

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received FEB 3 1983  
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Wicks Building

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 116 West Sixth St.

N/A not for publication

city, town Bloomington N/A vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Monroe code 105

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Fred Worden Prall and Andrew Mallor

street & number 2216 Sussex Drive

city, town Bloomington N/A vicinity of state Indiana 47401

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Town Square, Second Floor

city, town Bloomington state Indiana 47401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Monroe County Historic Site Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1979  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Bloomington Restorations, Inc.

city, town Bloomington state Indiana 47401

## 7. Description

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

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Wicks Building is constructed of brick with a limestone facade, and reflects the principles of the Chicago Commercial style. The building is three stories high with floor-to-ceiling windows dominating the upper two floors of the facade, while the ground level is made up of display windows.

The facade is framed by wide corner piers of stone. Immediately above the display windows and entrance is a panel of leaded glass, running the entire width of the building between the piers. This is followed with a band of stone, as high as the piers are wide, and carrying the words, "The Wicks Company."

At the second and third story levels, narrower limestone piers divide the building into eight bays. The spaces between piers are filled completely with glass, one large pane surmounted by four smaller panes in each bay. At the base of each window is ornamental ironwork, resembling a balustrade or balcony. Between the second and third stories are iron spandrels with decorative cartouches.

Another band of stone runs across the top of the building. The cartouche form is repeated in stone at the top of the end piers and the center pier. Smaller cartouches are centered above each window. Both narrow and wide piers are finished in points above the roofline, except the center one, which is squared off above a low, two-bay parapet.

The sides of the building are brick and abut the two buildings on either side. The basic shape of the building is rectangular, and the rear of the building is painted brick with a number of standard windows on each floor, delivery access, and an iron fire escape. The roof line is basically a gently sloping flat roof.

The building is generally in good condition. The structure is very sound but the ornamentation, although in place, needs work. The primary facade, unlike almost all other commercial buildings in the area, has not been altered in any substantial way since it was built.

# 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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1915                      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Wicks Building is considered to be the only commercial building in the Bloomington area indicative of the Chicago Commercial statement. Although the building, at three stories, is smaller than buildings typically referred to as Chicago Commercial, the fenestration, the shape of the building, the ratio of glass to visual structural supports, and the roof line all act to clearly establish the building as Chicago Commercial. Further, the building is one of very few commercial buildings in the Bloomington area which is over 50 years old and has not been substantially altered. The second and third story windows exhibit ornamental iron work unique to the area, and the facade is complimented by limestone carvings which bespeak the area's limestone heritage. The building is included in the local registry of historic sites, Historic Sites Survey, Bloomington Restorations, Inc., Card #105-055-0310-57A.

The building was constructed by Col. W. W. Wicks, a Civil War veteran. Col. Wicks became involved in the stone quarrying business and expanded his interests to include merchandise retailing. After fire destroyed their first store, the Wicks family built this structure, one of Bloomington's first department stores. The Wicks Department Store remained in business until 1976.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Bloomington Historic Site Survey, (Bloomington, Indiana, 1979), Card #57-A

## 10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Bloomington, Indiana

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	6	5	4	0	2	6	0	4	3	3	5	2	7	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Original Plat, Lot 226, Part Lot 6.

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 Rick Miracle

organization N/A

date February 1, 1982

street & number 1202 E. Chambers Pike

telephone 812/339-2637

city or town Bloomington

state Indiana 47401

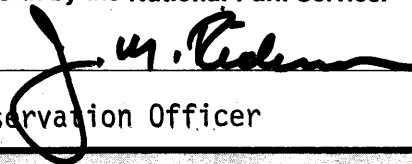
## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 1-24-83

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date

3/3/83

for   
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration