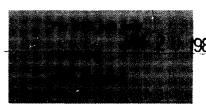
OMB NO. 1024-0018 EXP. 12/31/84

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Type all entries	—complete appl	icable sec	ctions				
<u> 1. Nam</u>	е						
historic	Goshen Historic District						
and/or common							
2. Loca			K.R.				
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3. Clas	sificatio	n					
Category X district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public privateX both Public Acquisit in process being consid N/A		Accessib yes: re	upied in progress	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum X park X private residence X religious Scientific transportation other:	
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7. Description

Condition _X_excellent	Check one unaltered X altered	Check one _X_ original site moved dateN/A	
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Goshen Historic District is a completely developed urban area situated in the heart of Goshen, Indiana. The proposed District is relatively large, encompassing some 45 city blocks, and includes areas of commercial, residential, and industrial development. Despite its size, the continuity within the district is remarkable. The district's boundaries are delineated on the north, east, and south by major thoroughfares, while the western boundary is formed by a 19th century canal. A simple rectangular grid street plan predominates throughout the district; the regularity of this plan is interrupted only by the change in direction of Main Street south of Monroe, as it angles to the southeast so as to remain roughly parallel with the canal.

The commercial section of this district is approximately five blocks long, stretching along Main Street from Pike Street, south to Madison. Lesser commercial activity occurs one block on either side of Main along Lincoln, Washington, and Jefferson Streets. Most buildings in this area are brick structures two to three stories tall; some feature cast-iron main facades. Many are of Italianate design and include ornate cornices with elaborate brackets; others have detailing which suggests the influence of various other architectural styles, including Romanesque Revival, Queen Anne, and Chicago School. Although a considerable number of these structures have suffered insensitive ground-floor remodelings, the majority retain their architectural integrity on the upper floor levels.

The residential areas of the district adjoin the commercial area on the south, east, and west sides. The homes vary in age, with the oldest dating from the 1840s. Many of the residences are large, two-story frame structures built by Goshen's most prominent 19th century merchants and businessmen, while others are smaller structures designed for the middle class. Architectural styles include Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, and Queen Anne. One of the most striking aspects of this section of the district is the abundance of maple trees, which line both sides of almost all the residential streets at a specific setback from the curbline. A sense of cohesion and unity is conveyed by the regular progression of these trees throughout the neighborhood. Sixth Street is of brick between Purl and Main Streets, one of few brick streets remaining in the town.

Between the alley just west of Third Street and the canal is an area developed as the city's first industrial section. The Hydraulic Canal was constructed in 1867-1868 to provide water power for industry; the land along its banks was thus reserved for manufacturing facilities. The west bank of the canal is now within a local park, but on the east bank there remain a number of early industrial structures. Most of these are late 19th century functional buildings, two-to-three stories tall, which have suffered relatively few alterations.

Additional information on specific buildings within the district appears below. Building numbers correspond to the map and numbered photographs.

Photo #1

The town of Goshen was established for the express purpose of providing a central location for the seat of county government. When Goshen was platted in 1831, one square block near the center of town was reserved for a county courthouse. This structure, completed in

8. Significance

	Areas of Significance—C — archeology-prehistoric — archeology-historic — agriculture —X architecture — art —X commerce — communications		law literature military music	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	N/A	Builder/Architect N/	'Α	

Statement of Significance (in one games such)

The Goshen Historic District is significant both for its architecture and for its role in the early commercial and residential development of the city of Goshen. The district includes one of the best and most intact Main Streets in the entire state, and with almost no breaks in its continuous facades. The residential area contains the best collection of architecturally significant residences in the county, and one of the best in the region. It, too, displays a strong continuity from one end to the other, enhanced by continuous rows of maple trees. Taken as a whole, the buildings in the district illustrate the growth patterns of this typical small Midwestern city throughout the second half of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth.

Goshen was founded in 1831 to serve as the seat of the newly-formed Elkhart County. The 120-acre site which comprised the original town was selected because of its proximity to the geographic center of the county. The area was platted using a simple rectilinear grid plan. Twelve lots near the north end of the original plat were reserved for public use, and in 1833 became the site of the first county courthouse. The town grew slowly during its early years; by 1850 the population was still only 780. The coming of the railroad in 1852 gave new impetus to the town, however, and by 1860 the population had increased to 2,053. This boom continued throughout the second half of the 19th century, with the population doubling every 20 years; the 1880 census counted 3,918 residents, and the 1900 census, 7,810.

The population boom of the 1860's and 1870's sparked an increase in the city's economic activity which, in turn, resulted in a downtown building boom in the 1880's and 1890's. The commercial district, in typical fashion, developed on Main Street south from the courthouse, and along perpendicular streets near their Main Street intersections. Most of the downtown buildings constructed during this era have survived into the present, their main architectural features intact. This in itself is remarkable, in comparison with numerous other Indiana communities where demolitions have left gaps in the downtown streetscapes.

The broad spectrum of architectural styles popular in this period is well-represented in this district. Italianate structures predominate in the commercial area; some good examples include the Kindy Block (#7), the Central Block (#8), and practically the entire east side of the 100 block of South Main Street. Queen Anne detailing is particularly good in the building at 131 S. Main Street (#6). Chicago School traits are obvious in the Spohn Building (#3). A commercial adaptation of Romanesque Revival is located at 213 S. Main (#10), and Renaissance Revival features are used in the Bank Building (#4). Many other buildings are typical of 19th century storefronts with interesting but eclectic design elements; examples would include the Harper Block (#5), and the Noble Building (#2).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet

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name/title	Janice Ra	sley							
organization	Goshen Hi	storical Soci	iety	d	ate	August	, 1981		
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city or town	Goshen			st	ate	Indiana	a		
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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Continuation sheet Goshen Historic District

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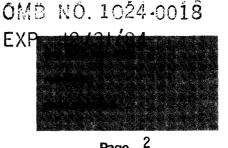
Page 1

The Elkhart County Courthouse was listed in the National Register on April 10, 1980.

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Page

1870, is the second to stand on that chosen site, replacing an 1830s structure which proved to be too small. The present courthouse was designed by the Chicago architectural firm of Barrows and Garnsey, and featured a large clock tower located on the south end of the structure. In 1905 the firm of Patton and Miller, also of Chicago, remodeled the structure, adding 20,000 square feet of office space and removing the asymmetricallylocated tower, replacing it with the present central tower. The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in April, 1980.

NOBLE BUILDING, 108 N. Main Street 2.

Photo #2

This building was constructed around 1885 and features a sandstone main facade with castiron and sheet metal detailing. The ground floor has been remodeled but still retains some of the cast-iron elements. The second floor features four large, double-hung windows with decorated lintels. The top floor, a half-story, has much smaller fixed windows with stained glass panes. The most striking feature of the building is the sheet metal cornice, which includes ornate brackets on a decorated frieze. From the center of the cornice rises a pediment with a sunburst design, below which appears the name "NOBLE."

SPOHN BUILDING, 202 N. Main Street 3.

Photo #3

The Spohn Building, a three-story brick structure at the intersection of Main and Clinton, was built in 1909 and originally housed a veterinary supplies manufacturer. Samuel F. Spohn, the owner, also served one term as Mayor of Goshen. The building's main facade is separated into three bays by three-story brick pilasters with limestone detailing. The center bay on the ground floor contains the main entry; all other openings contain large windows reminiscent of the Chicago School. The main entry and the third-floor windows feature segmental arch tops with decorative stone hoods. The cornice features wide, overhanging eaves, dentils, and a plain frieze. The structure remains in good condition, having been spared exterior remodeling.

BANK BUILDING, 109 E. Lincoln

Photo #4

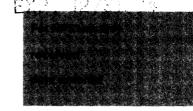
This Renaissance-inspired structure, built in 1875, has a well-detailed main facade of cast-iron. The first floor is elevated, with iron stairs providing access from the sidewalk up to the main floor and down to the basement, a feature common in the large cities of the East but very unusual in Indiana. Fluted columns flank the east entryway. On the second floor level, a row of seven arched windows of varying sizes stretches across the entire facade, with elaborate hood molds springing from fluted pilasters. The ornate cornice features brackets and dentils, and a parapet over the center of the building gives its name and construction date. The west side of the ground floor has been remodeled but the east half remains intact.

THE HARPER BLOCK, 124 S. Main Street

Photo #5

This red brick, two-story commercial building was built in 1888 to house the Harper Boot and Shoe business. The present tenant, the Adams Store, took up occupancy in the building in 1898. The ground floor has been altered, but the second floor and cornice retain their original detailing. The second floor windows feature heavy hood molds connected by a string course. Corbelled brick decorates the area between the windows and the cornice. A parapet above the cornice gives the building's name and construction date: "Harper Block, 1888."

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6. COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 131 S. Main Street

Photo #6

Above the remodeled ground floor of this 1885 building is one of the finest Queen Annestyle facades in the district. The second floor facade is constructed mainly of sheet metal and includes a variety of architectural elements, including egg-and-dart molding, pilasters, several rows of dentils, garlands, and modillions. Leaded glass is also employed in some of the second-floor windows, unusual in a commercial structure.

7. KINDY BLOCK, 201 S. Main Street

Photo #7

This building has been the location of Newell's ladies' wear store since 1881. The structure is located on the southwest corner of Main and Washington and features a large, overhanging cornice with brackets and modillions on the Main Street facade. The Washington Street cornice is less ornate, consisting of decorative brick corbelling. Ornate window hoods appear on the second floor level throughout the building. The ground floor has been obscured by the addition of large display windows, but this was accomplished without destroying the main wall fabric and could be reversed.

8. CENTRAL BLOCK, 202 S. Main Street

Photo #8

Built in 1882, this two story brick commercial building has housed shoe stores continuously since 1897. The building is located at the intersection of Main and Washington, and features a corner entry. The ground floor has been remodeled but the second floor features the original double-hung windows with stone sills and lintels. The cornice features elaborate brackets and dentils. The legend, "1882 Central Block," appears in the parapet over the doorway.

9. JEFFERSON THEATER, 210 S. Main Street

Photo #9A, 9B

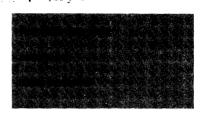
Built in 1907, this theater replaced a previous structure of the same name destroyed by fire on December 18, 1906. Originally constructed for live stage shows, the Jefferson began showing movies as early as 1912. It was designed by Colonel J. M. Wood and seats over 1,100 people. The building is of buff colored brick with Bedford limestone detailing and stands three stories tall. The third floor of the structure features the most ornate exterior elements, with rounded arch windows having radiating stone voussoirs, connected by stone striations, and a simple cornice with dentils.

10. COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 213 S. Main Street

Photo #10

This building's original appearance is unknown; the current main facade is the result of a 1900 remodeling. At that time a new stone front was added to the building in the Romanesque style. This remodeling survives on the upper floor level, and features two large, rounded arch windows with voussoirs. The first floor has been remodeled more recently and has lost most of its detailing.

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11. ROWELL RESIDENCE, 101 N. Third Street

Photo #11

Goshen's oldest brick home, this house was built in 1847 by George P. Rowell, a farm implement manufacturer. Greek Revival in design, the house features a monumental portico, with two-story Doric columns supporting a massive pediment. The classic frieze features guttae under the triglyphs and unadorned metopes.

12. GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH, 518 S. Third Street

Photo #12

This Baptist Church is popularly believed to be the oldest frame structure in the city, dating from 1859. It originally stood at the corner of Washington and 6th Streets. In 1876 it was sold to the city's Jewish congregation, which two years later had the building moved to its present site. After the Jewish congregation disbanded in 1932, the building passed through a number of hands until it was acquired by the General Baptist congregation, its present owner. The building offers a curious combination of elements from the Greek Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne styles.

13. C. W. KERSTETTER RESIDENCE, 311 S. Main Street Photo #13

This brick home was built in 1868 in the Italianate style and features a mansard roof with cornice brackets. The curving front porch is thought to have been added in 1904. Since 1923 the building has been used as a funeral home; remodeling in 1974 restored much of the interior to its original appearance.

14. WILLIAM GARDNER HOME, 317 S. Main Street

Photo #14

This home was built by William Gardner around 1855 as a one-story Italianate structure. Major remodeling in the 1890s included the construction of a second floor and the addition of Queen Anne-style detailing.

15. J. M. DALE HOME, 114 S. 5th Street

Photo #15

This Queen Anne house was built in 1890 and is still owned by descendants of the original builder, J. M. Dale, a wealthy drygoods merchant. The house has an irregular floor plan, a slate roof with an abundance of dormers, and a large, octagonal tower in the south corner of the main (west) facade. The gable areas throughout the house are decorated with a variety of siding types, and the porch and balcony feature turned wooden columns and other turned and scroll-sawn decorative elements. The house is believed to be the first in Goshen to be wired for electricity.

16. GOSHEN PUBLIC LIBRARY, 202 S. 5th Street

Photo #16

This was Goshen's first public library, constructed in 1902 with funds donated by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The building is a small, Neo-Classical style structure of Bedford limestone, with a monumental main entry flanked by Doric columns. A central rotunda features imitation onyx and marble trim and an art-glass dome. Interior woodwork is of mahogany and oak. This building has been renovated and serves as the architectural offices of Troyer and Associates.

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17. FIRST METHODIST CHURCH, 214 S. 5th Street

Photo #17

Built in 1874, this Victorian Gothic church has a square tower with a spire in the southwest corner, visually balanced by a polygonal bay on the north facade. Three pointed-arch, stained glass windows, arranged in a Palladian-style configuration, appear over the main entry. This building was designed by Cass Chapman, a Chicago architect who designed several buildings in the Goshen area.

18. J.A.S. MITCHELL RESIDENCE, 324 S. 5th Street Photo #18

This Eastlake style home is another of the works of Cass Chapman, of Chicago. It was built in 1870 for Captain J.A.S. Mitchell, a Goshen lawyer and Indiana State Supreme Court Judge. The home features a three-story, octagonal tower and, on the interior, pocket doors, marble mantlepieces, and a winding staircase.

19. JOHN H. BAKER RESIDENCE, 401 S. 5th Street Photo #19

Judge John H. Baker built this Italianate home in 1875. Baker was the only Goshen resident ever elected to Congress, serving in the House of Representatives from 1872 to 1878. Later, he was appointed a U.S. District Judge. The residence, which has recently undergone an extensive exterior renovation, is a two-story brick structure with segmental arched windows, decorative hood molds, and a heavy cornice with elaborate brackets and dentils.

20. SIMMONS RESIDENCE, 419 S. 5th Street

Photo #20

Dr. Isaac Simmons built this two-story, Queen Anne-style home around 1890. A frame structure, it features a front porch with Classical detailing and an unusual second-floor balcony. Some interior remodeling was done in 1925.

21. WICKAM RESIDENCE, 628 S. 5th Street

Photo #21

This brick Italianate home was built in 1857 for a Goshen physician, Dr. Wickam. It is a two-story structure with pedimented window heads, a wide, plain frieze, and heavy cornice brackets used in pairs. The interior features a dramatic curved staircase.

22. JOHN LESH RESIDENCE, 313 E. Lincoln Street

Photo #22

This large, Italianate home was built in 1879 for John Lesh, a local lumber merchant. It was designed by Cass Chapman, of Chicago. Despite modifications to the windows, the house retains its massive stone window hoods, a two-story projecting bay, unusual for its triangular shape, and ornate bracketed cornice.

23. ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 105 S. 6th Street Photo #23

The local Episcopalian congregation erected this English Victorian Gothic building in 1862. The relatively plain church features pointed arch windows, wall buttresses, and a square bell tower on the north side of the main (east) facade.

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24. ELIAS GORTNER HOUSE, 203 S. 6th Street

Photo #24

This relatively simple brick home was built in 1862 for Elias Gortner, an early Goshen businessman. The wide eaves, rectangular massing, and elaborate, paired cornice brackets classify the architectural style of the home as Italianate, but both the front and side entryways are of Georgian Revival design, and are probably the result of later remodelings.

25. JOHN GORTNER HOUSE, 212 S. 6th Street

Photo #25

This brick Italianate home was built in 1861 by John Gortner, who, with Elias Gortner, owned the Goshen Excelsior Threshing Machine and Agricultural Works. The home features paired brackets supporting the wide eaves, dentils in the frieze area, and a polygonal bay window on the south wall. The front porch, a later addition, is of Classical inspiration, with fluted Ionic columns used in pairs, and dentils and modillions below the roofline.

23.

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(Intrusions)

First National Bank Complex

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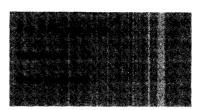
1. Flower Shop St.John's Church 24. Goshen Fire Station 2. 25. Goshen Library Complex 3. Duffin Law Building 26. Dress Shop 4. Elkhart County Security Center 27. Glass Company 5. Insurance Office 28. Grocery Store Optometrist Office Travel Agency 6. 29. Printing Office 7. R & K Garage 30. Dental Office NIPSCO Complex 8. 31. 9. Flower Shop 32. Kline's and Law Office Goshen Liquor Store 10. Mehl Law Building 33. 11. Service Station 34. Service Station 12. 35. City Church of the Brethren American Laundry 13. Office Building 36. Goshen News Press Building Medical Office Turner Medical Office 14. 37. Office Building Goshen Municipal Bldg. 15. 38. 16. Salvation Army Citadel 39. Medical Office Dental Office 17. Telephone Company 40. Used Car Lot 41. Church Education Building 18. 19. Elkhart Bank Complex 42. New Home 20. Restaurant 43. Apartment Building 21. Salem Bank Complex 44. Real Estate Office Dental Office 22. Service Station 45.

Intrusions listed are buildings that have been constructed since 1930. City and commercial parking areas are not numbered as intrusions but are indicated on the map with a "P".

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The area's continued strength as a retail district can be seen in the longevity of the local businesses, several of which have remained for almost a century at the same location. Newell's Ladies' Wear, for example, has been in the Kindy Block since 1887, and the Harper Building has housed the Adams Store since 1898. Goshen's Main Street has remarkably few vacant storefronts, despite the presence of shopping centers fairly nearby.

Adjacent to the commercial area is what was the town's most affluent residential district. This area, too, retains most of its original fabric, successfully conveying the feeling of a prosperous, 19th century, Midwestern county seat. A cohesive appearance is lent to this still well-kept neighborhood by the abundance of maple trees in the area. The trees were planted by city fathers in the late 19th century, and are located at regular intervals and setbacks throughout the district. Their orderly progression helps to unify and identify the area, and long ago caused the town to be nicknamed the Maple City.

It is important to note that the original residents of this neighborhood were the same people who had established businesses nearby in the downtown area. J. M. Dale lived at 114 S. 5th (#15); he located his drygoods business at 118 S. Main. Charles Harper's shoe store was located at 124 S. Main (#5); he resided at 223 S. 6th. The owners of Newell's Ladies' Wear (#7) also lived in the neighborhood; J. E. Newell's home was located at 411 S. 6th, and his brother, Charles, lived at 521 S. 5th.

The larger mansions owned by downtown's prosperous business people tended to be located nearest to the commercial area, at the northern, central part of the district. More modest homes tended to be located farther east and south, although all types can be found in parts of the district. While a few of these date back to the 1840's, the majority of these homes were built at approximately the same time as the commercial structures downtown, and they employ many of the same architectural styles.

The most prevalent style in the residential area is Queen Anne, as exemplified by the J. M. Dale residence (#15), with its ornately detailed porches and stained glass windows. Other good residential examples of this style are the Simmons Residence (#20), with its classic-inspired porch and wheel-like spindle trim, and the Noble-Mary House (see photo #79) with its marvelous steeply-pitched tower roofs.

Notable Italianate homes include the John H. Baker residence (#19) with a heavily bracketed cornice and ornate hood molds, and the John Gortner residence (#25), which features the characteristic projecting bay window on the side. More typical of the Italianates in the district is the Elias Gortner house (#24), with unadorned, segmentally arched windows under a simple, bracketed cornice.

Eastlake and Greek Revival structures are found in lesser numbers, along with American foursquare and vernacular buildings, giving the district a good diversity of styles.

Situated west of this residential neighborhood, adjacent to the Hydraulic Canal, is Goshen's first industrial area. It was formed around the Canal, which was built with funds provided by a consortium of local businessmen in 1867-1868. A channel was dug to

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divert water from the nearby Elkhart River, the resulting flow being envisioned as an inexpensive source of industrial power. The \$100,000 project was never as successful as was hoped, and most of the factories along its banks eventually found it necessary to augment this water power with steam or electricity. Nevertheless, the Canal's promise attracted industry to this area, and spurred economic development in the city. The Canal also was a major factor in the determination of land use in Goshen, establishing the west side's industrial character.

The Canal also affected the development of the residential neighborhood to the east. The factories located along the Canal provided employment for many of the neighborhood residents. Many of the industrialists who established these factories also located their own residences in the neighborhood, particularly along 5th and 6th Streets. The president of Goshen Milling, for example, lived at 403 S. 5th, while F. W. Hawks, of Hawks Furniture, resided at 301 S. 5th. Goshen city directories of the era provide many similar examples.

The factory buildings located along the Canal were large, functional-style structures, predominantly of brick. Normally two to three stories tall, they featured an abundance of windows, simple flat or gable rooflines, and little exterior detailing. Those that survive, while not remarkable in themselves, are significant for the role they played in the development of the city.

The district boundaries were selected on the basis of changes in the physical character, as well as well-defined edges. Pike Street on the north is a major thoroughfare; a railroad forms the rest of the north boundary. The east boundary, Cottage Avenue, is actually an alley; Eighth Street to the east has suffered a loss of many of its maple trees, as well as a loss of building fabric and the introduction of recent intrusions, making Seventh Street the easternmost street with good integrity. Plymouth Street is heavily trafficked, and below it are several more recent structures and parking lots.

Both sides of southern Main Street retain the scale and period seen in the rest of the district; however, the area west of Main Street, below Purl, consists of smaller scale homes, most of which have been altered, and many of which are more recent. The Canal forms the western edge up to Second Street. The area west of Second Street has railroad tracks and recent industrial/commercial structures.

Intrusions in the district are relatively few. Most are commercial, and are located in the commercial district, so that their presence is not detrimental to the district's character.

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NPS Form 10-900-a (7-81)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet Goshen Historic District

Item number

10

OMB NO. 1024-0018 EXP. 12/31/84



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Boundary Description

Beginning at the southeast corner of the intersection of 2nd and Pike Streets; continuing east along the south side of Pike to the southern Penn Central Railroad right-of-way line; then southeast along the railroad right-of-way to Cottage Avenue; then south along the west side of Cottage Avenue to Plymouth Avenue; then west along the north side of Plymouth Avenue across Main Street; then northwest along the rear lines of properties fronting on the west side of Main Street to Purl Street; then west along the north side of Purl to the West bank of the Hydraulic Canal; then north along the west bank of the Canal to the east edge of the southern extension of Second Street; then north along the east side of Second Street to the point of origin.