupfer Block, Property 30). This design by Gary, Indiana, architect A. F. Wickes was selected as a result of a design competition. The building is a simple one story rectangular gabled mass whose brick walls are laid to form such elements as a raised base, quoins, and the Georgian jack arches over the multi-paned windows. The projecting central gabled bay on the front has a frontispiece in the form of a segmental-arched aedicule with sidelights to enframe the front door beneath a cut stone roundel showing an open book. A major addition was made to the rear of the library c. 1965; although flat-roofed, its walls match those of the original building and make it an unobtrusive element.
25. United States Post Office, 107 North Chauncy Street (Photo 25): This simple Colonial Revival style building was built in 1935, and was presumably designed by the office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury. The simple one story flat-roofed brick mass has a front wing punctuated by three round-arched openings which have been partially filled in, leaving smaller multi-paned windows within the infill. The main entrance is enframed by a Georgian surround with a broken pediment, while the tops of the walls are finished with a simple frieze and boxed cornice. This is likely a version of a standard design used at that time by the post office, since it is very similar to the post office buildings in Ligonier and Lagrange, which were both built in the 1930's as well.

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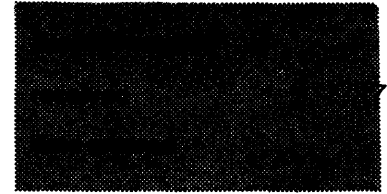
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COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

26. Isaac Prickett Block, 215 West Van Buren Street (Photo 26): This Italianate block housed Prickett's store, which sold harness and related goods. The building is actually half of a continuous facade which was built to include Henry Snyder's block next door, which is now concealed behind aluminum. Although the first floor of the Prickett Block has been remodeled with a Carrara glass front, the rusticated blocks of the end pier are still partially visible, as is all of the bracketed cornice across the top of the first floor. This composition is continued on the second floor, whose brick walls are enframed by rusticated quoins of alternating sizes beneath a panelled frieze and bracketed cornice. The round-arched second floor windows are topped by molded sandstone hoods with prominent diamonded key-stones.
27. Central Building, 118, 120, 122, 124 West Van Buren Street (Photo 27): This is not only one of the largest, but also one of the oldest commercial buildings in the district. This Italianate style block was constructed by brothers Elisha and Henry McLallen in 1872 as a location for The Farmers' Bank, which they started with Henry Reed; this later became The First National Bank. It is also notable that the size of this building project was such that accommodation of it led to the first construction of a sewer system in the downtown, the first in the city. The building's brick facade has since been clad in pargeting to simulate rock-faced masonry, but retains its original vermiculated quoins, round-arched windows with two-over-two sash, panelled frieze, and bracketed cornice. The porch is a modern addition.
28. D. B. Clugston Block, 201, 203 West Van Buren Street (Photo 28): This Victorian Gothic style block was designed to house the Clugston Dry Goods store by Fort Wayne architects Wing and Mahurin in 1889. Clugston was the head of one of the most prominent families in the city; other members of the clan produced Properties 13 and 31. The facade of the building is dominated by a steeply-raked central gable which rises above a corbel frieze. The large round-arched windows which fill the flanking bays have tympana worked in a basket-weave pattern above the paired windows which belonged to the offices of the Marshall, Clugston, McNagy law firm.
29. Eyanson Block, 219 West Van Buren Street (Photo 29): Charles Eyanson built this Richardsonian Romanesque block as his tailoring establishment in 1893. The facade is faced with alternating courses of smooth and rock-faced limestone in a manner which is characteristic of that style, as are the round arches and flanking foliated colonnettes of the second floor windows. The frieze at the top of each bay of the facade is treated to suggest arched machicolations, another feature of the style. The first floor has a high stone curb below the show windows, which are the only element of the facade to have been altered.

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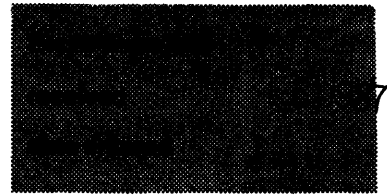
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30. Benjamin Raupfer Block, 228, 230 West Van Buren Street (Photo 30): Benjamin Raupfer, whose Italianate style home is described above (Property 8), built this Queen Anne style block to house his large hardware establishment in 1899. The store was one of the largest in the city, filling not only the basement and first floors, but all three floors of the rear of the building as well. The second floor was occupied by the city library until 1919 (see Property 24) and the top floor was the Lodge of the Tribe of Ben-Hur. The smooth limestone facade is treated with a regular pattern of windows, which are connected by Syrian arches on the third register. The stonework returns around the front corner of the building, which is emphasized by a conical-roofed round turret. The brick sidewall has a pattern of windows in pairs with stone lintels, and the limestone dentilled cornice of the facade continues along the sidewall.
31. Clugston Hotel, 113 South Chauncy Street (Photo 31): D. B. Clugston built this Neo-classical hotel adjacent to his commercial block (Property 28) in 1898 by incorporating an existing two story building behind the Clugston Block (the segment of the hotel which has a bay window) and moving one of the oldest buildings in the city. The gabled rear wing of the hotel was originally built on the site as the Baptist Church in 1857; after 1872 the building was converted to the McDonald House, a hotel. Clugston made the old hotel the rear wing of his new one. The design of the new building was probably done by the Fort Wayne architects Wing and Mahurin, who had earlier designed his commercial block and whose design for the Davis Hotel at Sullivan, Indiana (also 1898), is very similar. The Clugston Hotel has a facade of pressed brick whose first floor, with its three large round-arched openings, is echoed by the round arches which top the pattern of paired windows on the upper floors. A dentilled metal cornice tops the facade.
32. Ricker Block, 224, 226 West Van Buren Street (Photo 32): Grocer A. A. Ricker had his business in this Colonial Revival style block after its completion in 1899. The rock-faced masonry of the upper facade is broken by three large polygonal bay windows, which are detailed with panels and Tuscan pilasters. The bays are joined across their tops by the soffit of a broadly projecting classical cornice. Above the cornice the top of the wall is dominated by a central segmental-arched aedicule which is decorated with festoons and laurel wreath motifs. The parapet terminates at the ends of the front in blunt-topped dies. The design thus incorporates elements of the Richardsonian Romanesque, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival styles in a remarkably original manner.

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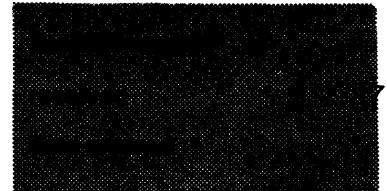
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33. Masonic Temple, 301, 303 West Van Buren Street (Photo 33): When Benjamin Raupfer decided that his business had outgrown his existing building (Property 30), he persuaded the Masonic Lodge to join him in the creation of this 1904 Neo-classical style building, which was designed by Fort Wayne architect Charles E. Kendrick. The glazed brick walls of this three story block are laid to simulate thin quoins at the corners and between the two segments of its facade, which each use the same pattern of jack-arched windows on the second floor and round-arched windows flanked by flat-topped windows on the third floor; this device gave a slightly separate identity to the west half of the building, which was occupied by Raupfer's farm implement showroom. The whole is tied together by a dentilled modillion cornice which is continuous across the facade. The cornerstone on the front corner notes that Thomas R. Marshall was the President of the Directors of the Masonic Lodge.
34. Miller Block, 200, 202 South Main Street (Photo 34): Although information has not come to light concerning the history of the Miller Block, it is nonetheless notable as the largest downtown building not located on Van Buren Street, and one of the few historic commercial buildings on South Main Street. The building is also notable as the only example of a block with a facade entirely clad in stamped sheet metal, probably galvanized iron. The metal simulates the appearance of rock-faced ashlar masonry with segmental arches over the tops of the windows and a frieze of running ornament beneath a plain boxed cornice. The cornice is surmounted by a central gabled aedicule which includes the name of the building on its festooned tympanum.
35. Washburn Block, 100, 102, 104, 106 South Main Street (Photo 35): This Craftsman style commercial block replaced a frame building of the same name which burned in 1906. The brown tapestry brick of the facade is laid as a series of bays defined by pilasters, and the end bays are topped by depressed Flemish gables. The stylized limestone festoons which top the pilasters recall the conventions of Beaux-Arts Classicism, as does the entire composition. The segmental-arched second floor windows have limestone keystones in the center bays, and the paired windows of the end bays have limestone voussoirs as well.
36. Frank Stickler Block, 210, 212 West Van Buren Street (Photo 36): This Craftsman style commercial building was built in 1928 by Dr. Frank Stickler, who had his office upstairs and rented the storeroom on the first floor to Schultz Brothers, the local outlet of a chain of dime stores. The tapestry brick of the facade is of variegated shades of brown and red, and the wall is laid to form a series of corbel-topped panels, each of which contains a group of four windows. The wide spandrel above the windows is treated with diaper panels to either side of a limestone inscription.

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RELIGIOUS STRUCTURES

37. Church of the Brethren (former Bethel Church of God) Washington and Jackson Streets (Photo 37): This simple gabled brick church combines elements of the Italianate and Gothic Revival styles, and is the last local example of the type of brick religious structure which began to be built locally about 1870. Built in 1889, the design uses smooth brick walls divided into panels and topped by corbelled machicolations which follow the rake of the steeply pitched roof. The gable end on the facade has a single large lancet-arched window in the center bay; smaller lancet windows are used in each of the bays of the side walls. The tower in which the lancet-arched entrance is located is placed off-center on the front corner, in the manner popularized by the Ecclesiological movement. The tower is topped by a belfry stage which is clad in matched boards, so as to give the casings of the pairs of lancet belfry openings some of the same expression as the masonry openings below. The bracketed eave of the tower is topped by a low pyramidal roof.
38. Presbyterian Church, Jackson and Chauncy Streets (Photo 38): This 1892 Queen Anne structure replaced an earlier 1858 building which was moved to the southwest corner of Van Buren and Washington Streets, where it still stands (Photo 90). Although late among the city's nineteenth century congregations to build new churches, the Presbyterians included among their number many prominent citizens, including the McLallens, Philemon Clugston (Property 13), and Thomas R. Marshall, who served on the building committee for this church. Marshall may have influenced the selection of his fellow Masons, Fort Wayne architects Wing and Mahurin, to design the building. The facade of the church, with its polygonal apse facing the street and flanked by a square pyramidal-roofed tower, is akin to another Presbyterian Church (since destroyed) which these architects designed in Huntington (also 1892). Both designs recall Chicago architect John Root's Church of the Covenant (1887), whose facade was shown in the trade magazine, The Building Budget. This may explain why only the front resembles Root's design: the sides of the long rectangular mass of the nave are punctuated by steeply-pitched shingle-clad gables, a feature not seen in Root's design.
39. Nazarene (former United Brethren) Church, Market and Chauncy Streets (Photo 39): The original church structure which is incorporated in this building was erected in 1894. Since that time, however, the building has had extensive repairs (1922) and was largely rebuilt into its present Gothic Revival form in 1927. The cross-gable form includes a tower in the alcove between the wings on the front corner. The tapestry brick walls are laid to form wall arches around the groups of three round-arched windows used in each of the gables. Both the diaper work of herringbone brick in these panels and the subdued treatment of the castellated tower reveal the lateness of the outward appearance of the building, despite its having the form of an earlier style of church building.

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40. Methodist Church, Jackson and Chauncy Streets (Photo 40): In 1912 the Methodist congregation erected this Neo-classical style church, which was designed by the Elkhart, Indiana, architects Elwood & Elwood. The church is unusual among local religious structures in its lack of any references to the Gothic Revival, long favored as a church building style. The gabled roof of the long rectangular mass is aligned parallel to Jackson Street, where a projecting gabled bay is set behind a one story Tuscan portico. The sides of the main roof are concealed behind the parapets of the glazed brick walls, which are arranged as a series of panels and pilasters which enframe pairs of jack-arched openings. To the north is a 1960 addition designed by Strauss Associates of Fort Wayne, and to the west is a 1980 addition designed by Archonics Associates of that same city; both additions are unobtrusive flat-roofed wings.
41. Baptist Church, Van Buren and Walnut Streets (Photo 41): The Baptists built this church in 1917 to replace a French Second Empire structure of 1872 which stood on this same site (cf Property 31, site of a still earlier Baptist Church). The present church is an example of the Craftsman style, which includes such features as the tapestry brick walls decorated with patterns of limestone blocks and diaper panels, as can be seen here flanking the recessed Tuscan porch of the facade. The band of lighter brick above the portico marks the former location of a broad projecting eave which was supported by long modillions. The similarity of this last element to the treatment of the facade of City Hall (Property 23), which was built in 1917 also, lends credence to the possibility that the church was also designed by Fort Wayne architects Church & Coover.

Throughout the district, other examples of the architectural styles discussed above can be found. The majority of the district is composed of structures built within the district's period of significance. Although the presence of new buildings testifies to the area's continued vitality, the most common forms of intrusion found in the district are the unsympathetic alterations of the historic structures themselves (Photos 90, 91). In order to determine the boundaries of the area shown on the district map, a preliminary survey (see additional map) was prepared on which the results of a field survey were recorded. The following criteria were used to decide whether a given building would be considered a potential contributor to the district:

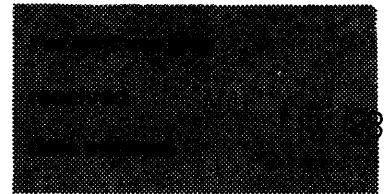
Commercial structures: Retention of most original detail above first floor

Residential structures: If clad in artificial siding, original details such as casings, frieze, cornice, and porches must either remain visible or have been concealed, not removed, during siding installation

The boundary of the district was then determined on the basis of using quarter blocks as the smallest unit of inclusion. In order to be included within the district boundary, a quarter block at the edge of the area had to possess structures at least half of which could be rated as contributing to the potential district. The boundary line shown on the final map was then drawn around the qualifying quarter blocks.

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This methodology was adopted as a means of discriminating among the basically homogeneous parts of the residential area which surrounds the central business district, in the absence of the sorts of natural or man-made features usually used to delineate the edges of contiguous districts (e.g., major thoroughfares, railroads, rivers, changes in topography). This approach was useful in ensuring that the area included in the district include the best and most compact collection of the structures which possess the highest degree of architectural integrity. Proceeding outward from the courthouse square, the focal point of the city, each quarter block was evaluated for inclusion according to the criteria cited above and noted on the map of the Preliminary Survey. The survey of blocks continued in each direction until areas were encountered in which there was a clear preponderance of structures of little or no architectural integrity; the survey was discontinued at that point, and the results were then evaluated to determine the boundaries of the district.

As noted above, in order that any given quarter block be included within the district, at least half of the structures on it had to be considered potential contributing structures. This rule was applied with one notable exception: a quarter block would not be excluded if the quarter blocks on at least two sides of it were candidates for inclusion. This meant in practice that a condition would not be created in which the district completely surrounded an area not also included within it, nor would a quarter block located at the edge of the district be excluded in a way which would create a boundary that returned upon itself across the space of a single street intersection (cf. the quarter block at the southwest corner of Main and Jackson Streets, and the quarter block at the northwest corner of Chauncy and Jefferson Streets). This practice was intended to be as conservative as possible of the desire to have a boundary which did not split streetscapes. The resulting polygon which describes the district should be interpreted primarily as a series of parallels which describe the sum of the streetscapes which extend outward from the courthouse square.

This methodology is also intended to deal with not only the architectural homogeneity of the area and the desire not to include structures which lack architectural integrity, but also as an attempt to find a method which respects the city's pattern of historical development. Columbia City grew outward from an initial collection of buildings around the courthouse square; as it did, Van Buren Street and Main Street became the primary thoroughfares, and Chauncy Street became the most prominent residential street. With the exception of the lack of contributing structures on north Main Street, the pattern created by the survey methodology correlates well with this historical pattern, by virtue of the quality of the structures which survive, and the architectural homogeneity which the area has always possessed.

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The selection of the years 1840 to 1937 as the period of significance for the district was made for the sake of being as inclusive as possible of the historical period in which the district area developed and its architectural resources were created. In this respect, the dates of the structures cited as representative of the district can only be regarded as generally indicative of the age of the resources in the district. While the oldest building noted, the former Whitley County Courthouse (Property 3) dates from 1841, the next oldest properties (Numbers 1 and 2) are houses which may have been built approximately twenty years later. Precise dating of the structures in the district has been made virtually impossible by the destruction, in 1977, of all of the county's early tax records; the dates cited in the nomination are inferences made from deed records. While the dates of some of the later structures have been confirmed by references in historic newspapers or inscriptions on the buildings themselves, the best available guide to formulating the period of significance, short of making similar interpolations for the sake of assigning a probable date of construction to every structure in the district, has been the accounts provided by the available histories of the area. Although the newest building cited in the nomination, the U.S. Post Office (Property 25) was built in 1935, the year 1937 was chosen as an end date for the period of significance for the sake of buildings that may have been built fifty years ago, but whose exact dates of construction have not yet been discovered.

Within the historical framework defined by the period of significance, the growth and development of the district did not take place in a way that readily yields itself into any great number of distinct historical periods. The arrival of the city's first railroad in 1856 is the one event which clearly differentiates the period of early settlement from the unbroken sequence of development characteristic of the remainder of the history of the city.

Prior to 1856, Columbia City was a relatively isolated rural village. The local economy was primarily based on agriculture, and local goods were marketed by transporting them either south to Huntington or east to Fort Wayne; both places were shipping points on the Wabash and Erie Canal, a link to Lake Erie and eastern markets. The lack of roads adequate to facilitate overland travel was an impediment to the development of any industry beyond that which served strictly local needs. Similarly, the abundant local hardwood forests were a resource whose usefulness was limited by this lack of transportation. The cultural life of the community tended to reflect this insularity as well, and one facet of this was its architecture. Local architecture reflected the architectural concepts (simple forms and Greek Revival styling) which the area's settlers had brought with them from Pennsylvania (cf. Properties 1-3). The physical development of the town initially centered around the area to the south of Spencer Street, where a grist mill and a saw mill had been built on the north bank of the Blue River in 1844. Van Buren Street and Main Street, the routes of the two state roads, soon became the two principal streets, and they have remained the most important streets for commercial activity in the central area of the city to this day.

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The arrival of the railroad started a radical transformation of all aspects of Columbia City's growth. The ability to ship goods either east to major markets or west to Chicago and the frontier was soon reflected not only in the prosperity of the local agricultural economy, but in the development of local manufacturing, as well. Rail service combined with the abundance of hardwood lumber and a readily available labor supply to energize the local economy. About 1860 a woolen mill was started to the southwest of Line and Vine Streets by Thomas Eyanson, whose family remained prominent in later years as local clothiers (Property 29). In 1881 several additional industries arrived which added to the industrial corridor then developing between the Blue River and the railroad tracks. Thomas Washburn opened a foundry to the southeast of the courthouse square. Further south, the Raupfer and Walter Brewery was built on the banks of the Blue River between Washington and Whitley Streets; Benjamin Raupfer is associated with three district structures, his home (Property 8) and two commercial blocks (Properties 30, 33). Other factories whose locations in the area are uncertain were the Clark sawmill, the Liggett and Tuttle flour mills, and the H. Snyder and Son Furniture Company, as well as the lumber yard operated by Simon J. Peabody (see Property 12).

The prosperity which resulted from improved access to major markets not only meant that local residents had greater resources with which to build the community, but access to more current ideas about what to build. Pattern books, magazines, and style guides provided this knowledge, and the availability of both woodworking machinery and finished building materials made its realization possible. As a result the first local examples of the Picturesque styles soon appeared. Initially, modest cottages merely combined details of the Italianate and the Gothic Revival with the forms already established by the Greek Revival (Properties 4, 5); the practice of simply adding new stylistic details to familiar formal types would persist as the local vernacular (Properties 9, 10). By the 1870's, the Italianate style was well established as the predominant mode used for both houses (Properties 6-8) and commercial buildings (Properties 26, 27); the Italianate reigned until the 1890's, when it was displaced by the medieval fantasies of the Victorian Gothic and Queen Anne styles (Properties 10-14, 28, 30, 34, 38) and the Richardsonian Romanesque (Property 29). Local architecture continued to reflect nationwide trends with the adoption by the late 1890's of the Colonial and Neoclassical Revivals (Properties 15-17, 21, 31-33). By the turn of the century more archaeologically correct renderings of the historical models of some of these styles were being done locally (Properties 18, 24, 25), but designs in the Craftsman and Tudor Revival styles which more loosely adapted historical models were still more commonly found (Properties 19, 20, 23, 35, 36, 39-41).

By the turn of the century, the functionally differentiated parts of the city which can be seen today had clearly emerged. As noted, the area to the south of the district became the focus of industrial growth. Van Buren and Main Streets in the vicinity of the courthouse became the center of both governmental (Properties 21-23) and commercial (Properties 26-36) activity. Churches

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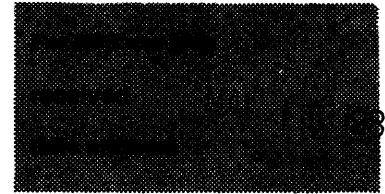
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(Properties 37-41) and other major institutional uses (Properties 24, 25) located at the edges of this central area. Though some large homes were built elsewhere (Properties 8, 11, 12, 16), North Chauncy Street became the most prestigious residential area in the city (Properties 6, 7, 13, 15, 18). The remainder of the area surrounding the downtown became a largely homogenous residential district composed for the most part of small and medium size cottages (Properties 4-7, 9, 10, 14, 17, 19, 20).

Once established, these patterns of development were only reinforced by the later development of the city. The latest additions to the industrial area along the river were the Blue Bell garment factory (1922) built on the south side of Ellsworth Street between Whitley and Wayne Streets and the municipal power plant (1936), which was built between Line Street and the Blue River, two blocks south of Spencer Street. With the coming of the automobile, the state road which ran along Van Buren Street became U.S. 30 and the route on Main Street became Indiana 9; through traffic intensified on these streets, making their intersection the most important in the city. Most of the city's residential development consisted of infill construction in existing neighborhoods. Until the automobile became ubiquitous, suburban residential development was hampered by the lack of a streetcar system. By the 1920's, however, development accelerated at the edges of the city, and the central area included in the district ceased to be the sole site of any local growth. Though there was little growth during the 1930's and the 1940's, suburban development resumed with the revival of the economy after World War II. Rerouting of U. S. 30 to the north of the city in the early 1960's relieved traffic congestion in the downtown area, but it also led to roadside development along the new highway and the displacement of the central business district around the courthouse square as the city's sole commercial area. By the late 1930's, the historic commercial and residential areas of the city had reached their greatest extent of development, and were becoming differentiated from the rest of the city by their lack of further growth.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Commencing at a point at the southeast corner of Jackson and Walnut Streets, then south to the southeast corner of Walnut and Market Streets, then west along the south line of Market Street to the east line of an alley between Walnut and Elm Streets, then south along said line to the north line of an alley between Ellsworth and Spencer Streets, then east along said line to its intersection with the west line of an alley between Line and Chauncy Streets, then north along said line to its intersection with the north line of Ellsworth Street, then east along said line to its intersection with the east line of Chauncy Street, then south along said line to its intersection with the north line of an alley between Ellsworth and Spencer Streets, then east along said line to its intersection with the west line of an alley between Chauncy and Main Streets, then north along said line to its intersection with the north line of Ellsworth Street, then east along said line to its intersection with the west line of Main Street, then north along said line to its intersection with the north line of an alley between Ellsworth and Market Streets, then east along said line to its intersection with the east line of an alley between Main and Washington Streets, then south along said line to its intersection with the north line of Ellsworth Street, then east along said line to its intersection with the west line of Whitley Street, then north along said line to its intersection with the north line of an alley between Market and Van Buren Streets, then east along said line to its intersection with the west line of Wayne Street, then north along said line to its intersection with the south line of Jackson Street, then west along said line to its intersection with the west line of Whitley Street, then north along said line to its intersection with the north line of an alley between Jackson and Jefferson Streets, then east along said line to its intersection with the west line of an alley between Whitley and Wayne Streets, then north along said line to the south line of an alley one half block north of Jefferson Street, then west along said line to its intersection with the east line of Whitley Street, then south along said line to its intersection with the south line of Jefferson Street, then west along said line to its intersection with the east line of an alley between Main and Washington Streets, then south along said line to its intersection with the south line of Jackson Street, then west along said line to its intersection with the west line of Main Street, then north along said line to its intersection with the south line of Jefferson Street, then west along Jefferson Street to the its intersection with the west line of an alley between Main and Chauncy Streets, then north along said line to its intersection with the south line of an alley aligned with Brownwood Avenue, then west along said line to its intersection with the east line of an alley between Line and Chauncy Streets, then south along said line to its intersection with the south line of an alley one half block north of Jefferson Street, then west along said line to its intersection with the east line of Line Street, then south along said line to its intersection with the north line of Jefferson Street, then east along said line to its intersection with the west line of an alley between Line and Chauncy Streets, then south along said line to its intersection with the south line of an alley between Jefferson and Jackson Streets, then west along said line to its intersection with the east line of Line Street, then south along said line to its intersection with the south line of Jackson Street, then west to return to the point of beginning at the intersection of said line with the the east line of Walnut Street.

Columbi City, Indiana

National Register Historic District

REVISED 12/05

