

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

4214

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Downtown Mansfield Historic District

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: roughly bounded by Fifth Street to the north, Diamond Street to the east, Second Street to the south, and Mulberry Street to the west

City or town: Mansfield State: Ohio County: Richland

Not For Publication: NA Vicinity: NA

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

<i>Barbara Powell</i> DSHPO Inventory & Registration <u>5/31/2019</u>	
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History Connection _____	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

*[Handwritten Signature]*

*7/25/19*

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object



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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian – High Victorian Gothic, Italianate, Romanesque Revival,  
Richardsonian Romanesque

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals – Classical Revival, Spanish Colonial Revival

Late 19th & 20th Century American Movements – Skyscraper

Modern Movement – Art Moderne, Mid-Century Modern, New Formalist

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: brick, terra cotta, stone – granite,  
sandstone, marble, metal - enameled metal, bronze, aluminum, stucco, and glass.

## Narrative Description

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### Summary Paragraph

The Downtown Mansfield Historic District is a predominantly commercial district that represents the historic core of the City of Mansfield, the county seat of Richland County in north-central Ohio, as it evolved from a small settlement to an early railroad junction on to an important center of manufacturing and industry during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The proposed historic district contains a total of 96 contributing resources, which break down to; 92 contributing buildings, one (1) contributing site, and three (3) contributing objects. Seven (7) resources within the district boundary were previously individually listed in the Nation Register of Historic Places. A total of thirteen (13) resources are considered to be non-contributing; nine (9) buildings, two (2) structures and two (2) objects and thus are a small percentage of resources in the district. These resources were either built outside the period of significance or have lost historic integrity through alterations or loss of character defining features.

The buildings range from one story in height to twelve and represent a variety of architectural styles, reflective of Mansfield's development over the period of significance. The district's central organizing feature is Central Park along with the original plat of Mansfield, whose primary attributes are still visible today. The district is centered on Main Street and includes the 100% corner of Main Street and Park Avenue where the city's numbering and directional system begins. Main Street is a continuous two-lane street with on-street parking, lighting, and street trees that create a commercial corridor in downtown Mansfield. As is common with development patterns during the period of significance, Main Street forms a one-way pair with Diamond Street, which is of a similar design, creating the primary north-south route of Mansfield. Park Avenue is the primary civic and east-west corridor, which reflects mid-20<sup>th</sup> century changes within the period of significance including the cut-through of Central Park (1958) and the county's New Formalist courthouse (1968). The district is roughly bounded by Second Street to the south, Mulberry Street to the west, Fifth Street to the north, and Diamond Street to the east.

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**1. Central Park, 1808, 1958**

Contributing Site

The history of Downtown Mansfield's Central Park can be traced back to the beginnings of Mansfield when founders designed the town to have a centrally located public square. The square in Mansfield was cleared during the War of 1812; the first courthouses were located here; and it transitioned into a public green space in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century when the 1873 courthouse was built adjacent to the square. But the most dramatic change took place in the 1950s. The post-WWII era was a prosperous time for Mansfield and an increase in automobile traffic led to a critical decision by Mansfield City Council in 1958, when it approved a "cut through" to facilitate automobile traffic through the downtown.

As a result of this action, the park was permanently divided by Park Avenue into north and south sections. This change took place within the period of significance and reflected the changing downtown landscape in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.

A gazebo and several memorials were added after the end of the period of significance. Even with these changes, Central Park remains the central organizing feature of downtown Mansfield and its green space is still a significant public space used by the community. The entirety of the park, both the north and the south side is considered one contributing site, inclusive of all of minor resources not specifically called out below.

Central Park North

Photo #1, 2

The north park is roughly 1.33 acres, and is bounded by Park Avenue East to the south, North Park Street to the north, and Main and Diamond Streets to the west and east, respectively. It is a landscaped green space with sidewalk paths meandering around the various monuments and a number of mature trees. Central Park North contains many smaller statues and monuments, including the Ohio Historical Society marker commemorating Johnny Appleseed's Run for Reinforcements (1999), the White Stone War Memorial (ca. 1976), the Allen J. Vandayburg Memorial (2005), and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial (2007). The following resources are notable for being of sufficient size to be counted independently of the site in which they are located.

A. "The Doughboy", 1999

Non-Contributing Object

A war memorial is located along the center of the south boundary facing Park Avenue. It is a bronze replica of a marble statue portraying a World War I soldier with arms crossed and weapon at rest, symbolizing those who have fought in war. The pedestal has a plaque dedicating the memorial to the Richland County residents who served the United States in some way during World War I between 1917 and 1918. The original marble sculpture was dedicated by the Jared Mansfield Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in November of 1922, however, after years of exposure the sculpture had deteriorated to such a point that it was moved indoors, and in 1999 this bronze replica took its place in the park.

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B. Freedom Is Not Free Memorial, c. 2000

Non-Contributing Object

In the center of the west portion of the park is a large curved white concrete bench with the words "Freedom Is Not Free" carved into the back, a raised column in the center, and flanking sets of 5 brown concrete steps. On the column is a relief of the North and South Korean Peninsula and a dedication to the Veterans of the Korean War. Along the top of the bench above "Freedom" and in the stone pathway in front of the bench are the names of Richland County residents who lost their lives in the Korean War. A plaza paved with concrete and rectangular memorial pavers surrounds the memorial.

C. Gazebo, 2000

Non-Contributing Structure

The octagonal Gazebo is the only structure in the park. It is located in the northern half of Central Park and was constructed by the city of Mansfield as a late replacement to the deteriorated wooden bandstand that was torn down in the 1950s. Built on a brick and concrete foundation, this gazebo has a metal frame with white decorative railing, matching white decorative metal designs above, and a faded green metal pitched roof with a small cupola and spire extending from the center.

D. Lincoln Memorial, 1925

Contributing Object

The Abraham Lincoln Memorial is located in the mid-west portion of the park and facing North Main Street. It consists of an upright concrete slab with a bronze plaque that features a bas-relief profile of the 16th president of the United States, and words below commemorating the first public and official endorsement of Abraham Lincoln as candidate for president. This endorsement was given in Mansfield at a county convention in November of 1858. This memorial was erected by the Richland County Lincoln Association in September of 1925. This memorial dates from within the district's period of significance, and is one of few park resources that remains in its original location.

Central Park South

Photos #3,4

The southern half of Central Park is bounded by Park Avenue East to the north, South Park Street to the south, and South Main and Diamond Streets to the west and east. It maintains some grassy areas with sidewalk paths meandering around the various monuments, and mature trees scattered throughout the space. The major feature in this section of the park is the large, historic Vasbinder Fountain. Central Park South also contains smaller statues and monuments, including the Police Memorial in the southeast corner of the park (2000), and interactive large musical instruments (2016) in the west-central portion of the park, which replaced a ca. 1980s wooden playground. The following resources are notable for contributing to the historic fabric of the park and the district.

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E. Vasbinder Fountain, ca. 1881, 1979  
Object

Photo #5 Contributing

In the center of the south Central Park is a historic green-tinted cast-iron fountain. Originally donated in 1881 by David and Jane Vasbinder, it sat in the center of the still-intact Central Park until 1958, when Mansfield first began discussing cutting a road through Central Park. At that time the fountain was relocated to Malabar Farm, over 12 miles away. It was restored and reinstalled in Central Park in 1979. The two-tiered bronze fountain sits in the middle of a large circular pool at its base. The fountain consists of two circular pools on an elevated base and topped with the figure of a woman holding an urn. The fountain is an elegant late 19<sup>th</sup> century feature and is considered contributing to the character of the historic district.

F. Richland County Soldier's Monument, 1881, 1998 Contributing Object

The largest war memorial in the park is located along the north side of this section of park. It is a cast iron figure of a Civil War soldier holding his weapon, elevated on a rectangular marble base. A bronze plaque states that it was originally donated by M.D. Harter and dedicated on November 10, 1881, "to the memory of Richland County's honored dead who lost their lives fighting the battles of their country on land and at sea." In 1998 it was restored and rededicated to those who sacrificed in all wars for the United States. The memorial is enclosed with an iron fence. This memorial is considered a feature that contributes to the character of the park and district.

## Buildings

### **Block # 1 North Park Street between North Main Street and North Diamond Street 7 buildings (7 contributing)**

2. 28-34 North Main Street, H. L. Reed Co. Store ca. 1865 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Italianate Photo #30

On the northeast corner of North Main Street and North Park Street is the three-story historic H. L. Reed Company Store. The building has a corner entrance and it has a North Main Street address, but it is clear that the primary facade (and entrance) once faced Central Park on North Park Street. It is a three-story building with a stone foundation, a flat roofline, a distinctively shaped parapet, and measures three by nine bays. The decorative parapet features two low-pitch gables and a central mushroom-cap gable and has stone coping with sphere finials.

The first floor has been altered to a stone exterior while the upper floors are original redbrick. The upper floors of the primary (south) elevation feature brick pilasters separating the bays; segmental-arch with replacement one-over-one window sash in all except the center bay; and decorative curved brickwork below the parapet. The first floor has an arched entry located at the southwest corner of the building with replacement double doors facing North Park and North Main, and replacement storefront windows with awnings along the west and south elevations.

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The three bays of the west elevation match those of the south elevation, including window style, size, and brick decoration. H. L. Reed's was the last department store in downtown Mansfield before they closed in 1993.

To the north is a three-story, 20th Century Commercial addition connected to the H. L. Reed Co. Store. It has a brick facade, flat roof, and measures four bays across. The first floor storefront has been altered to match the rest of the building, and the second and third floors feature rectangular windows with painted pediment lintels.

3. 19 North Park Street, ca. 1890s, 1950s alterations      Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style

This is one of four late nineteenth century buildings that underwent façade changes in the 1950s following an excavation of the adjacent Newman Building (27-31 North Park Street), which caused extensive damage to them. The row of buildings was refaced in different colors of brick, but in a similar design - each has a large picture window on the second floor and an insert in the upper façade with the building's original name in it; and simple stone coping on the flat parapet. These building will be described in the following numbers 3-6.

The westernmost building (19 North Park Street) has a brick facade and a centrally located second floor window with a stone lintel. Above the second floor window is a terra cotta sign reading "BERNO." The storefront contains a recessed double leaf fully glazed entry door flanked by display windows.

4. 21 North Park Street, ca. 1890s, 1950s alterations      Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style

To the east, is a building with a brick facade and stone coping. A centrally located second floor window matches that of 19 North Park and also has a stone lintel. Above the window is a stone plate reading "Brown Bldg." At ground level are three vertical single paned glass panel windows with stone sills and a metal entry door toward its neighbor to the west.

5. 23 North Park Street, ca. 1890s, 1950s alterations      Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style

To the east sharing a wall is a building with a brick facade and stone coping. A centrally located second floor window matches that of 19 and 21 North Park, and also has a stone lintel. Above the window is a stone plate reading "Komito Bldg." The storefront contains a recessed single leaf fully glazed entry door flanked by display windows. A separate entry door appears to be between this building and 25 North Park Street.



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6. 25 North Park Street, ca. 1890s, 1950s alterations      Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style

The easternmost of the four buildings with mid-century alterations is clad with a yellow metal mesh screening in three large vertical panels separated by off white metal spandrels that covers the entire upper area. The storefront is clad in faux rubble stone finish with a modern recessed entry door. A metal sign identifies the building as the Olympic Lounge. The modifications were made during the period of significance as downtown was trying to remain “modern” and competitive.

7. 27-31 North Park Street, ca. 1946      Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Art Moderne

This Art Moderne building once housed a Woolworth’s store. It is two stories, with a concrete foundation with a basement, a mixed concrete and masonry frame, and a flat roofline. The remaining Art Moderne features include the streamlined horizontal second floor detailing of bands of stone providing a contrast to the buff-colored brick exterior; a stone insert with the name “Newman” flanked by the dates 1882 and 1946 and the simple parapet with stone coping. The storefront was altered with contemporary infill that has rounded corners at the entrance in the spirit of the Art Moderne. This building was built in the immediate post WWII period as downtown was beginning to “modernize.” Although the storefront has been altered, it retains enough of its historic fabric to be considered as a contributing building. In 1944 a fire destroyed the original building.

8. 35-39 North Park Street, ca. 1946      Contributing Building  
Richland Community Service Center  
Architectural Style: Mid Century Commercial

The former Sears & Roebuck building is located at the northwest corner of North Park Street and North Diamond Street. It is an Art Moderne influenced building dating from 1946. The building is two stories with a concrete foundation, masonry and concrete frame, and a flat roofline. It features a smooth limestone and buff-colored brick façade measuring six bays across. An original recessed double- door entry is centrally located facing the park, with flanking mosaic walls where historic storefront windows would be. The second story features multiple horizontal windows sharing a single concrete sill and soldier course brick lintel. The window sash are replacements, but the openings are original. A three- story smooth limestone tower is located at the southwest corner of the building, which houses the building’s HVAC systems as well as a display case at the first-floor level facing the park (south). This building is another example of the “modernization” of downtown. Like the neighboring building at 27-31 North Park, this building is a by-product to the 1944 fire. Although the storefronts have newer materials, it still reads as a retail store.

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**Block # 2 South Park Street between South Main Street and South Diamond Street  
6 buildings (3 contributing, 1 previously listed, 2 non-contributing)**

9. 10 South Park Street, ca. 1912 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Classic Revival

At the southeast corner of South Park and South Main Streets is a three-story, 4 bay brick building, with a stone foundation and flat roofline. It was built by Albert Remy and originally housed a post office. The first-floor storefront has been modified with metal-framed storefront windows and a bulkhead and has a single door with transom in the westernmost bay. A single door with transom in the easternmost bay accesses the upper floors. The second and third floors retain historic elements, including rectangular window openings, continuous stone sills on both floors, and a geometric brick pattern between the second and third story windows. Brick pilasters separate the windows of the third floor, featuring decorative stone capitals and bases. A stone cornice is below a brick parapet with a stone top. The windows have one-over-one replacement sash.

10. 12 South Park Street, ca. 1890s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Photo #6

Directly east and sharing a wall with 10 South Park Street is a two-story brick building. It has a stone foundation and flat roofline and measures two bays across. The two storefronts remain relatively intact, with recessed entries, bulkheads and transom windows, but with replacement doors. Centrally located on the first floor primary (north) elevation is a third door with stacked transoms, leading to stairs which grant access to the second floor. A signboard cornice separates the first and second floors. Each bay of the second floor contains an oriel window with bellcast tops. The historic cornice has been altered and concealed with a deteriorating sheet metal cover. This building shares party walls to the east and west with 10 and 16 South Park Street, respectively.

11. 16 South Park Street, ca. 1890s Non-Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Italianate/Modern Facade Photo #6

This three-story building has a sandstone foundation and a flat roofline. It measures two bays across its primary (north) elevation, and has a significantly altered primary façade, including changes to the storefronts; downsized windows on the second story; and a stucco curtain wall - added in 1983 - that obscures the original design of the building. The remainder of the facade features no other ornamentation except for a large rectangular relief in the stucco facade where the third-floor windows would be, as well as a simple terra-cotta cornice. Due to the substantial alterations, this building is considered non-contributing.

12. 20 South Park Street, ca. 1880 Non-Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style Photo #6

Directly to the east and sharing a wall with 16 South Park is a three-story brick building with a stone foundation and flat roofline. It measures three bays across and features a

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modified storefront and façade. The storefront bulkhead, windows and transom have been altered, although the recessed doors to the store and upper levels are in their original location. The second story windows are original openings with replacement sash. A stucco curtain wall, with contrasting trim around the sides and top, was added some time in the 1980s and covers the original third floor window openings. The extent of the alterations outside the period of significance make this a non-contributing building.

13. 28 South Park Street, ca.1905                      Previously Listed, NR #86002865  
Architectural Style: Spanish Colonial                      Photo #6

Providing a contrast in style to the rest of the South Park block is a three-story Spanish Colonial Revival May Building. It originally housed the Orphium Theater, a vaudeville house. It retains most of its architectural character-defining features. It measures twelve bays across and has a stone foundation. The first floor contains five storefronts, most with original cast iron posts dividing them: four on the east portion of the facade with recessed single door entries and large storefront windows to the east of the door; and one recessed double door entry with flanking storefront windows in the west portion of the first-floor. The westernmost bay features an altered half-timber English Tudor style facade with a door to the west. There are three single doors with transoms granting access to the upper level floors: two in the outer bays of the first floor, set in by one storefront, and one centrally located between two storefronts.

The second and third floors have six wood construction oriel windows with stucco panels per floor, spaced in such a pattern that the west half fenestration pattern mirrors that of the east half. Between the oriel windows are alternating two-door access and single-door access decorative iron balconies. The second-floor doors have simple stone lintels, while the third-floor doors have decorative stone arches above the lintels. A dentilled terra cotta cornice projects from the brick parapet, which has a central curvilinear element with three small arched windows.

14. 36 South Park Street, 1938                      Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Moderne

The final building in the block is located at the corner of South Park Street and South Diamond Street, constructed originally as a movie theater. The two-story brick building has a concrete block foundation, a flat roofline, and measures three by three bays. The first floor has a stone facade with three storefronts, which retain their original openings but have infill storefront materials. The second-floor features three one-over-one windows grouped in the outermost bays, with five one-over-one windows grouped in the center bay. Brick pilasters separate the bays; and continuous stone belt courses form the lintels and sills; another beltcourse is located between the other two and creates a horizontal emphasis. A simple stone cornice at the top matches these belt courses. Original 1938 Vitrolite Glass Lamps terminate the pilasters at the parapet.

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**Block # 3 North Diamond Street between Park Avenue East and East Third Street  
1 building (1 contributing)**

15. 12 North Diamond Street, ca. 1905-1910 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Late Gothic Revival

At the corner of Park Avenue East and North Diamond Street is the First United Methodist Church. The church has a limestone foundation, rock-faced finished walls, and a hipped red tile roof with cross gables. There is a four-story bell tower located on the southwest corner of the building with a lancet-arched second floor stained glass window on both elevations and louvered openings on the fourth-floor belfry. The two double-door main entrances are recessed under two lancet-arched doorways and are connected by a single transom. A two-story lancet-arched window with stained glass takes up the second and third floor facade of the primary (west) elevation. The windows and door openings have smooth stone trim.

**Block # 4 North Diamond Street between East Third Street and Dickson Avenue East  
1 building (1 contributing)**

16. 71 North Diamond Street, ca. 1909 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

This 3-story brick building, with a concrete foundation and flat roofline is located on the corner of North Diamond Street and Dickson Avenue East (alley). The first-floor measures five bays across and the second and third floors measure seven by eleven bays. The first floor has two single door entrances with transoms, an overhead garage door, and two large display windows, which reflect its auto-related history. All first-floor windows are replacements, but openings are consistent with historic industrial buildings. The second and third floor window openings were infilled, however the original openings are clearly visible. A simple brick cornice separates the first and second floors as well as the second and third floors. Another projecting brick beltcourse is above the third story windows. A brick parapet with stone coping extends along the primary (east) elevation. The side elevation also features original openings with replacement sash. A single-story brick addition extends from the south elevation.

**Block # 5 North Diamond Street between West Temple Court and East Fifth Street  
9 buildings (7 contributing, 2 non-contributing)**

17. 117 North Diamond Street, 1894 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Italianate Photo #34

On the corner of North Diamond Street and the brick-paved West Temple Court (Photo # 41) is a four-story brick building. It measures three by five bays and has a sandstone foundation and a flat roofline with four chimneys. The first floor has a central recessed double-door entry and original storefronts with boarded storefront windows. The second and third floors feature two oriel windows each, located in the end bays, with Doric

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pilasters separating the bays and two smaller one-over-one windows in the center bay of each floor. The third-floor features three rectangular one-over-one windows on the ends and two rectangular one-over-one windows in the center bay. A projecting cornice with both dentils and modillions is located below the parapet.

18. 123 North Diamond Street, ca. 1865 Architectural Style: Vernacular Italianate Contributing Building Photo #34

Immediately to the north is a four-story brick building that originally housed the Charles Schroer Company; a cabinet and coffin maker and undertaker. This building has a flat roofline and a sandstone foundation, and measures six bays across. The two first floor storefronts have been altered but retain their historic cast iron columns. The building has an asymmetrical facade with a stepped foundation and storefronts, due to the grade of the street and area. The southern three bays have segmental-arched one-over-one windows, while the northern three bays have segmental-arched two-over-two and four-over-four windows with stone lug sills. The wood window sash are historic. The prominent decorative brick parapet above the fourth floor features an arcaded corbel table.

19. 131 North Diamond Street, ca. 1914 Architectural Style: English Tudor Gothic Elements Contributing Building

This two-story brick building measures three by five bays, has a concrete foundation, and a flat roof. The first floor has a centrally located entry door slightly recessed in a stepped back brick surround. The door is a modern replacement. In the flanking first floor bays are single rectangular window openings with one-over-one replacement windows, stone lintels, and brick sills. A light-colored stone hood-mold course separates the first and second floors on the primary (east) elevation. A large, lancet-arched window in the center bay of the second floor has a replacement sash. Flanking the lancet-window are two smaller, rectangular window openings with stone lintels and brick sills. A slightly stepped brick parapet is above the second floor with light-colored stone coping to match the hood-mold. The window sash are replacements, but the original openings have been retained. A stone insert above the central window reads, "1865-Schroer-1914. The building was originally constructed as a mortuary.

20. 139 North Diamond Street, ca. 1920s Architectural Style: No Academic Style Non-Contributing Building

This three-story brick building is the northernmost in the grouping of five buildings on this block that all house the same business. It has a modern metal façade that matches the building at 141 North Diamond. It has a stone foundation and a flat roofline. The north elevation has large rectangular windows with historic industrial sash. The primary (east) elevation measures four bays across, with a recessed entry in the southernmost bay and narrow rectangular windows in the northern three bays. The original fenestration pattern of the second and third floors of this elevation are concealed by the paneled facade. A single-story garage addition which extends from the south elevation and is set back from the street, is a modern addition to the building. Due to the extent of

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the additions and facade changes, this building is considered non-contributing to the historic fabric of the district.

21. 141 North Diamond Street, ca. 1920s Non-Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style

This single-story building is also covered with a façade made of vertical wood panels. None of the historic character is evident, so this is considered non-contributing.

22. 147-151 North Diamond Street, ca. 1894 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Romanesque Revival Photo #35

This adjacent southern building is a three-story brick building with a sandstone foundation and flat roofline. Three structural bays are separated by brick pilasters. Each bay contains three in-filled arched windows. The first-floor storefront openings have been infilled with wood and residential-scaled windows; while the upper story windows have been infilled with CMU. This building is considered contributing, however, because of the retention of strong architectural elements, including brick pilasters, grouped segmental-arched window openings, corbelled brickwork, and stone capped parapet. The original design is clearly visible. Originally this building operated as the manufacturing and distribution building for Hautenroeder Company Cigar Manufacturers.

23. 157 North Diamond Street, ca. 1896 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Romanesque Revival Photo #35

This single-story brick building measures two bays across its primary (eastern) facade. It now serves as a connector between 163 and 147 North Diamond Street. It has a sandstone foundation with a battered stone finish and a flat roofline. Each of the two bays contains a newer four-part storefront window system with transoms and a signboard cornice. Brick pilasters divide the bays and corbelled brickwork runs beneath the brick parapet. There are no primary street entries to this building.

24. 163 North Diamond Street, ca. 1896 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Romanesque Revival Photo #35

This highly-decorative four-story building forms the northern edge of the district at the southwest corner of North Diamond Street and East Fifth Avenue. At the time of its construction there was a B & O rail siding along Fifth Street. This building was used by the Tracy & Avery Company as a wholesale grocery warehouse. It measures five by twelve bays and has a raised rock-faced ashlar sandstone foundation and a flat roofline. The first-floor storefront has been altered but retains the historic openings and characteristics of the area's historic industrial buildings. The storefront and windows have been partially infilled with green metal sheathing to accommodate smaller windows and door system. Basement windows are grated. The upper stories on the Diamond Street elevation feature a variety of window shapes and sizes, including single and paired windows with stone sills and lintels on the second floor; rectangular and



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27. 16 South Main Street, ca. 1870s  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #7

This two-story brick building is located between 14 and 18 South Main Street and is now combined with the building at 14 South Main. Its storefront has been replaced but retains the bulkhead, window, transom configuration of traditional storefronts. The second-floor, round-arched windows have replacement one-over-one metal window sash. A stone belt course runs along the base of these windows, acting as a continuous sill. The second floor has minimal masonry detailing with slightly projecting brick courses and a stone coping.

28. 10-14 South Main Street, ca. 1882-1896  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #7

Sharing a wall with 8 South Main to the north and 16 South Main to the south is a two-story brick building. This building measures seven bays across and has a stone foundation and flat roof. The storefront was altered in the mid-20th century with metal display window frames, but it retains the original storefront openings, cast iron columns, and transom. The lintel over the storefront is decorated with terra-cotta pediments and medallions. The second story windows are rectangular with stone sills and lintels and replacement one-over-one metal window sash. A large-scale cornice with a central gable, a paneled frieze, and four finials spaced evenly from the corners are at the top of the building.

29. 8 South Main Street, ca. 1882-1896  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #7

This three-story building is mid-block and faces Central Park. The building measures three bays across its primary (eastern) facade and has a stone foundation and a flat roofline. The upper floor windows are traditional rectangular with replacement one-over-one metal window sash. The center bay of the second floor has a three-part metal window sash. The first-floor storefront and windows have been modified from the original but are compatible to the historic characteristics of the building, due to the centrally located and recessed entry flanked by large storefront windows. The building has a bracketed cornice.

30. 2 South Main Street, ca. 1926  
The Mechanics Building & Loan Co. Building  
Architectural Style: Neo-Classical Revival

Previously Listed, NR #83002038

This two-story building is located on the corner of South Main and Park Avenue, facing Central Park. It is the northernmost building of this block. The original building measures three by seven bays, has a concrete foundation, and a flat roofline. The gray-veined pink marble façade features fluted Corinthian pilasters, which separate the recessed bays on the east and north elevations, metal windows and doors, spandrels with decorated with eagles and stars, and a detailed entablature at the top. There is a parapet above the projecting cornice. The words "The Mechanics Building & Loan Co."



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are inscribed in the frieze, all original to the building. A single-bay marble-faced addition extends from the south of the primary (east) elevation.

The north elevation is located along Central Park West and also features Neoclassical Revival details of fluted pilasters, entablature, and spandrels between the windows that match those on the primary elevation. This building marked the 1920s downtown building spurt in Mansfield. It is an excellent example of Neoclassical architecture in Mansfield.

**Block # 7 West side of North Main Street between Park Avenue West and West Third Street**

**7 buildings (5 contributing, 1 non-contributing, 1 previously listed)**

31. 3 North Main Street, ca. 1929 Previously Listed, NR #83002044  
Richland Trust Building  
Architectural Style: Art Deco

The nine-story Richland Trust bank building, located at the northwest corner of Main Street and Park Avenue, is one of the dominant visual landmarks in the district. It has a concrete foundation, terra cotta exterior, and a three-bay penthouse with gable roofline. It measures five by ten bays and faces Central Park to the east. It features a large, two-story arched main entrance with decorative detailing outlining the arch; and four two-story arched windows in the center bays on the south (side) elevation indicating the banking lobby. The first-floor level is separated from the upper floors by a balustrade, which separate the banking lobby functions from the offices above. The upper floor windows are rectangular with replacement one-over-one metal window sash. The window bays are separated by slightly projecting pilasters and upper floor spandrels feature decorative Gothic detailing. The penthouse features segmental-arched openings with decorative detailing. This building is one of the buildings that represent the 1920s building boom in Mansfield.

There is a single-story, brick, mid-century addition to the rear (west), which measures five bays across.

32. 15 North Main Street, ca. 1860s (alterations ca. 1950s) Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style Photo #29

This three-story building facing Central Park has a stone foundation and a flat roofline. It measures one bay across its primary (eastern) elevation and shares party walls with the Richland Trust building to the south and 17-19 North Main to the north. It features a recessed storefront entry which has been modified from the original. The upper floor windows are three-part arched windows with single panes of glass. The facade was altered in the 1950s with applied smooth finish limestone facade and a frieze at the top of the primary elevation. This building was originally built as a store and is one of the oldest buildings remaining on City Square. The alterations were made within the period of significance and the building retains its storefront, and upper floor fenestration pattern.

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33. 17-19 North Main Street, ca. 1860s  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #29

This three-story brick building, with a stone foundation and a flat roofline, is located mid-block. It measures six bays across, facing Central Park. Like 15 North Main Street to the south, it is one of the oldest buildings remaining on Central Park. The facade was altered in the late 1940s with stainless steel sheathing, however, it has been removed to reveal the original brick exterior. Upper floor windows in the southern three bays are round-arched, while the northern three bays are segmental-arched; all with one-over-one window sash. Brick pilasters separate the north and south three bays, and each set of three has decorative masonry arch detailing at the top of the third-floor exterior. A simple stone cornice unifies the north and south bays. The entire first floor has a singular recessed modern storefront system not original to the building.

34. 21-23 North Main Street, c. 1900  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

Contributing Building

Built originally as an S.S. Kresge Company store, this brick two-story building has a concrete foundation and flat roofline. It measures seven bays across the second floor of its primary (east) foundation. Although the first-floor storefronts have been altered and partially infilled, the second story displays the early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial character of the building. It has rectangular window openings, fluted pilasters between the bays, and horizontal bands of contrasting brick on the upper façade and parapet. The windows are replacements, but the original opening size is still clearly visible. A paved pedestrian alley separates this building from the one at 27 North Main Street.

35. 27 North Main Street, ca. 1967  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

Contributing Building  
Photo #28

This brick two-story building has a concrete foundation and flat roofline. It measures four bays across the first floor of its primary (east) foundation. The first-floor recessed storefront is in the second bay from the south, with single rectangular windows of varying size in the other three bays. The second floor has two square single pane windows. Horizontal bands of contrasting brick separate the first and second floors and form a decorative element on the upper façade.

This building has a second facade that faces Walnut Street at 22 N Walnut.

36. 33 North Main Street, ca. 1957  
Architectural Style: Mid-Century

Contributing Building  
Photo #28

This two-story building has a concrete foundation, and flat roofline. It measures two bays across its primary (east) elevation. The first floor has a painted wood panel facade with two recessed storefront systems. A single southernmost door grants access to the second floor. The second floor has yellow metal cladding with mustard-colored screen slightly recessed panels with no windows.

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37. 41 North Main Street, ca. 1880  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style

Non-Contributing Building

This single-story building has a concrete foundation, a flat roofline, and a light-colored stucco facade. It measures three bays across the first floor of its primary (east) elevation. It has a first floor recessed entry with a single glass door and transom, flanked by smaller round-arched windows with wood sash and exterior flower boxes. A single door flush with the elevation is in the northernmost part of the first floor. An ornamental shed cornice is below the stucco parapet with a short decorative balustrade.

This building has a second facade that faces Walnut Street at 42 N Walnut Street.

**Block # 8 East Side of North Main Street between North Park Street and East Third Street**  
**3 buildings (3 contributing)**

38. 32 North Main Street, ca. 1910  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

Contributing Building

Two painted brick buildings at 32-34 North Main Street are located adjacent to the H. L. Reed building (Resource #2). They were separate buildings at one point but have been combined into a single building. The south building measures a single bay across and is four stories tall. It has a stone foundation and a flat roofline, large commercial multi-part windows, and contrasting stone on the end pilasters. The first-floor storefront has been altered.

39. 34 North Main Street, ca. 1910  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

Contributing Building

This three-story building measures four bays across the upper floors and has an altered storefront. The upper floors have round-arched windows with stone sills and shaped stone hood-molds, with historic one-over-one wooden sash. This building has stone quoins laid in a geometric pattern. It had a cornice at one time, but it has been removed.

40. 42-44 North Main Street, ca. 1925  
Architectural Style: Neoclassical

Contributing Building

The former Citizens National and First National Bank building is located on the southeast corner of West Third Street and North Main Street. It measures three by seven bays, and has a granite foundation, a Bedford limestone facade, and a flat roof. Granite Corinthian pilasters separate the bays on the west and north elevations. Other features include the projecting dentilled cornice, and parapet. The entrance is located within a two-story arch, with decorative banding in the center west-facing bay and has been infilled with a contemporary storefront system and signage. Rectangular windows mark the first and second floors levels.

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Windows in the outside bays of the first and second floors are rectangular with replacement metal window sash and spandrels with bas-relief eagles separating the floors. The center five windows on the north elevation are round-arched and two-stories in height indicating the banking lobby. They now have replacement metal window sash. A two-story contemporary wing with stone exterior was added to the building outside the period of significance but is secondary to and compatible with the design of the historic bank building. This building was designed by the architects York and Sawyer and built by the Sandusky firm Geo. Feich & Sons.

**Block # 9 North Main Street between West Third Street and West Fourth Street  
2 buildings (1 contributing, 1 non-contributing)**

41. 67 North Main Street, ca. 1920s Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial Contributing Building Photo #25

This two-story brick building stands alone, although it once shared party walls with other buildings. It has a stone foundation and a flat roofline. The first-floor storefront system has been modified, but still features large storefront windows and a transom, enframed with stone trim. In the southernmost bay of the first floor is a recessed single door with a transom providing access to the second floor. The second-floor windows are rectangular one-over-one replacement sash set within brick round-arched recesses with contrasting stone keystones and details. There is a modest stone cornice with a stone name plate inscribed with "Wiler Building" above.

A large historic projecting blade sign extends from the north corner of the east (primary) elevation.

42. 75 North Main Street, ca. 1991 Architectural Style: No Academic Style Non-Contributing Structure Photo #24

This single-story brick pavilion has a concrete foundation and a multi-gabled irregular roof with asphalt shingles. Its footprint is diagonally placed on the block, with its primary facade facing northeast. The building is surrounded by small grassy areas and a few planters on its primary (northeast) elevation, as well as several pedestrian paths leading around the building. Named "Richland Carrousel Park", it houses the Mansfield carrousel, the first hand-carved carrousel to be built and operated in the United States since the Great Depression. The construction of the carrousel was unique in that it fully utilized Ohio resources, including a Mansfield-based architect, a Mansfield-based carrousel design company, a Mansfield-based painter, and an Ohio-based pipe-organ company. All 52 carrousel figures were carved in the style of revered carver G. A. Dentzel, and scenery panels around the figures depict classic Mansfield memories including the old Richland County Courthouse and the Central Park Bandstand. Although it is outside the period of significance and is considered non-contributing, it is considered an important local resource by Mansfield's residents.

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**Block # 10 North Main Street between East Third Street and Dickson Avenue  
1 building (1 contributing)**

43. 52-56 North Main Street, ca.1918 Contributing Building Photo #27  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

This four-story brick building on the northeast corner of North Main and East Third Streets has a stone foundation, a flat roof, and measures seven by ten bays. The west elevation, facing North Main Street, has altered storefronts. Rectangular window openings on the second floor have been partially in filled to accommodate smaller replacement windows, and openings on the third and fourth floors have been in filled, however the original brick openings are clearly visible. Brick pilasters separate the bays with decorative stonework at the tops. The upper façade features a stone belt course above the fourth-floor windows, a geometric design in brick and contrasting stone, corbelled brickwork, and a stone capped parapet.

**Block # 11 North Main Street between West Fourth Street and West Temple Court  
9 buildings (9 contributing)**

The bank building at the northwest corner of North Main and West Fourth is described in Block #18 due to its primary elevation facing West Fourth Street.

West Side of Street

44. 101 North Main Street, ca. 1904 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial Photo #18 (back)

This three-story brick building has a sandstone foundation, flat roofline, and is a single bay wide. The storefront retains its original bulkhead, recessed entrance, and transom, but has replacement windows and frame. A stone belt course separates the first and second floors. The upper floor windows are three-part windows with one-over-one wooden sash; the second-floor three-part window also features a three-part transom. The building retains its original stone cornice below the stepped brick parapet. Even with alterations, this building retains its storefront, upper floor fenestration pattern, and original cornice.

45. 103 North Main Street, ca. 1870s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Italianate Photo #22, 18 (back)

This three-story building has a stone foundation, a painted stucco facade, and a flat roofline. The first-floor original storefront system features a recessed entry in the center and a door to a stair accessing the upper floors. Five six-pane transoms top the storefront and entry. Paint was removed to reveal the natural wood finish in the late 1970s. Round-arched window openings on the second and third floors retain original windows with two-over-two wooden sash and have decorative stone hood molds. The decorative stone cornice is characterized by an arcaded stone corbelled table and two rows of dentils.

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46. 105-109 North Main Street, ca. 1870s  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #22, 18 (back)

This three-story brick building is one of the most visually distinctive in the district with its cast and wrought iron balconies across the entire façade. The building measures seven bays across its primary (eastern) facade and has a flat roofline. The first-floor has a storefront constructed of modern materials but retaining the form of bulkheads, display windows, and transoms typical of historic storefronts.

The upper floor windows are round-arched with one-over-one window sash and decorative stone hood molds with keystone-type decoration featuring painted crosses. A heavy bracketed decorative cornice with paneled cornice tops the façade.

47. 111 North Main Street, ca. 1870s  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #20, 18 (back)

The next building to the north is a small, two-story painted brick building. It measures three bays across its primary (eastern) elevation. The first-floor storefront has been altered and features a recessed south entry and a large storefront window to the north with an awning extending over the entire system and a wooden sign fastened above. The second-floor windows are segmental-arched with one-over-one wooden sash and stone sills. The building has painted corbelled brick below a stone cornice. The building retains much of its historic fabric, including original windows and decorative upper façade detailing.

48. 113 North Main Street, ca. 1870s  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #20, 18 (back)

This two-story brick building has a stone foundation and a flat roofline. While the storefront has had some alterations it retains its traditional storefront form, cast iron columns, and transoms. It is recessed behind a pair of stone piers and has a tiled entry floor. The second-floor has recessed segmental-arched windows with replacement one-over-one window sash and painted brick lintels. The building retains its original corbelled brick and stonework below the dentilled cornice. Even with alterations the building still retains elements of its storefront, upper floor fenestration pattern, and original cornice.

49. 115 North Main Street, ca. 1870s  
The Court Hotel  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #20, 18 (back)

At the northernmost point of the block is a three-story brick building with a stone foundation and flat roofline which repeats some of the same elements as building to its south. It measures three by eleven bays. The first-floor storefront retains some of its historic integrity with sandstone lintels and columns and two large storefront windows. Awnings accentuate each first-floor bay. The upper level windows are segmental-arched with replacement one-over-one window sash. The building has a simple stone parapet cornice above corbelled brickwork, identical to its neighbor.

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50. 96-98 North Main Street, ca. 1881 Contributing Building  
Becker Building  
Architectural Style: Italianate elements

At the northeast corner of East Fourth Street and North Main Street is a two-story brick building. It measures seven by seven bays and has a sandstone foundation and a flat roofline. There is a splayed corner entrance on the southwest corner of the building with a decorative stone arch and recessed entry on the first floor. There are two storefronts on the west elevation, both with bulkheads, display windows, and transoms although they are different in design. Brick piers with contrasting stone bands separate the first-floor bays. A dentilled cornice separates the first and second floor levels on both elevations.

The second-floor windows have tall vertical proportions and have been partially infilled to accommodate smaller replacement one-over-one window sash. Stone hood-molds and corbelled brickwork complete the composition. This building matches the one next door at the lower two levels but its third story was destroyed by fire. The simpler upper façade treatments are a result of rebuilding following the fire.

51. 100-104 North Main Street, ca. 1870s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: High Victorian Italianate Photo #23

This high-style Italianate building is constructed in brick, is three stories in height, has a stone foundation, and a flat roof. It measures seven bays across. The first floor retains its original two recessed storefronts with bulkheads, display windows, and large transoms with a single door entry to the upper floors in the center bay. A stone dentilled cornice continues from 98 North Main to separate the first and second floors. The second story rectangular windows have been altered to accommodate smaller windows, while the third story rectangular windows retain original one-over-one wooden sash. Brick pilasters define the center bay on the second and third stories and finish with a decorative stone and brick arch above the third-floor window. Corbelled brick is a decorative feature above the second story center bay window.

The flat roof has a heavily detailed pressed metal cornice with an arcaded corbeled table, a center gable above the middle bay, and an urn finial at the gable's peak.

52. 106-108 North Main Street, ca. 1870s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Italianate

This three-story brick building is at the northernmost end of this block and measures five bays across its primary facade. The storefront retains its original decorative cast iron pillars and two recessed entryways and features new materials in a traditional storefront design. The second and third floor windows are segmental-arched with two-over-two window sash, stone sills, and stone decorative hood molds. Decorative panels and a bracketed, pressed metal cornice terminate the composition.

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To the north is a brick-paved plaza area that currently functions as a parking lot (Photo #78). Although it was created due to a void left by the demolition of historic buildings adjacent to 106-108 North Main, it now serves as an environmental feature of Main Street due to the historic-style paving.

**Block # 12 North Main Street between West Temple Court and East Fifth Street  
11 buildings (11 contributing)**

West Side of Street

53. 117-119 North Main Street, ca. 1870s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Italianate

At the northwest corner of North Main Street and the brick-paved Temple Court is a three-story brick building with a stone foundation and flat roofline. The storefront has been altered with two recessed modern storefronts flanking a centrally located door leading to the upper floors. An awning covers the entire first story. The upper floor windows are rectangular with replacement one-over-one metal window sash and original highly-decorative stone hoods. The building retains its historic and bracketed, pressed metal cornice.

54. 125 North Main Street, ca. 1870s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style

This two-story freestanding brick building is set back 50 feet from the street, rather than a zero setback along the sidewalk, which is typical for the district. It is an older building that has been modified. It has a stone foundation and flat roofline, and measures six by three bays. Brick pilasters separate the bays, and rectangular windows with replacement one-over-one window sash and stone sills and lintels fill each bay. The entryway on the southernmost bay extends from the wall, with a gabled top and single door entry. The building has corbelled brickwork below its contemporary bracketed cornice.

55. 137 North Main Street, ca. 1890s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

This four-story brick building, which was built a lodge hall for the Fraternal Order of Eagles, measures two bays across its primary elevation and has a flat roof. There is a stone arched recessed entry in the center of the first floor with modern double doors and an arched transom. Flanking it are rectangular windows with replacement two-over-one metal window sash. Two enormous arched openings span the second, third, and fourth stories and have intricate contrasting stone trim, with a belt course at the impost level of the arches. The round arched opening at the fourth floor indicates the location of the Lodge Hall, some of which remains on the interior. These openings have been completely infilled. A stone cornice meets a bas-relief panel of an eagle in the center of the east elevation just above the arches and just below the brick parapet at the top of



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the building. Although the window openings have been infilled, the building retains enough of its architectural design and detailing to be considered a contributing building.

56. 129 North Main Street, 1966 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style

This single-story brick building has a concrete foundation and front gabled roof. It measures three bays across its primary (east) facade. The original entrance is a centrally located double-door system with a single transom and a modern-style metal canopy. A single pane square window is in the northernmost bay, while the southernmost bay has two narrow rectangular window openings which have been infilled with brick. The north and south elevations are painted.

East Side of Street

57. 118-122 North Main Street, ca.1880s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Italianate Photo #19

This two-story brick building has a sandstone foundation and a flat roofline. It measures four bays across the first floor of its primary (west) elevation. The original four storefronts have paneled wooden bulkheads, cast iron columns, three storefront display windows each, prism glass transoms, and recessed center entrances. The upper floor windows are grouped within four recessed areas that correspond in width to the storefronts below. The center two areas have three round-arched windows; while the ends feature projecting bay windows with decorative sheet metal above the windows. All have replacement sash. The building has a variety of patterns of decorative and corbelled brickwork on the upper façade and parapet.

58. 124-126 North Main Street, ca. 1870s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Italianate Photo #19

This two-story brick building has a stone foundation and flat roofline. It measures five bays across its primary (western) elevation. The first floor has a minimally altered storefront with three recessed entryways, slender cast iron columns, wooden bulkheads, and transom windows. A large awning spans the primary facade. The second-floor windows are narrow and rectangular with one-over-one window sash, stone sills, and decorative stone hood-molds. The building retains its highly-decorative metal bracketed cornice.

59. 128 North Main Street, ca. 1900 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial Photos #19

Immediately north of 126 North Main is a two-story buff-colored brick building. It measures three bays across, has a stone foundation, and a flat roofline. The first-floor entry has two recessed entry doors and a central projecting bay storefront; the north door provides access to the second floor and the south door leads to the first floor. Two rectangular windows with stone lintels and one-over-one wooden sash are set within

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brick arches with stone keystones. A central oriel window is the dominant feature on the upper story. A stone belt course is at the sill level of the second-floor windows. The building retains its dentilled brick projecting cornice and brick panels in the upper parapet. An original east store entry from the basement has been infilled, but the stairs remain.

60. 130 North Main Street, ca. 1870s  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #19

This two-story brick building measures three bays across and has a flat roofline. The storefront has been partially altered, with recessed entries to both the storefront and second floor. The storefront columns are historic. An awning extends across the width of the building. The second-floor windows are segmental-arched with replacement one-over-one metal window sash, stone sills, and a stone keystone. The bracketed stone cornice has been painted to match the storefront system and awning. To the south this building shares a party wall with 128 North Main and to the north is a gated brick-paved alley.

61. 134-136 North Main Street, ca. 1870s  
Architectural Style: Neoclassical

Contributing Building  
Photo #19

Immediately north of the alley is a three-story brick building. It has a stone foundation and a flat roofline, and measures seven bays across its primary elevation. The recessed storefront is housed under segmental arches with cast iron columns topped with a bracketed cornice. The storefront has a bulkhead, display windows and transom, although it was constructed outside the period of significance. The upper level windows are segmental-arched with replacement one-over-one metal window sash and stone sills. The building retains its arcaded corbelled brick parapet.

62. 138-140 North Main Street, ca. 1870s  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #19

This three-story brick building is stepped down from its adjoining neighbor to accommodate the steep slope of the street. It measures six bays across the first floor and five bays across the second and third floors, with a stone foundation and a flat roofline. The first floor has square sandstone piers supporting stone lintels across the storefronts - all are single bay with transoms. The second and third floors have a brick façade with segmental-arched windows with replacement one-over-one window sash, two-course brick lintels, and stone sills. The building retains its arcaded corbelled brickwork in the parapet. A low railing is located on either side of the entrance door because of the change in grade on the steep slope.

63. 142 North Main Street, ca. 1880s  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

Contributing Building  
Photo #19

This brick single-story building has a concrete foundation and flat roofline. It measures two bays across its primary (west) foundation. The storefront has been altered with a

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recessed entrance with transom and a picture window and a change in brick color. The building has geometric brickwork below the simple stone cornice.

**Block # 13 North Walnut Street between West Fourth Street and West Third Street  
2 building (2 contributing)**

64. 70 North Walnut Street ca. 1920s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

This single-story, freestanding brick building has a stone foundation and a flat roof. The storefront has contemporary materials which retain the original opening and have the elements of a traditional storefront bulkhead, display windows, and transom. Recessed entry doors with single glass panels are located at either end of the storefront. A simple projecting stone cornice is located below the shaped parapet. This building now serves as the back entrance to 67 North Main Street, although it was originally a separate building. Despite the alterations to the storefront, this building still reads clearly as an early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial building.

65. 67-75 North Walnut Street, 1900, 1932, c. 1980s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial Photo #16

The two-story buff-colored brick Richland Academy building is located at the southwest corner of North Walnut and West Fourth Streets. The building as a whole is the combination of multiple historic buildings with a contemporary, curved connector on the corner of North Walnut and West Fourth. It has a stone foundation, and a flat roof. While the building's address is at Walnut Street, its footprint spans the majority of the corner and has a prominent north elevation that is a distinctive feature of West Fourth, due to the combination of distinctly different buildings.

The elevation fronting North Walnut measures twelve bays across; brick pilasters separate the bays in groups of three; and there are three storefronts. Each storefront had been altered with horizontal siding and downsized windows. Each has a recessed single door entry. The second-floor features more original details, with brick pilasters separating the bays in groups of three; rectangular window openings; continuous stone sills and lintels; and parapet with stone coping. The windows have one-over one replacement sash. The northernmost three bays are a later addition constructed in matching brick, with contemporary storefront and upper story windows. The original buildings facing North Walnut Street was built in 1900.

The elevation fronting West Fourth (41 West Fourth Street) measures three bays across and displays a decorative polychrome terracotta facade. The first-floor storefront has been modified and consists of a wall of metal windows and recessed central entrance, however it retains the original storefront opening and original glass transom. The second floor features large 20<sup>th</sup> century window openings with replacement windows. The most distinctive features are in the upper façade with its contrasting green terracotta ornamentation, shaped parapet and terracotta urns at the top of each of the

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four pilasters. This building was historically a Montgomery Ward Department Store before it was merged with the other buildings, and was built in 1932.

In the 1980s these two buildings were connected with a corner addition and diagonal, northeast-facing storefront.

**Block # 14 North Walnut Street between Park Avenue West and West Third Street  
5 buildings (4 contributing, 1 non-contributing)**

66. 31 North Walnut Street, ca. 1971 Non-contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Contemporary

At the southwest corner of North Walnut and West Third Streets is a single-story brick building. The building has a concrete foundation and a side gabled roof with asphalt shingles and a centrally located front gable. It measures six by two bays. The central bay of the main east-facing façade features two single door entries below the front gable. The south two bays feature rectangular eight-over-eight-windows with brick sills and non-functional shutters. Just north of the two entrance doors is a three-part window system also with eight-over-eight windows, brick sills, and non-functional shutters. The north two bays have two eight-over-eight windows flanking a third single door entry, accessible via a short concrete and brick staircase.

67. 21 North Walnut Street, ca. 1912 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial Photo #12

Located at the southwest corner of North Walnut and Library Court is this four-story brick building, with a stone foundation and a flat roofline. It has a three-part storefront with the entrance in the central bay. The upper floors are divided by piers which extend from the storefronts to the upper façade and pilasters separating the other bays. All of the window openings are rectangular and the entire upper façade is accentuated with a decorative brickwork frame. Although the storefronts have been modernized and the windows were altered with infill or replacement sash, the building still has a strong 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial character. All masonry above the first floor is laid in a Flemish bond.

68. 14 North Walnut Street, ca. 1926 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: English Tudor Revival Photo #11

This two-story building has a brick first floor and a half-timber frame upper floor. It measures three bays across the primary (east) elevation. There is a round-arched central entrance, flanked by large single-pane windows. The frame half-timbered gable penetrates the mansard-type roof on the second floor.

69. 18 North Walnut Street, ca. 1910s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

This is a two-story brick building, with a stone foundation and a flat roofline. The north bay of the first floor features a replacement storefront system, while the other storefront

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bay has a recessed entry and stairs leading to an elevated entrance. Brick pilasters set in a Flemish bond pattern separate the first-floor bays. The six second-floor windows are rectangular, separated by brick and stone pilasters, and surrounded with decorative brick banding with a continuous stone sill. The building retains a projecting cornice.

70. 32 North Walnut Street, 1957 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Mid-Century Modern

This two-story brick building has a concrete foundation, stepped roof, and light-colored stone and brick facade. It measures five bays across. The first floor features a storefront with paired single doors and transoms in the southernmost bay. There remains a first-floor wooden cornice. The second floor features a mid-century window and spandrel system with single pane windows and colored glass spandrels separated by vertical metal structural members. The building has a simple metal finish piece along the parapet.

Between this property and the rear elevations of 41-43 North Main is a below-grade parking lot located on what was originally the site of local department store R. B. Maxwell Co. The store was destroyed by a fire in the spring of 1969.

**Block # 15 North Mulberry Street between West Fourth Street and West Dickson Avenue**

**1 buildings (1 contributing)**

71. 76 North Mulberry Street, ca. 1914 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Second Renaissance Revival Photo #14

This two-story stone building is one of the most distinctive in the district. Built for the U.S. Postal Service (but no longer being used as such), it is located at the southeast corner of North Mulberry and West Fourth. Character-defining features include an elaborate entrance with double doors and stone entablature placed within a decorative round-arched opening; round-arched windows with stone surrounds and keystones; a cornice separating the first and second floor levels; multi-paned windows that are paired and separated by decorative bas relief panels; and a heavy stone cornice and stone balustrade.

**Block # 16 North Mulberry Street between West Third Street and Park Avenue West**

**2 buildings (2 contributing)**

72. 20 North Mulberry Street, ca. 1911 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Queen Anne Elements

This one-and-a-half story frame cottage is one of two residential building types in the district. It is included because of its location mid-block at the edge of the district. It is an early 20<sup>th</sup> century building with both gable and hip rooflines with asphalt shingles and standing seam metal roofing. The original porch has been enclosed to accommodate a

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commercial use. The circular window in the gable is original. The stamped metal exterior material is unusual.

73. 7-11 North Mulberry Street, ca. 1964 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

This four-story brick building is located just north of the northwest corner of North Mulberry and Park Avenue West. The building has a brick exterior, and flat roofline. The building measures nine bays across its primary (eastern) facade and shares its south wall with the adjacent Park Professional Building (#101). The first-floor storefront has a concrete curtain wall, a centrally located recessed entryway with transoms, and large two-part storefront windows in the flanking bays. The remaining upper floors have a buff brick facade; brick pilasters separate the bays, each with rectangular one-over-one sash, and concrete lintels and sills. A row of infilled square openings are located in the upper façade beneath the parapet.

**Block # 17 East Temple Court between North Main and North Diamond Streets  
1 buildings (1 contributing)**

74. 15-17 East Temple Court, ca. 1900 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial Photo #21

This two-story brick building measures four bays across and has a flat roof. The first floor features multiple storefronts with large storefront windows and recessed entrances with transoms, typical of early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial buildings in the district. The second floor features large historic oriel windows which retain their one-over-one windows, and segmental arch brick lintels. A stone belt course separates the first and second floors. The brick parapet features decorative arcaded corbelled brick.

**Block # 18 West Fourth Street between North Weldon Avenue and North Mulberry Street  
1 buildings (1 contributing)**

75. 70 West Fourth Street, ca. 1944 Contributing Building  
The Mansfield News Journal  
Architectural Style: Art Moderne Photo #15

The Mansfield News Journal building is located at the northwest corner of West Fourth and North Mulberry Streets. It is two stories tall with a corner clock tower, measures twelve by thirteen bays, and has a concrete foundation with a flat roofline. The façade is buff-colored brick. The first-floor recessed entry is almost centrally located, with six bays to the west and five bays to the east and is accentuated with an original decorative metal canopy. The rectangular windows are separated by simple brick pilasters and have one-over-one sash with stone sills. Simple spandrel panels are between the first and second floors. The corner tower features neon "News Journal" signs and an analog clock facing in both directions.

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The north seven bays of the east elevation feature a third floor, due to the grade change of the property. This elevation shares the same features as the primary elevation (rectangular windows, stone sills, brick piers) with the exception of the northernmost five bays, which feature two-story tall window openings that have been infilled with red brick. The printing presses were located in this area. The northernmost bay is constructed in red brick and was added at some point in the 1980s.

Set back further from the street to the west is a single-story addition, measuring six bays across and sharing the same features as the main building, added at some point in the 1960s.

**Block # 19 West Fourth Street between North Mulberry Street and North Walnut Street**

**5 buildings (4 contributing, 1 non-contributing)**

76. 46 West Fourth Street, ca. 1960s Non-contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Contemporary

This single-story brick building lacks any distinguishing architectural features and is considered a non-contributing structure.

77. 48 West Fourth Street, 1916 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20th Century Commercial

This brick three-story building has a sandstone foundation and a flat roofline. It measures two bays across its primary (south) elevation. The original storefront has a paneled wooden bulkhead, two storefront display windows, a prism glass transom, and a recessed center entrance. Each upper floor bay has two windows flanking a door with transom with evidence of having had balconies at one time. The upper floor windows are rectangular with original one-over-one wooden sash. The building has a simple parapet.

78. 44 West Fourth Street, 1916 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial Photo #17

This two-story brick building measures one bay across its primary elevation and has a brick foundation with a flat roofline. The first floor features a centrally located recessed entrance with flanking storefront windows. The transom windows above the storefront are original. The second-floor windows are three large infilled windows, each with three-pane transoms above. Cream terracotta trim separates the first and second floor levels and surrounds the second-floor window. An ornate cream terracotta cornice terminates the composition.

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79. 40 West Fourth Street, 1916  
Architectural Style: Neoclassical

Contributing Building  
Photo #17

This two-story brick building measures five bays across on the first floor and eight bays on the second and shares party walls with adjacent buildings. The first floor features a centrally located recessed entry with an iron gate flush with the elevation. Original storefronts with transoms are in flanking bays of the central entry, and two single door entry systems with large transoms are in the outer bays. These street level entryways have been altered with new infilled entry systems. A terracotta belt course runs at the top of the first-floor transoms, designating the difference in stories, and contains various decorative motifs.

The second-floor features eight window openings with replacement sash. Cream colored terracotta separates the bays and two terracotta belt courses form continuous sills and lintels. A cream terra cotta cornice tops the building, with bas relief ornamentation on the outside edges. This building opened in 1916 and was originally the Fourth Street Market.

80. 36 West Fourth Street, 1906  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

Contributing Building  
Photo #17

On the north side of this block is a two-story building measuring ten bays across with a brick foundation and a flat roofline. The first-floor features four storefront sections, each with large storefront windows, a row of five transom windows, and recessed entryways. Between the storefronts are single doors with tall transoms leading to the upper floors. Decorative cast iron columns separate the storefronts and entrance doors.

The second-floor features ten rectangular window openings with decorative stone trim, as well as a balcony with a decorative iron banister and arched metal awning supported by decorative iron brackets. A decorative cornice, parapet with a balustrade and seven finials, and a centrally located inscription in stone that reads "19 R. C. Hancock 06" elevate the design of this building above the typical modest early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial buildings in the district.

**Block # 20 West Fourth Street between North Walnut Street and North Main Street  
3 buildings (2 contributing, 1 previously listed)**

81. 14-18 West Fourth Street, ca. 1880  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building

This two-story building facing south at the northeast corner of North Walnut and West Fourth Street measures nine bays across its primary elevation and four bays deep. It has a brick foundation, brick exterior walls, and a flat roofline. The first-floor features storefronts with brick bulkheads, display windows and original transoms, along with cast iron slender columns and a cornice signboard. While some of the storefront materials are modern replacements the storefronts retain a traditional form. Each bay of the second floor contains a segmental-arched window opening with replacement sash. The



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window openings have stone sills and brick segmental arch lintels with contrasting stone keystones and impost blocks. The pressed metal bracketed cornice completes the Italianate design.

82. 12 West Fourth Street, ca. 1870s Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Italianate

This brick two-story building has a sandstone foundation and a flat roof. It measures one bay across its primary (south) elevation. The storefront was altered in the mid-20th century with window frames, but it retains the original storefront openings and transoms. The upper floor two-part window is rectangular with replacement metal window sash. A brick belt course runs above the second-floor window and below the stepped stone cornice. Even with alterations the building still retains its storefront, upper floor window openings, and original cornice.

83. 4 West Fourth Street, 1913 Previously Listed, NR #86002872  
Architectural Style: Classical Revival

This well-preserved, two-story Classical Revival structure at the northwest corner of West Fourth and North Main Street was designed by the architectural firm York & Sawyer and is individually significant (NR#86002872, 10/16/86). It measures seven bays across and three bays deep, with a stone foundation, stone wall construction, and a flat roofline. Character-defining features on the main elevation (south) include six, two-story high fluted Ionic semi-engaged columns; a central entrance with double doors, transom, and stone entablature; a projecting stone cornice with dentils and modillion blocks; and a classical parapet. The large and tall second story windows indicate the location of the banking lobby. The words "Founded MDCCCLXXIII" are inscribed in stone above the entrance; while "The Mansfield Savings Bank" is etched in the frieze beneath the cornice.

**Block # 21 Fourth Street between North Main Street and North Diamond Street  
6 buildings (5 contributing, 1 previously listed)**

84. 21-23 East Fourth Street, ca. 1890s Previously Listed, NR #86002864  
Hancock and Dow Building  
Architectural Style: Richardsonian Romanesque elements

This stone three-story building known as the Hancock and Dow Building has a sandstone foundation and a flat roofline. It measures four bays across the first floor and fourteen bays across the second and third floors of the primary (south) facade. The four storefronts were altered in the mid-20th century with metal bulkhead and window frames, but retain the original storefront openings and transoms. A dentilled cornice separates the first and second floors. The upper floor windows are mixed rectangular and segmental-arched with replacement one-over-one metal window sash. The third-floor rectangular windows also feature transoms with colored glass inserts. An ornamental front gable set in stone is located in the center of the stone parapet; carved

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stone panels at either end complete the design. The stone exterior and detailing give this building a highly-textured appearance.

85. 25-27 East Fourth Street, ca. 1882

Contributing Building

Architectural Style: Italianate

Photo #33

Just east across a brick paved alley is a two-story brick building measuring six bays across and five bays deep. It has a rock-faced sandstone foundation, brick masonry walls, and a flat roofline. The first floor has two storefronts with cast iron columns; recessed single door entries with transoms; and wooden bulkheads, tall vertical display windows, and transoms. Two separate doors in the center lead to the second floor. The second-floor features six rectangular window openings with one-over-one windows and stone lintels. A continuous stone belt course forms the sills and a second continuous stone beltcourse runs between the windows beginning just under the lintel. An Italianate bracketed cornice tops the south elevation.

86. 29 East Fourth Street, ca. 1900s

Contributing Building

Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> century Commercial

Photo #33

This two-story light brick building measures one bay across, has a stone foundation, and a flat roofline. The recessed storefront system features a single glass door with large flanking storefront windows and a row of five transom windows across the top. The second floor has an original single oriel window in the center, supported by acanthus leaf styled brackets. The three windows are one-over-one and have decorative festoons in relief above each opening. The bracketed cornice has matching festoons in relief below and a brick parapet above.

87. 31 East Fourth Street, ca. 1890

Contributing Building

Architectural Style: Italianate

Photo #33

This two-story brick building measures four bays across, has a brick foundation, and a flat roofline. The building originally had two storefronts, but now there is single-door access to stairs leading to the second floor in the westernmost bay, and a storefront system directly east with single door entry and a large, greenhouse-like, storefront window in the easternmost three bays. Both doors have transoms. The second-floor features four segmental-arched windows with arched stone lintels and sills. The second floor also has a delicate white iron balcony supported by white iron brackets but it is not accessible or usable. The corbelled brickwork cornice is painted.

88. 35-37 East Fourth Street, ca. 1882

Contributing Building

Architectural Style: Richardsonian Romanesque  
elements

Photo #33

This three-story brick building measures three bays across, has a stone foundation, rock faced sandstone wall construction, and a flat roofline. The first floor is defined by large round-arched openings framed with stone voussoirs, with a central entrance to the upper floors and two storefronts placed within. The windows and door are new construction infill. The second and third floors have stacked oriel windows in the outer

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bays and a pair of rectangular window openings in the center bay. These window openings have one-over-one windows with transoms, stone sills and lintels. A segmental stone arch tops the third story oriel windows. A grid of rectangular recessed panels forms the parapet at the top of the building. The textured stone exterior is a contrast to the adjacent brick buildings.

89. 39-43 East Fourth Street, ca. 1882

Contributing Building

Architectural Style: Italianate

At the northwest corner of East Fourth and North Diamond is a three-story brick building measuring six bays across and nine bays deep. It has a rock-faced sandstone foundation and a flat roofline. The first-floor features two identical storefronts with recessed entryways and large storefront windows, which reflect a non-historic alteration. A central single door entry with transom is in the center bay. A signboard with a dentilled cornice tops the storefront systems, visually supported by decorative pilasters. The second and third floors feature rectangular window openings, stone sills and lintels, and one-over-one windows. The cornice is painted pressed metal. Stone quoins mark all visible corners of the building.

**Block # 22 East Fourth Street between North Diamond Street and North Franklin Street**

**1 building (1 contributing)**

90. 51 East Fourth Street, ca. 1920s

Contributing Building

Architectural Style: 20th Century Commercial

This single story painted brick building measures four by seven bays, has a concrete foundation, and a flat roofline. There is a recessed storefront in the westernmost bay and a historic storefront window opening to the east with a modern aluminum sash. The south and west elevations have a stepped parapet. The south elevation parapet also features a centrally located segmental arched curve. The six northernmost bays of the west elevation have infilled historic window openings covered with wood panels, and in the northernmost bay at the basement level is a garage door, typical of historic industrial use. The property retains many of the architectural features that reflect its historic significance as an automobile retail building.

**Block # 23 East Third Street between North Diamond Street and North Main Street**  
**3 buildings (3 contributing)**

91. 29 East Third Street, 1907

Contributing Building

Architectural Style: Second Renaissance Revival

Photo #32

This two-story building is one of the pair of Third Street brownstones between North Main and North Diamond. It measures three bays across and has a stone foundation with brownstone walls and a flat roofline. The first floor features a large stone facade, with stairs leading to an arched single door entryway with a transom in the westernmost bay, a three-part window with transoms under a large arched opening in the central bay, and a one-over-one rectangular window with an arched transom in the easternmost bay.

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The second and third floors have one-over-one windows in the outside bays with intricately carved stone lintels supported by brackets. The central bay of the second and third floors is recessed with two-part one-over-one windows flanked by ionic stone columns spanning the height of both stories. The flat roof with an ornate cornice gives this brownstone its distinctive character.

92. 25 East Third Street, 1882  
Architectural Style: High Victorian Gothic

Contributing Building  
Photo #32

This three-story building is the other part of the pair of Third Street brownstones between North Main and North Diamond. It measures three bays across and has a stone foundation with brownstone walls and a flat roofline. Stairs lead to an arched single door entryway with a transom in the westernmost bay, while the central bay features a large arched storefront window and the easternmost bay features an arched entryway entirely infilled with glass blocks. An oriel window supported by corbels is in the second floor's central bay, flanked by tall, one-over-one windows with transoms. At the top is an elaborate parapet with balustrade, an arcaded pendant trim cornice, and a central gable that rises above the parapet level. These two townhouses are among those buildings that are individually significant architecturally in the district.

This property originally housed the Richland Mutual Insurance Company's headquarters when it was built in 1882. The company was one of the oldest insurance companies in the country and the first organized in Mansfield.

93. 15-23 East Third Street, ca. 1881  
Architectural Style: Italianate

Contributing Building  
Photo #27

This two-story building measures twelve bays across its primary elevation, has a stone foundation, and a flat roofline. There are three recessed storefront entrances located in the two outside bays of the first floor and one in the center bay. The storefronts have been altered with brick infill, but original cast iron columns reflect the original storefront configuration. The second-floor features replacement rectangular windows with rounded corners, flat stone hood-molds, and stone lintels – all painted. Corbelled brickwork is located below the highly-ornamental bracketed cornice with a central gable and projecting finial decorations.

**Block # 24 West Third Street between North Main Street and North Walnut Street  
1 buildings (1 contributing)**

94. 6 West Third Street, ca. 1946  
Architectural Style: International

Contributing Building  
Photo #26

This mid-century modern building is located at the northwest corner of North Main and West Third Street. It measures twelve bays across and five bays deep, with a concrete foundation and a flat roof. Exterior materials include brick, stone, and stucco infill of the large window area.

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This building originally served as an O'Neil's Store, an Akron-based department store, until the business relocated to the Richland Mall in the 1960s. Although the original storefront windows have been modified, the building still retains its basic appearance.

**Block # 25 West Third Street between North Walnut Street and North Mulberry Street**

**5 buildings (5 contributing)**

95. 24-32 West Third Street, ca. 1929 Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century commercial Contributing Building Photo #13

At the northwest corner of West Third and Walnut Street is a three-story building measuring twelve bays across and twelve bays deep with a buff colored brick facade. It has a concrete foundation with concrete wall construction and a flat roofline. The original storefronts were altered in the 1980s and now consist of recessed continuous glass storefronts behind large concrete columns. The second and third floors are separated by panels with a slightly raised diamond shaped detail and brick framing. The one over one windows feature stone sills and lintels, separated in three groups of three by brick pilasters. The stepped parapet features three urn shaped finials each on the south and east elevations; it appears that the finial on the southeast corner has been removed.

96. 36 West Third Street, ca. 1950 Architectural Style: Modern Contributing Building Photo #13

This one-story brick building measures three bays and has a flat roof with a concrete foundation. The central bay is recessed with two separate single door entryways, featuring glass doors with covered transoms. In the outside bays are three-part large storefront windows. This building featured minimal detailing.

97. 40 West Third Street, ca. 1917 Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century commercial Contributing Building Photo #13

This four-story building facing south measures three bays across its primary elevation, has a concrete foundation, a buff colored brick facade, and a flat roofline. The first floor is faced with stone and features a centrally located recessed single door entry accessible by stone stairs with end walls. In each flanking bay are large storefront window openings that have been infilled with glass blocks at an unknown date. The remaining floors of the building have original rectangular three-over-three windows in the outside bays, with brick lintels and stone sills. Spanning three floors in the central bay is a blind panel, with a stone sign that reads "COTTER," a nod to the building's original tenants. The stepped parapet brick cornice is trimmed with stone.

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98. 58 West Third Street, ca. 1960  
Architectural Style: Modern

Contributing Building

On the east side of North Mulberry and spanning the block between West Dickson and West Third is a modern, single-story brick building with a concrete foundation, a flat roofline, measuring eight bays by eleven bays. The main entrance is a double glass door with transom located in the third bay from the west along the primary (south) elevation. The remaining bays have windows with six-over-six sash, concrete sills, modern decorative lintels, and non-functional shutters. A stepped parapet with concrete coping tops the primary facade. On the southwest corner of the building is a marker with the year "1960" etched. The easternmost bay is an addition added at some point after the period of significance. The original building features brick quoins. The west elevation is similar in detailing.

This building was originally a dining room addition to the turn of the century Elks Lodge, which was demolished in the 1960s.

99. 43 W. Third Street 1908, 1980s  
Richland County Public Library  
Architectural Style: Neoclassical Revival

Contributing Building

Built in 1908 in the Neoclassical Revival style and designed by Vernon Redding, the Mansfield Public Library is located on the corner of West Third Street and North Mulberry. The original building is two stories on a raised foundation with a cream colored brick exterior. Character-defining features included the central pediment supported by paired Corinthian columns; a central double door pedimented entrance with decorative metal grillwork on the doors and transoms; two-story high round arched openings with pedimented first floor windows; and "Free Public Library" inscribed in the entablature of the pediment. The building is flanked by two large contemporary wings and the entrance was moved to the raised basement level within the period of significance. The interior retains much of its historic character.

Non-historic additions flank the historic building. To the west extending to North Mulberry is a modern-style parking garage, while the eastern addition is an interior expansion of the library collection. These additions are physically integrated on the interior to the building. Despite these additions, the library retains a sufficient amount of integrity to contribute to the historic significance of the district.

**Block # 26 Library Court between North Mulberry and North Walnut Streets  
1 building (1 contributing)**

100. 51 Library Court, 1890  
Architectural Style: Colonial Revival

Contributing Building

This two-story wood-frame building with a mixed paneled and shingled painted facade measures five bays across and has a side gabled roof with a second central gable on the primary (north) elevation. The centrally located entrance is concealed by an

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enclosed portico. It is flanked by large, nine-lite windows with mullioned transoms. The second-floor features six-over-six double hung windows in each bay. All first and second floor windows feature decorative shutters. The central gable is supported by decorative corbels. This building is one of two historically residential buildings within the district that currently function as commercial buildings.

**Block # 27 Park Avenue West between North Weldon Avenue and North Mulberry Street 1 building (1 contributing)**

101. 70 Park Avenue West, ca. 1920s  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century commercial

Contributing Building  
Photo #10

On the northwest corner of Park Avenue West and North Mulberry Street is a three-story white brick building, measuring five bays by five bays, with a stone foundation and a flat roof. Two recessed single door entrances are in the outside bays of the first floor. The easternmost entrance is recessed diagonally facing southeast. The center three bays consist of large segmental-arched openings, with large storefront windows. The first-floor is faced with stone with a simple cornice separating it from the upper floors. The upper floors feature tripartite one-over-one windows in the middle bays and single one-over-one windows in the end bays. Decorative spandrels separate the tripartite windows. A simple stone cornice extends out beneath a stepped brick parapet.

This building originally (and briefly) housed a branch of the Cleveland-based Halle Brothers Co. Department Store. It was built by the Mansfield-based Jacob Wolf Company.

**Block # 28 Park Avenue West between North Mulberry Street and North Walnut Street**

**7 buildings (4 contributing, 2 non-contributing, 1 previously listed)**

102. 54 Park Avenue West, ca. 1906  
Architectural Style: No Academic Style

Non-Contributing Building

At the northeast corner of Park Avenue West and North Mulberry Street is a two-story brick building with a stone foundation, a paneled primary facade, and a flat roofline. The historic exterior has been covered with vertical and horizontal wood siding and the windows and storefronts have been altered.

103. 50-52 Park Avenue West, ca. 1910s  
Architectural Style: 20<sup>th</sup> Century commercial

Contributing Building  
Photo #9

This is a three-story brick building measuring two bays across with a stone foundation and a flat roofline. The first-floor storefronts have some alterations, while the upper floors are intact. The second and third floors have one tripartite window in each bay that appear to be modern infill, with brick lintels, stone sills, and framed with brick banding.

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Decorative brick and stone spandrels are located between the floors and a simple cornice and parapet complete the design.

104. 46-48 Park Avenue West, ca. 1892 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Richardsonian Romanesque elements Photo #9

This three-story brick building has a stone foundation, flat roofline, and measures two bays on the first floor, five on the second, and four on the third. The first-floor storefronts have been altered. The second-floor features five arched openings (that originally included a balcony, as indicated by historic images) separated by stone semi-engaged column details. The third-floor window openings are rectangular with brick banding under a corbelled brickwork detail and have been boarded over. The parapet and sides of the façade feature a variety of decorative brickwork patterns.

105. 44 Park Avenue West, ca. 1969 Non-Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Mid-Century

This single-story brick building measures three bays across with a flat roofline and concrete foundation. It has a single entrance with transom and brick infill storefronts, with no other decorative features. It was built after the period of significance and is non-contributing.

106. 40 Park Avenue West, ca. 1947 Contributing Building  
Architectural Style: Colonial Revival

This two-story brick building has a stone foundation, flat roofline, and measures three bays wide. The central first floor entry is recessed and flanked by multi-pane windows with stone sills and lintels. The upper story features round-arched openings with multi-pane nine-lite windows and fanlights.

107. 34 Park Avenue West ca. 1889 Previously Listed, NR #80003214  
Soldiers and Sailors Building  
Architectural Style: Richardsonian Romanesque

The Soldiers and Sailors Memorial, opened in 1889, is individually listed in the National Register (NR# 80003214, 5/27/80). The rock-faced exterior with contrasting stone trim, round-arched windows, and triple window grouping in the tower are all character-defining elements of the style. The first floor features large arched windows on the primary (south) elevation, and a recessed entrance. Etched in the stone flanking the arched entrance are the words "Soldier" and "Sailor." Tall, one-over-one windows mark the second floor, and arched one-over-one windows separated by semi-engaged columns are on the third floor. Other details include a gable with tripartite windows, and a square tower with pyramidal roofline. This building was designed and built by Oscar Cobb as a memorial to men who had served in the military and served as the Mansfield Public Library until the one at 43 West Third was built.



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108. 26-28 Park Avenue West, ca. 1928

Contributing Building

Architectural Style: Neoclassical and Art Deco elements

Photo #8

The tallest building in downtown Mansfield, which was built by the Farmers Bank, dominates the northwest corner of Park Avenue West and Walnut Street. The center three bay section is twelve stories in height, flanked by 10 story three bays sections. The building has with a stone foundation, steel frame construction, smooth limestone exterior. A large stone arched entrance is centrally located with recessed double door entry and original transom. It is flanked by round-arched openings on the first floor and rectangular openings on the second with new sash. The upper floors are intact with stone pilasters separating the bays, one-over-one windows, and three-bay wide penthouse with round-arched windows extending above the roofline (modified). A stone entablature and intricate carvings, including a stone eagle and a cornice above the entrance reads "Farmers Bank Building." A three-bay long banking hall with large arched window openings extends north along Walnut Street. This building was designed by the Althouse and Jones architects, a firm based in Mansfield.

**Block # 29 Park Avenue West between North Walnut Street and North Main Street  
1 building (1 previously listed)**

109. 13-15 Park Avenue West, ca. 1922

Previously Listed, NR #83002048

Architectural Style: Neoclassical Revival elements

On the southeast corner of Park Avenue West and Walnut Street is a six-story north-facing building. It has a stone foundation and a flat roofline, and measures seven by fourteen bays. The first-floor features a smooth stone exterior, three storefront bays and an entrance with a decorative entablature that led to the offices on the upper floors. A corbelled stone cornice separates the first and upper floors.

The second through fifth floors are sheathed in buff colored brick while the sixth floor has a terracotta facade. Brick pilasters separate all the upper story bays. Upper level windows are rectangular with replacement one-over-one metal window sash, brick lintels, and brick sills. Wider pilasters separate the west six bays, designating pairs of windows. The building retains its dentilled terra cotta cornice over the top of the sixth floor, along with an intricately carved terra cotta parapet. This corner was once the site of the old Mansfield City Hall and market building until 1922.

**Block # 30 Park Avenue East between North Diamond Street and South Adams  
Street 1 building (1 contributing)**

110. 50 Park Avenue East, 1968/2008

Contributing

Richland County Courthouse

Architectural Style: New Formalism

Photo #31

The present courthouse was built on the site of the old Richland County Jail, which was demolished for its construction. Erected in 1968 to replace the deteriorating Second Empire courthouse, the fifth Richland County courthouse was built on a slope so that

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the main elevation is three stories in height. The brick building's most distinctive feature is its three-story high cast concrete arcade that surrounds the building on all sides. The updated entrance is centrally located, with the remainder of the bays featuring rectangular window openings for each floor with stone sills and brick lintels, as well as brick piers separating the bays.

A sculptural bas-relief map of Richland County created for the courthouse at the time it was built, is over the door, below a public clock. A large landscaped front lawn extends in front of the courthouse (on the site of the previous courthouse) adjacent to Central Park.

The Richland County Jail was constructed and attached to the courthouse as an addition via an above ground walkway in 2008. The jail is rectangular in shape, with two stories on a raised foundation with small fixed pane windows. The cladding exhibits concrete framing with bricked panels. Some blind panels are arched to reflect the design of the courthouse to which the jail is attached. A modest cornice at the roofline also expresses the arched theme.

The overall character-defining features of the district include Central Park, the district's central organizing feature, the historic street grid, streetscape density, and the concentration of mostly commercial property types and styles representative of the period of significance. Common alterations include the modernization of storefronts, in many cases within the period of significance, replacement windows, but the integrity of other important character defining features such as masonry or brick construction or cladding, decorative brickwork, parapets, cornices, and window openings remain. In instances where buildings have been altered to completely obscure fenestration patterns, storefronts, masonry cladding, or decorative masonry, they have been classified as non-contributing.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

### Criteria Considerations

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

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

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

commerce

architecture

community planning & development

**Period of Significance**

1860 - 1968

**Significant Dates**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

York and Sawyer

Althouse and Jones

Zaugg and Associates

Robert G. Hancock & William Dow

Redding, Vernon

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

The Downtown Mansfield Historic District is significant at the local level and meets the eligibility requirements for listing under Criterion A in the area of commerce, for its association with the commercial development of downtown Mansfield during the period of significance which spans 1860 to 1968.

The Downtown Mansfield Historic District is also eligible for listing under Criterion C in the areas of architecture and community planning & development as a distinguishable concentration of historic properties that represent the architectural styles, property types and patterns of development in Mansfield during the period of significance. The majority of the built environment within the boundary of the district reflect this period of physical development of the city. The district contains work by several noted Mansfield architects in the design of architecturally significant buildings within the district.

The period of significance begins in 1860 which marks the oldest extant building in the district and the period of prosperity and growth within the city. It ends in 1968 as changing demographics-the movement of the population to suburbia and sagging industry and commerce-signaled the beginning of a slump in Mansfield's economy that would continue through the 1970s and 1980s. The construction of the new county courthouse in 1968 signaled the last significant construction investment within the historic district boundary during the historic period of community development. This period reflects major eras of important economic, commercial and physical development for the city.

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

The Downtown Mansfield Historic District represents the commercial development of this mid-sized Ohio county seat. As the town matured, commercial, institutional and civic buildings grew around the central public square, becoming architecturally sophisticated by the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The district is characterized by an urban density, multi-story mixed use buildings; continuous streetscapes; commercial storefronts; and mostly masonry buildings that exhibit a wide variety of architectural styles and property types.

To establish a historic context for evaluating the Downtown Mansfield Historic District and its significance, four eras of development are explored in the following narrative: The Early Settlement Era (1808 – 1845), The Railroad and Early Industrial Era (1846-1900), The Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century (1900 – 1945), and the Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century (1946 – 1968). The buildings within the district represent important patterns of local history under Criterion A and illuminate significant patterns of architectural development under Criterion C. Though no structures remain from the earliest era, the original plat, the Public Square, and early development heavily influenced the built environment that followed. The other three eras are well represented by contributing buildings within the proposed district boundaries, and specific associations are described following each historic context discussion.

### **THE EARLY SETTLEMENT ERA (1808 - 1845)**

Mansfield was platted (Illustration #1) in 1808 by speculators Jacob Newman, James Hedges, and Joseph Larwill under the authority of the Surveyor General of the United States, James Mansfield of New Haven, Connecticut. The resulting plan for Mansfield, with its central public square surrounded by a grid pattern of main and secondary streets reflects James Mansfield's New England roots. His home in New Haven is widely credited as having had the first grid town plan in the United States-the Nine Square Plan- which also features a centralized public common surrounded by symmetrically placed streets and city lots.<sup>1</sup> (Illustrations 1 #1a) The 1830s sketch of Mansfield illustrates the civic function of the square with the prominent placement of the courthouse within the green which is flanked by early commerce and the picturesque church with characteristic tall steeple. (Illustration 2)

The plan became ubiquitous in New England, with the common area used in a variety of ways; for grazing, crops, military training and social gatherings. This town plan made its way to Ohio through the migration of New Englanders, especially those from Connecticut, after that state sold the majority of its reserved western frontier land to a group of private land speculators late in the eighteenth century. While Richland County is not included in counties that comprise the historic Connecticut Western Reserve in northern Ohio, New England influences helped to shape its early settlement period.

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<sup>1</sup>Todd, Alfred, H. *The Esthetics of the New England Town Common*. Master's Thesis, Lehigh University. 1947. pp. 4-7.

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Mansfield's town plan and that of hundreds of other Ohio towns, villages and cities reflects the influence of the migration of early settlers from New England.

The intent of Newman, Hedges and Larwill was to achieve designation of the town as the county seat of the newly defined Richland County.<sup>2</sup> The geographic location of Mansfield is laid near the center of the new county in the southeast quarter of Section 21 and southwest quarter of Section 22 of Madison Township. Their strategy was successful and effective. Mansfield developed as the governmental, commercial and civic center of the county. By 1870, the population of the city was almost double (8, 029) the number of residents in the other six cities listed for Richland County; Shiloh, Bellville, Lucas, Plymouth, Shelby and Lexington (total 4,321), in the *Andrea's Atlas of Richland County*, published in 1873.<sup>3</sup> While the other cities mentioned above would benefit from the railroads that eventually serviced their communities, the main commodity for them would primarily remain agriculture. Mansfield, as the county seat, attracted professional lawyers, businessmen and bankers who needed prestigious homes, places to shop and entertainment. Mansfield would continue to dominate as the main center of commerce, industry and government within the county through the entire period of significance and the present.

Mansfield's first buildings were log structures located on or near the public square. The first merchant set up shop in a building on the northwest corner of the square. Development generally spread from the square to the north, with Main Street developing a more commercial character and the parallel Diamond Street developing a more residential character. Settlement began immediately upon the sale of lots in 1808 and 1809 however, growth was slowed by the onset of the War of 1812. Although no British incursions occurred, the threat of conflict compelled the settlers to build two defensive blockhouses on the public square. The 2,000 soldiers camped in Mansfield helped to construct the blockhouses and also cleared a large amount of land for their camp<sup>4</sup> creating opportunities for future development. With the organization of the county government in 1813, the blockhouse on the east side of the square became the first Richland County Courthouse and Jail.

Several early roads were constructed in the area – of particular importance were the routes to Wooster<sup>5</sup> and Upper Sandusky which would later become the Lincoln Highway and the routes to Sandusky and Mt. Vernon which would later be connected by Mansfield's first rail line.

An 1818 illustrated "word map" notes Mansfield as having 80 homes and 8 shops,<sup>6</sup> a building inventory appropriate for a community identified in the 1820 U.S. Census as having 288 residents. One account from a visitor in 1820 described a settlement mostly

<sup>2</sup> A.A. Graham, *History of Richland County, Ohio*. (Mansfield: A.A. Graham & Co, 1880), Pages 236, 444 – 445

<sup>3</sup> A. T. Andreas. *Atlas Map of Richland County, Ohio*. (Chicago, Illinois.) 1873. Pages

<sup>4</sup> Graham, *History of Richland County, Ohio*, Pages 443 – 454

<sup>5</sup> Roeliff Brinkerhoff, *A pioneer history of Richland County, Ohio*. (Mansfield: Richland County Chapter of the OGS, 1993) Page 48

<sup>6</sup> Andrew Miller, *New states and territories, or, The Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, North-Western, Missouri, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, in their real characters, in 1818*, page #23.

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built by crude pioneer methods, with only a few frame buildings and one brick house.<sup>7</sup> Although Mansfield's population grew by almost 200% between 1820 and 1830 the absolute numbers remained low, totaling 552 people by the 1830 Census.

During this early period, the cultural life and physical development of Mansfield was focused almost entirely around the public square. The county's first courthouse, the recycled War of 1812 blockhouse, was replaced in 1815. The new building was of similarly crude construction, having been built on the square with materials from the second blockhouse, although it did have a second story with beveled wood siding.<sup>8</sup>

As the population of Mansfield and Richland County grew, space ran short in the second courthouse. In June 1826, the County Commissioners voted that a "1 ½ mill tax be added to each dollar of the grand levy," which generated \$1,400 for construction of a new courthouse.<sup>9</sup> Still located on the public square, the third courthouse, the first major public building in Mansfield, was a four-square brick building, a common form for early Ohio courthouses and also for Ohio's first three statehouses. An 1830 illustration showed the public square from the north, with the courthouse in the square, primarily two-story brick commercial structures to the south and to the west along Main Street, and an increased number of residential structures along Diamond Street on the east (Illustration #2).

No surviving structures from this early period remain in the historic district however, the original plat, including the public square (now known as Central Park), is evident today and historically provided the physical framework for rapid growth and development that would take place with the introduction of railroads and industry.

### **THE RAILROAD AND EARLY INDUSTRIAL ERA (1846-1900)**

The second half of the nineteenth century brought enormous change to Mansfield. Unlike Ohio's major industrial centers which developed early along the state's natural waterways or canals-Cleveland and Toledo on Lake Erie, Cincinnati on the Ohio River, Youngstown on the Mahoning River, and Dayton, who benefitted from two rivers and the canal, Mansfield's development as a smaller, but important central Ohio industrial city came later-with the railroad. The combination of vastly increased transportation connectivity through railroad construction and the industrial development that followed, led to an increase in population, economic prosperity, and to significant growth and development in downtown Mansfield.

Having been bypassed by the Ohio Canal system that led to development in other cities across the state in the 1830s, Mansfield maintained a localized agricultural economy into the 1840s. The opportunity for significant economic and commercial growth came when the Mansfield and Sandusky Railroad (M&S) was constructed in 1846. It was one of several early Ohio railroads built to connect the state's interior with established water

<sup>7</sup> Graham, *History of Richland County, Ohio*, Page 456

<sup>8</sup> Graham, *History of Richland County, Ohio*, Pages 456 - 457

<sup>9</sup> D. W. Garber, *Courthouse Problem Nothing New to Richland County*. Mansfield News-Journal. 5 April 1964.



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transport routes on Lake Erie and the Ohio River. By 1852 the M&S had connected with another railroad running from Mansfield southward to Newark in Licking County and on to the rich southeastern Ohio coalfields. By just after the Civil War, Mansfield had rail connections both to Great Lakes shipping lines and to a source of the fuel that powered nearly all of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century industrial development. This rail line eventually became part of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad (B&O), a major trunk line between the East Coast and western gateways such as Chicago and St. Louis.

The next railroad built through Mansfield was the Ohio & Pennsylvania Railroad (O&P), which opened in 1853 between Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Crestline, just west of Mansfield, where it connected with another railroad between Cleveland and Columbus. Westward construction continued from there to Chicago, and the O&P was later merged into the Pennsylvania Railroad (PRR), one of the two railroads (the New York Central was the other) that dominated rail transportation in the northeastern United States. As a result, by the late 1850s, O&P and its connections had given Mansfield reliable rail service to nearly any location in the quadrant of the country east of Chicago and north of the Mason-Dixon Line.

The third rail line to serve Mansfield was completed between 1851 and 1855. It was the Atlantic & Great Western Railroad (A&GW), which connected the Erie Railroad, in western New York State, with Cincinnati. The A&GW merged with the Erie, which built a line from the A&GW to Chicago, thereby forming a secondary route between Chicago and the New York City metropolitan area that would last into the early 1970s.

The rail lines converged on the north end of the city, (and north of the historic district) serving its burgeoning industrial base. (Figure 12) Because of Mansfield's access to rail transportation and the resulting stimulation of industrial development, the city's population more than doubled from 1840 to 1850, adding 2,229 people by the 1850 Census. By the time of the Civil War and for the entire century that followed, Mansfield's three railroads were in place, providing transportation options for the city's industrial, commercial and agricultural products. Mansfield's Union Station was located east of North Main at the crossing of the Erie and the PRR, while the B&O had its own depot west of North Main- neither currently exist. Freight houses and other facilities such as track maintenance buildings, control towers, and storage buildings were also in this area, along with interchange tracks that enabled exchange of freight cars among the three lines. All of this gave this part of the city a busy and dense railroad nexus conveniently located near the downtown core, but up the hill to the south.

Following construction of the first railroad, substantial industries took root in Mansfield. In historical accounts much is made of the bountiful soil and the valuable timber of Richland County, from which it was said to have taken its name.<sup>10</sup> As a result, agriculture became the foundation of the city's early industrial development. Some of the first industries processed the agricultural production of the Mansfield area. Several mills were constructed outside the city limits at the time, but at least one – City Mills –

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<sup>10</sup> Downes, *Evolution of Ohio County Boundaries*

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was built in 1881 at 160 North Main Street (NR #86003500, 12/18/1986), adjacent to the northern boundary of the district.

Several large companies were founded and grew during this period, such as the Mansfield Machine Works, which dated from the 1840s, and grew to be a major local manufacturer. It was at the southwest corner of Short (now Sixth) and Main streets – just outside the boundaries of the historic district – and produced steam engines, boilers, and agricultural implements. As the company grew, it moved in 1877 to a site formerly occupied by a wholesale and retail agricultural supplier Blymer Day & Co. on North Diamond Street adjacent to the rail lines. This extensive operation is depicted in an illustration published in 1880 (Illustration #3).<sup>11</sup>

In 1867, a new company, Aultman & Taylor Co., was formed and would grow to have an outsized impact on Mansfield. When C. Aultman of Canton and Henry Taylor of Chicago entered the threshing machine business. Taking advantage of Mansfield's central location and association with agriculture, they located their manufacturing facility in that city. Geography – particularly the well-developed rail network – appeared to be a factor in this decision. In 1868, the company began operation north of the downtown area and east of the B&O Railroad line. By the late 1870s Aultman & Taylor had become a large operation encompassing over thirty acres and receiving more than 1,200 freight cars of raw materials annually.

These manufacturing operations were but two of many; others produced books, candles, carriages, cigars, hoopskirts, ink, and lard, among other products. With increased employment opportunities, the city population grew by approximately 1,000 between 1850 and 1860 to 4,581 people by the 1860 Census. The population grew by another 3,448 to a total of 8,029 by the 1870 Census, a 75.3% increase in a decade. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Mansfield had a population of 17,640. Nineteen percent of the population was foreign-born, a low ratio compared to large cities of the era but in line with other Ohio cities of similar size which, like Mansfield, were rapidly gaining manufacturing jobs that immigrants often filled.

Economic and population growth transformed Mansfield from its early village-scale character of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, to the character of a prosperous urban area with larger and more substantial buildings, greater development density, and physical expansion beyond the blocks on and close to the public square (now Central Park). This transformation was reflected in Mansfield's official recognition by the State of Ohio as a city on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1857.<sup>12</sup>

With its expanding population, new areas developed, generally along the early transportation routes to Sandusky and Mt. Vernon (Main Street) and also Upper Sandusky and Wooster (Market Street, later Park Avenue). Where other major Ohio

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<sup>11</sup> Graham. *History of Richland County*. Pages 510 - 512 (History of Richland County referred to the general locations of Mansfield Machine Works and Blymer Day & Co which were cross referenced with the 1858, 1858-59, 1867, and 1869 Mansfield City Directories to confirm.)

<sup>12</sup> Graham. *History of Richland County Ohio*. Page 521

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cities based their fortunes on heavy or specialized industry, Mansfield growing prosperity was closely associated with the developing electric power technology. This association can be seen when Mansfield inaugurated the electric streetcar era with one of the first systems in the country in August of 1887. Later, companies like Westinghouse and Tappan would provide a solid foundation for the city's economic health through the late nineteenth and much of the twentieth century through the popularity of their household appliances.

Streetcar tracks were first laid on North Main Street and Park Avenue West (Illustration #7 & 7A), running 4.5 miles. The line connected the public square with the residential areas to the west of the downtown and also ran north through the commercial center of the city on North Main Street to the railroad depots and to manufacturing plants near them. After the success of the first line, additional lines were constructed connecting downtown with the fairgrounds to the northwest and the Ohio State Reformatory to the northeast; and along Fourth Street, South Main Street, and to the east on Grace Street. Downtown Mansfield functioned as the hub of the system, with all lines intersecting within the district. By the end of this era, this system was fully built out. Mansfield's streetcars accommodated the strong population growth of the City by connecting newly constructed residential areas with the retail, commercial, and entertainment areas in the downtown, and with industrial jobs to the north and east.

The public square maintained a strong presence during this period as a hub of civic and cultural life for Mansfield. John Sherman humorously recalled a pre-Civil War military parade in which ". . . the regiment - so called - without guns, uniform or anything property [sic] for a soldier, was with some difficulty formed into a line, but a wavering line, across the public square at Mansfield and along East and West Market streets . . ." <sup>13</sup> In addition to everyday meetings and events, the square served as the backdrop for a balloon launch in the 1850s (Illustration #4), a meeting place and training ground for the earliest Civil War volunteers (Illustration #5), and a public grazing ground, among other uses. Efforts were made to give more structure to the square, including a failed 1848 ballot measure to fence and transform it to a more park-like use.

By the 1870s, this began to change, beginning with the removal of the courthouse from the square to an adjacent site. The first masonry courthouse (Richland County's third) was built in 1826 and was renovated with a Greek Revival style façade in 1851. (Illustration #6), but it soon proved inadequate. After several failed attempts to fund a new courthouse in the years after the Civil War, the effort was aided when the Ohio General Assembly enacted a law allowing county governments unilaterally to impose a tax to fund courthouse construction. This resulted in the building of the fourth Richland County Courthouse, completed in 1873 at the corner of East Market (now Park Avenue East) and Diamond streets. Prominent Cleveland architect Henry E. Myers, designed it in the flamboyant French Second Empire style as a visible symbol of the prosperity of the city. This courthouse was demolished in 1968 upon the construction of the current

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<sup>13</sup> Sherman. *John Sherman's recollections of forty years in the House, Senate and Cabinet: an autobiography*. Page 48

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courthouse. The site is now the expansive landscaped space in front of the current courthouse.

### **Significant District Associations with the Railroad Era and Early Industrial Era**

Though industrial development was a significant driver of the economy in Mansfield during this period and into the future, there was very little large scale industrial development within the nominated district. Most industry was located north of the city, outside of the boundary of the historic district, where the major railroads converged. Commerce developed within the district as a result of industrial growth. The property at 163 North Diamond (Resource #24) reflects the influence of the railroad on the growth of the district. Located on the north end of the district at the bottom of the slope that leads down to the transition from commercial to the industrial and warehouse section, this building housed the Tracy & Avery Grocery warehouse early in the twentieth century. The warehouse was accessed by a siding of the B&O railroad which ran along Fifth Street. Across North Diamond Street from it is the former Wagner Hardware Company building (Resource #25). Constructed ca. 1922, this property consolidated the company's operations; offices, retail and wholesale operations and warehouse into one location-again near the railroad spur.

Under Criterion A, contributing properties within the district provides a strong association with the commercial development of Mansfield during the second half of the 19th century, much of which was an outgrowth of the strong industrial economy enabled by the railroads. Nearly half of all the existing buildings in the district – forty-nine– were built in the period between 1846 and 1900. The economic prosperity of the city is reflected in the multi-story substantial brick constructed properties, many with distinctive influences from mainly the Italianate and Romanesque architectural styles that reflect the aesthetics of the period.

Among the oldest surviving buildings in the district, dating from the 1860s, is the H.L. Reed's building in the northwest corner of Central Park at 28-34 North Main Street (Resource #2, Photo #30). The building is distinguished by tall, arched or curved topped window openings and a distinctive serpentine corbelling detail near the decorative cornice. The façade is symmetrical with a rhythm of brick pilasters that frame 7 bays of windows and that are topped with stone ornamentation. Originally built by H. H. Sturges and known as Sturges Corner, its first use was as a bookstore. Reed purchased the building in 1873 and continued to expand it until it became the largest department store in Richland County at one time. By 1900, the adjacent building on Main Street to the north had been annexed to expand the property's footprint.<sup>14</sup>

Across Main Street from the H.L. Reed's Building, directly west of Central Park, is 17-19 North Main Street (Resource #33, Photo #29). Like the H.L. Reed's Building, this brick building exhibits elements of the Italianate so representative of the late nineteenth century, brick construction, tall arched windows and decorative corbelling at the cornice.

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<sup>14</sup> Judith Willams, *National Register Nomination for the Central Park Historic District* (Columbus: Ohio History Connection) (not listed) 1985.

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The buildings near the square housed mostly retail and service functions. Many others like them were replaced as development around the square evolved to meet the changing needs of Mansfield's businesses.

One of the most intact collections of buildings from the mid- to late 19<sup>th</sup> century is found on North Main Street in the blocks between Fourth and Fifth street (resource #s 44 through 63) on the north edge of the district, near the industrial section of the city. Like the buildings on the square that represent this time period, this block consists of mainly two and three story brick buildings with elements of the Italianate or Romanesque. These properties housed a variety of retail uses on the first floor such as a dry goods store, photographer, hardware store, barber, harness maker, gun maker, baker, furniture store, piano seller, saloon, hotel, and butcher.<sup>15</sup> The upper floors housed offices and residential units. These fine Italianate buildings created a dense streetscape that is highly intact today (Photos 19, 20, 22, 23).

In addition to expansion of retail development within the district, downtown Mansfield was the primary banking center for the county. Mansfield's first successful bank – James Patterson & Company, a “bank of deposit” – was established in 1846 on the west side of the square, following several earlier failed attempts. E. Sturges, Sr. & Co constructed a banking house at Main and Third in 1852 and later in 1858 moved to a newly constructed building at 9 North Main Street. In 1873 two new bank buildings were completed, both replacing earlier buildings. The Mansfield Savings Bank (Resource #83) opened at the northwest corner of North Main and Fourth streets in February of that year, while the Mansfield Banking Company opened at North Main and Third streets in July; both of these buildings were ultimately replaced by new bank buildings in 1913.<sup>16</sup>

There were subtle changes to the public square as well. Once the third courthouse was removed from the square, and the new (fourth) courthouse built adjacent to the east of the square, the land took on a more recreational and ceremonial role as downtown Mansfield grew in importance both locally and as a regional center of commerce. As early as 1891 and likely before,<sup>17</sup> the square became referred to as Central Park which coincided with the removal of the courthouse as the space transformed to a more park-like use. Although no formal plans have been located indicating an orchestrated influence of the city beautiful movement in Mansfield, the transition from public square to public park coincided with this broad pattern of aesthetics and recreation.

Serving also as a space to celebrate and memorialize Mansfield and its citizens, in the 1880s the park saw the addition of three civic monuments – the 1884 Vasbinder Fountain, designed by the New York firm J. L. Mott & Company, (Resource 1E, Photo

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<sup>15</sup> Mansfield City Directories

<sup>16</sup> A.A. Graham. *History of Richland County*. Pages 492-497 (History of Richland County referred to the location of E. Sturges, Sr. & Co's as the present day [1880] location of Blymer Stoves and Tinware. The 1881 County Directory confirms Blymer & Bro Stoves and Tinware at 9 N Main Street.)

<sup>17</sup> An advertisement in the *News-Journal* from Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1891, refers to a home for sale as being just a few blocks from Central Park, however the 1880 Richland County History makes no mention of Central Park, only 'Public Square.'

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#5), donated by Jane and David Vasbinder in 1881 in the central area of the park; two cannons donated by the federal government; and the 1881 Richland County Soldiers Monument (Resource #1F), designed by D. L. Strine from Toledo.

Though both the Vasbinder Fountain and the cannons have moved several times they remain within the district – the fountain is located in the south portion of Central Park and the cannons on the courthouse lawn. The Richland County Soldiers Monument was repaired and updated in 1998 and remains a contributing feature of the park and the district.

Though Christian religious congregations formed soon after the settlement of Mansfield began, little physical evidence from that period remains. Initially, services were held in the courthouse, and early church buildings tended to be small and of frame construction. As congregations grew, larger and more permanent buildings were constructed. Only one existing church, the First United Methodist, (resource #15) is located in the district and dates from the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Under Criterion C, several early commercial properties in the district illustrate both the architecture significance through property types and styles, and physical development of the district during this period of Mansfield's history.

Italianate

- 28-34 North Main Street (Resource #2, Photo #30) – the ca. 1865 H. L. Reed Co. Building is among the oldest buildings and longest running department stores in the district and features a distinctive parapet with decorative curved brickwork below.
- 117 North Diamond Street (Resource #17, Photo #34) – the 1894, highly designed four-story building which is noteworthy due to its second and third floor oriel windows, located in the end bays, with Doric pilasters separating the bays.
- 123 North Diamond Street (Resource #18, Photo #34) – ca. 1865; an austere building which is differentiated by its segmental-arched windows, this building originally housed the Charles Schroer Company Funeral Directors and Fine Furniture.
- 105-109 North Main Street (Resource #46, Photos # 22) – ca. 1870s, a visually distinctive building due to its cast and wrought iron balconies across the entire façade and its round-arched windows and decorative stone hood molds once housed the Court Hotel.
- 117-119 North Main Street (Resource #53) – ca. 1870s, which retains its historic and bracketed, pressed metal cornice and original highly-decorative stone hoods above the upper story windows. This building held the administrative offices of the E. F. Malone Company-a major distributor of plumbing, steam and gas fittings and Kraft Photo Finisher.
- 100-104 North Main Street (Resource #51, Photo #23) – ca. 1870s, which retains its original four storefronts including cast iron columns, prism glass transoms, and recessed center entrances. The variety of patterns of decorative and corbelled brickwork on the upper façade and parapet are distinctive. While, by

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1930 two of the three stories of this property were vacant, it still housed the Gordon & Kelly Temple Billiards Hall.

Late Gothic Revival

- 12 North Diamond Street (Resource #15) – the 1905-1910 ornate First United Methodist Church has rock-faced finished walls, and a hipped red tile roof with cross gables. It features a prominent four-story bell tower and faces Central Park.

Neoclassical

- 134-136 North Main Street (Resource #61, Photo #19) –ca. 1870s, though the recessed storefront is outside the period of significance, the building retains features such as the segmental arches with cast iron columns topped with a bracketed cornice and its arcaded corbelled brick parapet. This building housed a variety of small scale retail shops, including the Louis Siegal Clothing and Pifer Brothers second hand goods shop by the mid-1920s.

Romanesque Revival

- 163 North Diamond Street (Resource 24)- 1896, the Wagner Hardware Company is an impressive local example of the Romanesque Revival, with its monochromatic brick construction, round arched windows and extensive decorative corbelling at the cornice.
- 21-23 East Fourth Street (NR #86002864, February 26, 1987) (Resource #84) – the Hancock & Dow Building features an elaborate facade constructed in rough-faced sandstone which stands out from the many red brick Italianate buildings nearby. Built in 1887 by the prominent local building firm Hancock & Dow, this property housed commercial storefronts on the ground floor, professional offices on the second floor and the Elks Hall on the third. By 1914 the upper floors were converted to a residential hotel.

**EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY ERA (1900-1945)**

The 1920s marked a decade of prosperity that is reflected in the building stock within the historic district. This period of significant growth and development was driven by the continued evolution of its transportation network, robust commerce, new technologies such as electrification, streetcars, the interurban, and automobiles. All of these contributed to ongoing economic growth, investment, and wealth accumulation that can be seen through the changes in the physical environment of the downtown area.

At the turn of the century, manufacturing and transportation remained the key to Mansfield's economy. Mansfield's industrial growth in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century mirrored that of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century: a steady increase in employment in both expansion of existing industries and establishment of new ones, much of it located along or close to the rail lines to the north and east of the downtown area.

The Ohio Brass Company and Aultman & Taylor were the best capitalized and most productive industrial companies in Mansfield, although both had to keep evolving as

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their markets changed. Ohio Brass, organized in 1888, tailored its manufacturing to serve the growing electric railway industry. By 1902 the company had grown large enough to be incorporated as a public company. Aultman & Taylor, who began as a successful threshing machine manufacturer, transitioned with evolving technology into other products serving both the agricultural industry and the electric railway industry.

Though the large-scale industrial facilities including Ohio Brass and Aultman & Taylor were located outside the boundary of the proposed historic district, they had a significant impact on the economic and commercial vitality of the entire downtown area due to their close proximity to the north and east. Housing, retail, institutions, and services which supported workers and industry were located within the district. Other industries in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century included the manufacture of furniture, automobile tires, cigars, clothing, steel, and most importantly, electronic appliances.

The development of the practical use of electricity for household use was, in great part, based on the contributions of Ohio inventors, Charles Brush who developed arc lighting and Thomas Edison's light bulb. Most of Ohio's largest cities had electric streetlights by 1900 and the public developed a healthy appetite for convenient electronic appliances and devices.<sup>18</sup> In 1917 the Westinghouse Electric Company acquired Mansfield business, the Baxter Stove Company, which had existed there since 1867. The company employed a few hundred men in 1918, but the number steadily grew from there. The entrance of Westinghouse into the local economy would continue to have a profound effect on the economic health in Mansfield for decades to come. The early twentieth century commercial development in Mansfield was also influenced by the growth of the Eclipse Stove Company which became incorporated in 1920 as the Tappan Stove Company. Known as a leader of high grade gas stoves by 1930, the company eventually dominated the domestic appliance industry.<sup>19</sup>

Though the railroads encountered financial and regulatory difficulties due to WWI, the Depression, and WWII, they remained vital to economic success of Mansfield. Rail traffic continued to surge through the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, and it was in this period that the network of rail lines – main lines, industrial tracks, sorting yards – reached its peak in Mansfield. At the junction of major lines of the nationwide network Mansfield remained a place where goods could easily be shipped nationwide.

Mansfield's industries provided supplies for the city's first electric interurban line, which opened in 1901 to nearby Shelby. Additional lines subsequently opened to Crestline, Galion, and Bucyrus. In 1908 the interurban company achieved its goal of providing service from Cleveland through Mansfield to the state capital, Columbus. The attraction of the interurbans, compared to the steam railroads, was their frequency of service, attractive fares, and stops – often on demand -- at small towns and other locations the steam roads did not serve.

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<sup>18</sup> *Electricity*, Ohio History Central, March 28, 2019. <http://www.ohiohistorycentral.org/w/Electricity>

<sup>19</sup> William Duff. *History of North Central Ohio*. Historical Publishing Company. 1931.



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Though rail remained the major transportation provider for industry in this period, the automobile began its rise to prominence for personal transport. This was typified by the creation of the Lincoln Highway by the Lincoln Highway Association in 1913. Led by Carl Fisher, a automobile enthusiast, and industrialists Frank Seiberling and Henry Joy, the goal was to construct an improved road for motor cars that would stretch from coast to coast. The Association directed fundraising, route selection, and ultimately the construction of the highway.

In Ohio the initial route was to follow “Main Market Route Number 3,” entering the state at East Liverpool and extending through Canton, Wooster, and Mansfield and then across the state through Van Wert. Although the route was altered many times in the early years due to local pressure, road conditions, and for various other reasons, Mansfield stayed on the route from the beginning.<sup>20</sup> The Lincoln Highway followed Fourth Street through Downtown Mansfield, and by 1923 the majority of the route was improved in the Mansfield section. For Mansfield, that year’s guide advertised four hotels, several garages (Illustration #10) including the Lincoln Garage (Resource #16), seven banks, three newspapers and the Allerdig Products Company, a manufacturer of steering wheels and wood wheel rims. In 1926, the federal government began designating national highway routes and the Lincoln Highway became US Route 30. Improvements and maintenance shifted from the Lincoln Highway Association to state, federal, and local governments. Over time the route through Mansfield changed from Fourth Street to Park Avenue, and later to Main Street and then other routes, but it remained running through the heart of the city.

As the automobile era blossomed in the 1920s, the streetcar and interurban systems reached their nadir, enabling downtown to grow into a bustling regional urban center. The impact of the streetcar, interurban, and early highway system demonstrated the scale and success of Mansfield during this era. As automobile traffic increased, both safety and financial issues mounted for the interurban (Illustration #8). Tracks were not maintained adequately as revenues declined, making operations difficult. An interurban between Mansfield and Sandusky shut down in 1924 and the onset of the Great Depression in 1929 struck a fatal blow to many of Ohio’s – and the Midwest’s – interurbans. All interurban passenger service to and through Mansfield was suspended on January 31, 1931.

Large-scale automobile production and sales began in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and especially after about 1920, city-wide streetcar systems nationwide suffered as well. Because of the attraction of convenient private transportation, streetcar ridership declined, deficits rose, and most systems cut routes and retrenched. This brought even lower ridership. By 1934, Mansfield’s system had been reduced to just two lines totaling 7 route-miles. In March of that year the North – South Main Street line was converted to buses, and in September of 1937 the last operating streetcar – the ‘Loop Line’ that ran on Park Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Street -- was discontinued.

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<sup>20</sup> The Lincoln Highway. <https://www.lincolnhighwayassoc.org/info/> accessed 4/5/2019.

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The mass production of automobiles increased the affordability of these vehicles for the general population, and previously unimproved roads were slowly upgraded to accommodate them. The increase in automobile traffic demanded an upgrade to brick or other paving materials such as concrete. Images from this period show brick streets in Mansfield with streetcar lines running down the center (Illustration #9). By the end of the Second World War most main roads had been paved and the automobile had largely supplanted all other forms of surface transportation. Mansfield was at the center of the early effort to improve roadways due to its location along the Lincoln Highway.

By 1930, Mansfield had a population of 33,500, supported by four banks, 88 industries, and 15 hotels.<sup>21</sup> The momentum gained through the economic prosperity in Mansfield during the 1910s and 1920s provided a cushion for the area with the onset of the Great Depression. While Mansfield's economy lagged in the 1930s, it was not subject to the boom and bust cycle that seriously affected the more industrialized Ohio cities. The Writer's Program of the Work Projects Administration described Mansfield as a 'nondepression city' due to the 'quick upsurge of the new electrical era making commonplace of the electrical gadgets, resulted in Westinghouse's hiring upward of 5,000 workers. In the middle of the depression, Mansfield employed 9,000 men and women in producing \$85,000,000 worth of products."<sup>22</sup>

As indicated by the WPA guide, Westinghouse was one of the largest manufacturers and a global innovator of electrical household devices at this time. At the 1939 World's Fair in New York City, the company showcased one of its most novel inventions as visitors lined up to meet with Elektro the Moto-Man, a seven foot 250 pound robot who could smoke, carry on a conversation and blow up balloons during his 20 minute presentation.<sup>23</sup> This notoriety showcased the growing domination of appealing convenient household appliances supplied by the company.

By November 1940, Ohio's Governor Bricker was planning for the possibility of war by calling Ohio's National Guard units to active duty and creating a Defense Council to coordinate industrial planning with national defense needs. Ohio's industrial capacity, technological innovations and ready workforce resulted in more than \$15 billion in government defense contracts.<sup>24</sup> It took almost a year for the Mansfield Westinghouse factory to transition from the manufacture of appliances to aircraft parts, ammunition casings, gun stabilizers and other wartime goods. It received a contract in 1930 to manufacture code beacons for airways and an order for over \$3 million worth of binoculars was received in September 1941, further bolstering the company.<sup>25</sup> In

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<sup>21</sup> 1930 City Directory

<sup>22</sup> *WPA Guide to Ohio*. Compiled by the workers of the Writer's Program of the Works Projects Administration in the State of Ohio. Oxford University Press. New York. 1940. page 291.

<sup>23</sup> The History Channel online: *A Smoking Robot ruled the 1939 World's Fair*. McNearney, Allison. April 27, 2018 <https://www.history.com/news/1939-worlds-fair-new-york-technology-robot-flashback>

<sup>24</sup> Gray & Pape, Inc. *Ohio Modern: Preserving Our Recent Past Statewide Historic Context*. Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society. Columbus, Ohio. 2010. page 9.

<sup>25</sup> Walter W. Mickey, *The Government and Politics of Mansfield, Ohio* (Columbus: The Ohio State University, 1942), Pages 7 – 14

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addition, Tappan and the Ohio Brass Company, among others transitioned to wartime production.

The evolution in transportation continued in Mansfield during this time period as well. The bus system that replaced the streetcar lines still serviced passengers but in a more limited capacity than the streetcars. Of the five bus lines that replaced the streetcars in 1937 – three ran with a single bus on the route.<sup>26</sup> The removal of the streetcar lines and their replacement with lesser bus service only encouraged further auto use, which led to congestion and ever-increasing demand for parking – all this in a downtown area built to accommodate pedestrians, horses and carriages. In a very real way, the end of the streetcar era in Mansfield helped to set the stage for the changes made in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The swift rise of the automobile had a significant impact on the physical development of downtown Mansfield.

In August 1937, the same month the streetcars ceased operations, a pilot project was underway to convert Walnut to a one-way street – ostensibly to help improve automobile traffic issues in downtown Mansfield. Complaints quickly followed,<sup>27</sup> and a petition by 25 businesses to end the project was successful in ending the experiment after only two months.<sup>28</sup> Today, Walnut remains a two-way street. Though the conversion of Walnut was not long-lasting, many other downtown streets did become one-way.

Just as converting streets to one-way operation was offered by planners as the solution to the “traffic problem” of this era, parking lots were offered as the solution to the “parking problem.” A May 11, 1940, column in the *Mansfield News-Journal* beseeched city leaders to follow the “progressive” lead of nearby Marion, Galion, and Ashland and offer free city parking lots. “It is pretty generally admitted,” said the columnist, “that downtown parking lots would go a long way in solving the parking problem. At least they would provide space for the cars of downtown workers which now take up most of the available parking space throughout the day.” This sentiment – which led to the demolition of buildings and the creation of surface lots -- would only grow, with effects on Downtown Mansfield that can still be seen today.

### **Significant District Associations with the Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Era**

During this time period (1900-1945), thirty-three contributing buildings were constructed within the boundary of the nominated historic district. All but two; the Richland County Library and the post office, were commercial property types, reflecting the economic vitality of the city, supporting the theme of commerce under Criteria A. There are a number of significant buildings that demonstrate how Downtown Mansfield grew, changed, and transitioned during this period. Downtown entered the 20<sup>th</sup> Century with a pedestrian and streetcar orientation, but by the end of the Second World War it had transitioned into a commercially vibrant, auto-centric environment. At the turn of the

<sup>26</sup> *Orders Buses*. *Mansfield News-Journal*. 18 Aug. 1938

<sup>27</sup> *Want Two Way Traffic Back*. *Mansfield News-Journal*. 21 Sept. 1937

<sup>28</sup> *One-Way 'Experiment' on Walnut Street Ends*. *Mansfield News-Journal*, October 6, 1937

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century, construction consisted of mainly small-scale two-to-three story buildings (Illustration #11). During this era an urban mid-rise banking and office cluster developed on Park Avenue West (Illustration #12), local and national chain department stores were located around Central Park and North Main Street, and new or updated civic and cultural facilities were built throughout the district, many designed by prominent architects.

Central Park continued its development as the primary public park for memorials and civic celebrations, a trend begun in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. In addition to the Vasbinder Fountain and Civil War memorials from the 1880s, other memorials were added commemorating World War I Soldiers in 1922 (Structure #A, Photo #6) and Abraham Lincoln in 1925 (Structure #D.). Several additional monuments and memorials as well as a gazebo have been added outside the period of significance.

Although the buildings around the park changed during this period, the park itself retained much of the look it had prior to the automobile era. Retail development continued as several local retailers had grown and diversified their offerings, becoming Mansfield's earliest iteration of the new department store trend.

These early stores – Reed's at the corner of North Main and North Park and Maxwell R B & Company just to the north at 26-33 North Main – were purveyors of dry goods, clothing, home goods, and more. By the 1920s and 30s, there was intense competition between local retailers and national chains. Yet, even in the face of national retail chain competition, another local department store, Mansfield Dry Goods Company, opened in 1920 at present day 32 North Main Street (Resource #38). The two national chains, along with the three local competitors, together served mostly a nearby clientele during the height of the streetcar era and into the 1920s. In 1926 J.C. Penney moved to 15 Park Avenue West, closer to Central Park, thus contributing to the commercial dominance that was to grow in that area. Two more national competitors opened the year the Depression began, with only one of the two – W. T. Grant Company at 59 N Main Street (now demolished) – surviving. Just three years later, the downtown department store market had expanded greatly, with two local department stores (Mansfield Dry Goods closed by 1930) and seven national chains.

National retailers with locations in Mansfield included S. S. Kresge Company at 21-23 North Main Street in 1937 (Resource #34); Sears, Roebuck and Company at 37 West Third Street (now demolished); Montgomery Ward & Company at 37- 41 W Fourth Street, now part of the conglomeration of buildings at 67-75 N Walnut (Resource #65, Photo #16); as well as the local Freundlich Company at 24-32 W Third Street (Resource #95, Photo #13). This intensive commercial development occurred as streetcar lines were being phased out and the downtown became more dependent on auto transportation and its demand for parking. The community began to address these problems with one-way street conversions and demolition of buildings for parking lots even before the end of World War II; larger changes would follow.

The northern portion of the district continued to develop with new construction during the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Small-scale retail activity in this period remained

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focused on North Main and Fourth streets as it had in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Examples of buildings and businesses that represented this trend include 101 North Main Street, a well preserved Classical Revival building (Resource #44) constructed in 1904, which housed the Crunkilton Brother's Saloon; and in 1912, the four-story brick building at 21 N Walnut Street (Resource #67, Photo #12), which housed a retail store, residences, and an inn.

The area around Central Park also saw development of both professional offices and banking facilities, partly due to locations close to the county courthouse. This construction reflects the influence of prominent architects in many cases. The Spanish Colonial Revival style May Realty Building at 28 South Park Street (NR #86002865, 10/16/1986) (Resource #13, Photo #6), was designed by one of Mansfield's most prominent 20<sup>th</sup> century architects, Vernon Redding and built in 1905. It housed a variety of offices and businesses, including the Grand Union Tea Company, Logan Natural Gas, and the May Realty Company. At 10 South Park Street the Classical Revival style Remy Building (Resource #9) was constructed in 1912 and housed retailers, a post office, and several attorneys.

The banking industry created the most visual changes in the district early in the twentieth century through the construction of architecturally sophisticated buildings that represented a substantial financial investment in the downtown. The Classical Revival style Mansfield Savings Bank (NR #86002872, 10/16/1986) (Resource #83), designed by York & Sawyer, opened at the northwest corner of North Main and Fourth streets in 1913; the first of five distinguished banking facilities constructed by 1929. The Mansfield Banking Company, then called First National Bank of Mansfield, next built its stately Neoclassical Revival building, designed by the architectural firm, York & Sawyer, (Resource #40) at North Main and Third streets in 1925. Facing Central Park and along Park Ave West, mid-rise bank buildings were constructed that included multiple floors of rental offices. The Classical Revival Style Mechanics Building and Loan Company Building (Resource #30) (NR #83002038, 7/8/1983) opened on Central Park in 1926 – a harbinger of the growth of the banking industry on and to the west of the square.

The 1928 Farmers Bank Building, rising twelve stories at 26-28 Park Avenue West (Resource #108, Photo #8), was designed by architects Althouse & Jones; a symmetrical, modern high rise in downtown Mansfield. Only a year later and a block apart, the nine-story Richland Trust Building, also designed by Althouse & Jones (Resource #31) (NR #83002044, 7/8/1983) at North Main Street was completed. These architecturally significant buildings represented optimism about the future of Mansfield and its downtown and its place as a large urban center of its time; the latter two remain the tallest buildings in the district.

The transition from streetcars and carriages to automobiles was reflected by the change in several downtown businesses during this period. In the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the carriage industry was still vibrant, as represented by the well-preserved 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial style building at 128 North Main Street (Resource #59, Photo #19). It was built in 1900, for the carriage dealership of John R. O'Rourke. Another was the brick commercial building at 71 North Diamond Street (Resource #16), constructed in

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1909 and the location of harness manufacturer and dealer G.W. Zellner. By 1915 this had transitioned to an automobile repair shop called the Lincoln Garage, located a block off the Lincoln Highway and representative of the beginnings of an automobile-oriented transformation that was encouraged the designation of the Lincoln Highway. Nine automobile dealerships were operating in Mansfield in 1915, six of them in buildings within the district, including the former Hiber Motor Company at the northeast corner of North Diamond and East Fourth streets (Resource #90). In addition to automobile dealerships, repair shops became common. According to the Mansfield city directories, in 1920 there were 17 garages, seven of them within the district boundaries, mostly clustered on North Diamond Street, adjacent to the Lincoln Highway. Most of the others were just to the north or south of the downtown area. In addition to serving a local clientele, many repair shops served travelers on the Lincoln Highway. By the mid-1920s, these businesses had proliferated throughout the northern portion of the downtown along that route, especially along North Diamond Street; many others were scattered throughout the city.

The period marked by the first four decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was an important one for civic architecture in Mansfield. As the city prospered, several public buildings of high design and quality were constructed to meet the needs of a larger and more sophisticated populace. One of the most important is the Mansfield-Richland County Public Library building at 43 West Third Street (Resource #99). The community's first public library was created in 1887 by E.O. Huggins, Mary B. Mitchell, and Helen P. Weaver. They formed the Memorial Library Association and solicited financial support, materials, and staff for a library to be located in the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Building. This library opened on September 3, 1889 and grew quickly. In 1902 head librarian Martha Mercer traveled to New York City to request funds for a new library from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation. The Foundation granted \$35,000 on the condition that the city provided land and \$3,500 toward annual operating funds. The library was then designed by Vernon Redding, a local Mansfield architect, and was dedicated on December 19, 1908. To sustain the library and offer services to Richland County a tax levy was passed in 1912. Modern additions were constructed in the 1980s, but the original Carnegie library remains intact.

Located near the library is a Renaissance Revival style U.S. Post Office (Resource #71, Photo 14), constructed in 1914 at the corner of West Fourth and Mulberry streets along the western edge of the district. The Post Office served as the hub for eight rural mail routes, and by 1929 post office receipts totaled \$267,708.52. The building served as the city's post office through the end of the period of significance but today is a law office; a new postal facility was built in recent years several blocks north of the district.

One of the most traumatic and impactful events of the period occurred February 13, 1944 when large fire broke out in a nightclub on East Third Street. As reported in the *News-Journal* the following day the fire destroyed several buildings along North Park Street including the corner of North Park and Diamond in addition to those on Third Street causing at least \$500,000. This created the opportunity for the construction of new buildings, including two built in 1946-Resource #s 7, 8, in their place on North Park and parking lots to serve them along Third Street that still exist today.

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Criterion C is supported by the concentration of architecturally significant building stock constructed during this era, reflecting community development. Many of these were designed by prominent local architects in architectural styles that reflect the era. The following early 20<sup>th</sup> century era buildings in the district contributed substantially to the architectural development of the community during this period.

20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial

- 36 West Fourth Street (Resource #80, Photo #17) –1906, features an ornate cornice and well-preserved stone storefront. The parapet with a balustrade and seven finials and a centrally located inscription in stone that reads “19 R. C. Hancock 06” elevate the design of this building. An important visual element of this section of the city, this is another Hancock & Dow designed building.
- 52-56 North Main Street (Resource #43) – ca. 1918, retains its significance despite alterations to the storefront and windows. It features a distinctive decorative stonework and a stone belt course above the fourth-floor windows. Known as the Citizen’s Building in 1921, this building housed a bank, a barbershop, hat, clothing, and ladies store according to the 1920 city directory.
- 158-162 North Diamond Street (Resource #25) - a simple two-story brick commercial building with a stepped store parapet cornice and brick dentals below, built about 1922 for the Wagner Hardware Company operation.
- 71 North Diamond Street (Resource #16), built ca. 1909- a simple brick building was once the location of the G. W. Zellner and Sons Company that sold strap goods, grip handles and other dry goods and later auto-oriented businesses. It features simple brick bell courses that separate floors and a brick parapet.
- 51 East Fourth Street (Resource #90), - this ca. 1920s building housed the Cairns Motor Sales & Service Company. Despite new materials, the fenestration/entry configuration that illustrates the large display window and auto access at the façade remains. Other prominent features include a centrally located segmental arched curve and stepped parapet.

Art Deco

- 3 North Main Street (Resource #31) (NR #83002044, 7/8/1983) – a nine-story visually dominant terra cotta building overlooking Central Park designed by architecture firm Althouse and Jones. It was constructed to house the newly formed Richland Trust Company when the Richland Savings Bank merged with the Bank of Mansfield in 1929. It represents one of several major buildings constructed downtown during the building boom of the 1920s.

Art Moderne

- 70 West Fourth Street (Resource #75, Photo #15) – this two-story building constructed as the headquarters of the Mansfield News-Journal in 1944 notably features an unornamented symmetrical façade with corner clock tower with a neon sign and analog clock. The façade is buff-colored brick and the rectangular windows are separated by simple brick pilasters and have one-one-over-one sash with stone sills.

Classical Revival

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- 101 North Main Street (Resource #44) –ca. 1904, a small three story brick building with single large window openings on the upper floors and a stone belt course that separates the first and second floor.
- 4 West Fourth Street (NR #86002872 , 10/16/1986) (Resource #83) – The Mansfield Savings Bank, constructed 1913-1914 was the first new bank building in downtown in the twentieth century and set the tone for later bank construction. It displays character defining features such as two story high fluted Ionic semi engaged columns was designed by architecture firm York & Sawyer.
- 10 S Park Street (Resource #9) – Built in 1912 by Albert Remy, this originally housed a post office and later the Mansfield Electric Light & Power company. It is a brick three story building with a stone foundation and flat roofline. The upper stories retain historic elements such as rectangular window openings, stone sills, and a geometric brick pattern between the second and third story.
- 2 South Main Street (Resource #30) (NR #83002038, 7/8/1983) – Another financial institution-the Mechanics Building & Loan Company moved into this building upon its completion in 1926. It stands out due to its grey-veined pink marble construction. It features fluted Corinthian pilasters, spandrels with decorated with eagles and stars, and a detailed entablature at the top and represents the 1920s building boom downtown.

English Tudor Revival

- 131 North Diamond Street (Resource #19) – this ca. 1914, two-story brick building utilizes gothic elements and retains original window openings. Its key features include the a large, lancet-arched window in the center bay of the second floor, and a slightly stepped brick parapet above the second floor with light-colored stone coping to match the hood-mold. It was originally constructed as a mortuary.

Moderne

- 36 South Park Street (Resource #14) – Built as a movie theater with a capacity of 1,300 in 1938, this two-story brick building has a concrete block foundation, a flat roofline. Though the storefronts have been altered, they retain their original openings. Brick pilasters separate the bays; and continuous stone belt courses form the lintels and sills; another beltcourse is located between the other two and creates a horizontal emphasis. A simple stone cornice at the top matches these belt courses. Original Vitrolite Glass Lamps terminate the pilasters at the parapet.

Neoclassical Revival

- 40 West Fourth Street (Resource #79, Photo #17) – Built in 1916 as the Fourth Street Market with stalls for 40 vendors, this well preserved building retains its original storefront and window configurations. Defining features include a terra cotta belt courses that contains various decorative motifs. A cream terra cotta cornice tops the building, with bas relief ornamentation on the outside edges.
- 43 West Third Street (Resource #99). –This 1908 Carnegie funded library represents Mansfield's early organized library construction. The original two-



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story building is on a raised foundation with a cream-colored brick exterior. Character-defining features included the central pediment supported by paired Corinthian columns; a central double door pedimented entrance with decorative metal grillwork on the doors and transoms; two-story high round arched openings with pedimented first floor windows; and "Free Public Library" inscribed in the entablature of the pediment. While flanked by modern additions, the original block still reads as an early 20<sup>th</sup> century Neo-Classical public building.

Renaissance Revival

- 76 North Mulberry Street (Resource #71, Photo 14) – originally constructed ca. 1914 as a Post Office, this buildings features defining features include an elaborate entrance with double doors and stone entablature placed within a decorative round-arched opening; round-arched windows with stone surrounds and keystones; a cornice separating the first and second floor levels; multi-paned windows that are paired and separated by decorative bas relief panels; and a heavy stone cornice and stone balustrade.

Spanish Colonial Revival

- 28 South Park Street (Resource #13, Photo #6) (NR #86002865, 10/16/1986) – The 1905 May Building was designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival style by prominent Mansfield architect, Vernon Redding as a downtown apartment on the square. This distinctive building stands out from others in the district as the only construction of its style. Key elements include oriel windows with stucco panels on the upper floors and are alternating two-door access and single-door access decorative iron balconies. A dentilled terra cotta cornice projects from the brick parapet, which has a central curvilinear element with three small arched windows.

**Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century (1945-1968)**

Mansfield was well positioned to take advantage of the economic prosperity that followed World War II, a fact that is supported by the economic growth and physical development that took place within the historic district. Mansfield's industry, led by the Westinghouse and Tappan facilities were retooled to resume the manufacture of domestic products, including electronic appliances, and the public was waiting to buy them. Advertising that promoted consumerism as the American way led to an increase in personal consumption of 70 percent between 1945 and 1946.<sup>29</sup> Restrictions in housing construction during the Depression and the war years led to a building boom in Ohio as well. Newly constructed houses needed new appliances, which Mansfield's industries were ready to supply. Refrigerators, stoves and small appliances were staples in the new modern 1950s and 1960s homes. In 1955, Tappan unveiled the first microwave oven for home use. It's initial cost-\$1,200 meant a limited market, but improvements in design and production gradually reduced the cost.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>29</sup> Ohio Modern. p. 20.

<sup>30</sup> Ohio Modern. p 51.

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In addition, other industries, including Empire Reeves Steel, Mansfield Tire & Rubber and the Ohio Brass Company contributed to the post war economic health of the city. At the beginning of the post-war era downtown Mansfield and its nearby residential and industrial development remained a vital, bustling center of gravity for the region. However, while the housing boom benefited local industry, the bulk of that construction was taking place in the suburbs outside of downtown. With the automobile firmly entrenched as the preferred mode of personal transportation, new housing was built to around the car. With this new suburban development pattern, living and shopping downtown gradually became less relevant.

Transportation retained a place in the development of Mansfield in the twentieth century with the development of the interstate highway system which included the by-passing of cities to alleviate traffic congestion. In 1955, the Mansfield News Journal reported on a proposed highway, which it termed a 'turnpike' to run north and south in the proximity of Mansfield, which would have an exchange at SR 30, which would lead into the city.<sup>31</sup> The news was greeted optimistically by traffic commissioner E. E. Hartnett who declared "Mansfield will have an ideal traffic situation in its downtown area if several projects in development reach a successful conclusion. Included in these projects are the Route 30 bypass, the north-south turnpike (I-71), the Central Park cut-through and the replacement of curb parking with parking lots. If all of these come to pass, Mansfield will have an ideal traffic situation."<sup>32</sup> All of these projects did come to pass, but unfortunately, the end result was not what city officials had envisioned.

As the highway system allowed for faster, easier access from rural areas to the city, suburban development accelerated. As the population shifted, so too did retail shopping patterns. By the 1950s, suburban shopping centers began popping up in Mansfield, including the West Park Shopping Center in 1956 and the Johnny Appleseed Center just southwest of downtown in 1957. Even as these centers were developed, the downtown still retained retail shops, including men and women's clothing stores, book stores and also Reeds' Department Store which remained competitive right up until the 1990s. From the 1950s to the 1970s, Ohio witnessed the development of enclosed shopping malls, usually located near major transportation corridors on the outskirts of major cities.<sup>33</sup> The Richland Mall opened in 1969 about 15 miles west of Mansfield in the suburb of Ontario, spurred by the population growth that followed General Motors opening a plant there in the mid-1950s. While not a death knell for downtown Mansfield, the mall steadily siphoned business away from the downtown retailers.

Industrial growth stimulated by World War II remained strong through the 1950s and early 1960s.<sup>34</sup> However, the traditional center of industry just to the north and east of downtown Mansfield began a slow decline. Westinghouse – which at one time employed one-third of those working in Mansfield – slowly dropped from over 8,000

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<sup>31</sup> *North-South pike crosses 102 County parcels—only two houses will have to be razed.* Mansfield News Journal. 21 Oct. 1955. Page 17.

<sup>32</sup> *Mansfield Traffic Commissioner Streets & Highways.* Mansfield News Journal. 20 Oct. 1955. Page 1.

<sup>33</sup> Ohio Modern. page 56.

<sup>34</sup> *Plants Cutting Schedules.* Mansfield News-Journal, 25 Mar. 1949

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wartime workers at their factory just to the east of downtown to just 2,200 in 1965.<sup>35</sup> The transition of industrial employment from near the downtown to more suburban locations coincided with the drain of strong retailers from the downtown to the suburban mall.

By the end of the mid-century period, industry and population growth in Mansfield remained strong but would decline beginning in the 1970s and 1980s as outward industrial migration and closing of major firms took a toll. By the 1990s, Tappan Stove Company, which had been in Mansfield for over a century, and the Ohio Brass Company were out of business, and Westinghouse had shuttered its Mansfield facility as the city entered the “Rust Belt” era.<sup>36</sup>

### **Significant District Associations with the Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century**

Despite the economic diversity in Mansfield during this time period, twelve resources within the historic district were constructed between 1945 and 1968 with several related to the fire in 1944 mentioned above. Even though the number is relatively small, these buildings, along with changes to the historic public square illustrate the commercial theme under Criterion A.

The changes the automobile brought to downtown Mansfield before and during the Second World War only accelerated following the war’s conclusion. In this period, the automobile became a standard fixture of American families and their primary means of travel; this triggered large-scale change in the downtown as it struggled to compete with auto-oriented suburban development in and around the city. Perceived parking and traffic issues were addressed by planners and city leaders in ways that ultimately led to a major reconfiguring of Central Park, changes to the traffic patterns of every major downtown street, and the demolition of several city blocks to accommodate parking lots.

Auto-oriented changes to Central Park were proposed even prior to the end of the war. The most prominent example was a proposal from Mayor William J. Locke for an east-west cut-through that would allow cars to avoid driving around the north or south sides of the square. It was first reported by the *News-Journal* on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1944, amidst accounts of war battles. The following day the *News-Journal* editorial board issued a call for letters in response, and a letter against the plan was featured prominently the following week. Despite the opposition to the project at the time, the use of Central Park nonetheless changed as the population and geography of the city expanded and automobiles became ubiquitous. As an illustration, the spontaneous celebration that broke out upon the surrender of Japan on Tuesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1945, took place primarily in the downtown area, with young men using a mallet to ring an old fire-bell in Central Park. Though some revelers congregated in Central Park, a crush of cars moving at slow speed around the downtown was also a feature of the celebration and suggested a problem – too many vehicles in a space never designed to accommodate them. The formal celebrations and fireworks organized the following day took place at

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<sup>35</sup> *150 Facing Layoff at Westinghouse July 23. Mansfield News-Journal*, 1 July 1965.

<sup>36</sup> Tracy Geibel. *A look at our Rust Belt history & how we got here*. Richland Source, 5 Feb. 2018.

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the Richland County Fairgrounds rather than in Central Park, which until then had always been used for civic celebrations.<sup>37</sup>

Though the cut-through idea was shelved, it arose again in 1952 but did not even come to a vote at City Council due to heated opposition. The *News-Journal* reported on Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, that “a large crowd poured into the council chamber as the session opened and five persons spoke against the cut-through plan even though it was not brought up for formal action.” Though the cut-through was shelved again at that council meeting, other significant changes were not. North Mulberry, North and South Main, East and West First, and Second streets were recommended for conversion to one-way streets, and Park Avenue West and North Mulberry were recommended for widening. All of this changed the flow of traffic through the downtown, making it more conducive to travel through than that of a destination.

The cut-through was once again proposed and rebuffed in a council vote in 1955. By 1958 the proposal once again gained steam, and this time City Council passed an ordinance to appropriate funds for a two-way street to be constructed through Central Park connecting Park Avenue East and Park Avenue West. Vocal opponents to the project pursued legal action to stop to the project, which led to a public vote. Both advocates and opponents of the project advertised in the *News Journal* (Illustration #13 and Illustration #14). Advocates argued that the new road would improve downtown traffic and pedestrian safety, provide additional parking, and encourage businesses to move downtown. Opponents believed the project would cost more than the budgeted \$30,000, was a detriment to downtown businesses, and that preserving the historic integrity of the park was important.

This highly controversial and pivotal decision was decided with the passage of the proposed cut-through project on the November 5, 1958, ballot with 52% of the vote. The historic but deteriorated bandstand had already been demolished in anticipation of the project. The large central fountain was moved to author Louis Bromfield’s Malabar Farm, twelve miles away, but has since been relocated on the south portion of Central Park. The splitting of Central Park by the new road, however, would prove not to be the boon or the business-attractor its proponents promised; it also was unsuccessful at encouraging businesses to remain downtown in the face of suburbanization pressures, and the park remains divided today, serving as an example of city planning and revitalization efforts of the 1950s.

Ostensibly one of the driving forces behind the cut through of Central Park was growth of the retail sector in the downtown following the war. Within the nominated historic district boundary, twelve buildings were constructed from 1945 to 1968 and numerous earlier buildings were updated in an effort to keep them commercially relevant. The updates primarily involved modernizing storefronts, represented by Resource # 48, an 1870s commercial property with new materials within the original storefront configuration. The majority of properties that date to this time period are single or two

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<sup>37</sup> The Wednesday August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1945, edition of the *News-Journal* reports on the spontaneous celebrations and plans for formal celebrations the following day.

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story commercial buildings that reflect the modern aesthetic with little ornamentation, such as Resource #36 with its mustard colored screening.

In 1946, Sears & Roebuck (Resource #8) constructed the Art Moderne style building across from Central Park on North Park Street in the place of buildings that had been destroyed by fire just two years earlier. The mid-century O'Neil's Department Store was constructed to the north on West Third the same year (Resource #94, Photo #26). Even as the city moved forward with cutting through Central Park to accommodate more traffic and parking, the suburban growth that would spell an end to large-scale retail activity in downtown Mansfield was beginning. In 1957, as Woolworth's moved from Main Street to a new location adjacent to the Sears store, it also opened a second location in the suburbs as an alternative.

Just two years later both J.C. Penney (just outside the district at 15 Park Avenue West) and Montgomery Ward (located at 37- 41 W Fourth Street, now part of the conglomeration of buildings at 67-75 N Walnut) (Resource #65, Photo #16) moved from the downtown to a new locations near suburban Ontario. In 1968, Sears closed its downtown store after 22 years of doing business downtown and moved to the mall. Somehow, Reed's Department store adjusted to new trends and survived downtown until it closed in 1993.

As elected officials and business owners struggled to adapt to this new demographic reality, they also faced an issue that would ultimately represent the final significant investment into downtown before the economic slump that hit hard in the 1970s. By the early 1960s, the ornate, 1873 county courthouse just to the east of Public Square was reported to be in dangerous disrepair. It had structural issues early on-the roofline had been changed and its impressive towers removed as early as 1904 due to leaking and a clock tower was added to the roofline in 1908.<sup>38</sup> According to *Mansfield News-Journal* articles, efforts to maintain the courthouse included new paint in 1934 and 1951. In 1954, \$35,000 was expended on improvements to the interior of the building, but continued deterioration plagued the aging courthouse. A March 3, 1963 *Journal* , article described "plans as outlined today by Richland County Commissioners call for a complete face lifting of the Richland County courthouse where failing ceilings on three different occasions have threatened employees. The plaster which fell yesterday in the board of elections office left a patch about seven by nine feet in the ceiling." Commissioners were required to provide a repair proposal to state inspectors by April 1, 1963.

Taking no action on construction bids for repair, the county commissioners hired Thomas G. Zaugg and Associates, a local Mansfield architectural firm, to find a solution. Though temporary repairs were made, decline of the building continued, and on April 1, 1966, the statue of Justice fell from the cupola. That sealed the old building's fate, and Zaugg and Associates began the design of a new courthouse and adjacent jail and demolition plans for the old courthouse were created.

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<sup>38</sup> *Work Begun this Morning on the Erection of Clock Tower on Courthouse.* Mansfield Daily Shield. 9 Nov. 1908.  
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Richland County was one of three in Ohio to demolish nineteenth century county courthouses and replace them with new during the mid-twentieth century. In addition to Richland County, Portage County demolished its courthouse in Ravenna in 1961 and Franklin County in Columbus in 1974. Zaugg's design was distinctly modern, showcasing the New Formalism architectural aesthetic. The contrast between the sleek 1968 courthouse and exuberant architecture of its predecessor could hardly have been more striking. Sited on a hillside, behind the site of the former courthouse, it appears to be three stories from the front or north elevation; from the sides it shows four stories and from the rear, five stories. The front portico features a distinctive full height colonnade. The motif is followed around the sides as blind arches. The two million dollar investment in the new courthouse marked the last significant construction in downtown Mansfield and bookends the end period of significance for the Downtown Mansfield Historic District.

This era in Mansfield's history is represented by the following properties within the district that represent significant architectural styles and types and community development under Criterion C during this period.

Art Moderne

- 27-31 North Park Street (Resource #7) – constructed 1946 as the result of a devastating fire in 1944, this building was occupied by Woolworths. Art Moderne features include the streamlined horizontal second floor detailing of bands of stone providing a contrast to the buff-colored brick exterior; a stone insert with the name “Newman” flanked by the dates 1882 and 1946 and the simple parapet with stone coping. Although the storefront has been altered, it retains enough of its historic fabric to be considered as a contributing building.
- 35-39 North Park Street (Resource #8) – constructed in 1946, this building, too replaces one destroyed by the same fire in 1944. It housed the Sears Roebuck Company from its construction to the late 1960s. The building utilizes a concrete foundation, masonry and concrete frame, and a flat roofline. It features a smooth limestone and buff-colored brick façade, an original recessed double- door entry facing the park, and flanking mosaic walls where historic storefront windows would be. The window sash are replacements, but the openings are original. A three- story smooth limestone tower is located at the southwest corner of the building, which houses the building's HVAC systems as well as a display case at the first-floor level facing the park (south).

New Formalism

- 50 Park Avenue East (Resource #110, Photo #31)–this modern courthouse stands out from others in the district as the only construction of its style. The brick building's most distinctive feature is its three-story high cast concrete arcade that surrounds the building on all sides. A sculptural bas-relief map of Richland County created for the new courthouse at the time it was built, is over the door, below a public clock.

Mid-Century Modern

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- 6 West Third Street (Resource #94, Photo #26) – built ca. 1946, this building housed the O’Neil store until it relocated to Richland Mall in the 1960s. Although the original storefront windows have been modified, the building still retains its basic historic massing and appearance.
- 32 North Walnut Street (Resource #70) – Built in 1957, the distinctive features of this building include a mid-century window and spandrel system with single pane windows and colored glass spandrels separated by vertical metal structural members. The building has a simple metal finish piece along the parapet.

**Conclusion**

The commercial and architectural development of the city of Mansfield during the period of significance is well represented by the Downtown Mansfield historic district. The district contains a significant concentration of historic resources that reflect important commercial development, significant architectural styles and property types representative of the period of significance, and as a whole, the district illustrates the physical development of the city. Of the 106 buildings in the district, 95 buildings, including 7 previously listed buildings (or 89.6%) are considering contributing resources.

The district maintains integrity of location and setting – the district as an entity illustrates the commercial growth and development of the city in the heart of downtown. The individual properties that comprise the district present a continuity of shared party walls, common setbacks along various streets and contiguous storefront areas along North Main, and North and South Park, Park Avenue West, and other areas. They retain integrity of setting, with the majority of buildings remaining in commercial or institutional use with storefronts on the first floor and offices or residential above. Integrity of design and materials is reflected in the wide range of architectural periods, types, construction techniques and styles represented. Materials in the district include brick, terra cotta, stone, marble, enameled metal, bronze, aluminum, and glass. The district maintains integrity of feeling, as a densely developed commercial district; and association, as the buildings in the district are closely linked with the business history and development of downtown Mansfield.

Architecturally, a variety of styles; Italianate, 19<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial, Neo-Classical Revival, Romanesque Revival, Richardson Romanesque, Art Deco, Art Moderne, early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Commercial, and New Formalist represent stylistic preferences that span the entire period of significance from the 1860s to the 1960s. Mid-twentieth century updates to the buildings and Central Park reflect the efforts of business and government to modernize and retain commercial vitality in the downtown business district during the latter part of the period of significance.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

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Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** RIC 49-11, RIC 51-11, RIC 52-11, RIC 57-11, RIC 125-11, RIC 126-11, RIC 127-11, RIC 128-11, RIC 129-11, RIC 134-11, RIC 136-11, RIC 137-11, RIC 138-11, RIC 139-11, RIC 140-11, RIC 141-11, RIC 142-11, RIC 143-11, RIC 144-11, RIC 146-11, RIC 149-11, RIC 150-11, RIC 152-11, RIC 153-11, RIC 154-11, RIC 156-11, RIC 157-11, RIC 158-11, RIC 159-11, RIC 161-11, RIC 162-11, RIC 164-11, RIC 166-11, RIC 167-11, RIC 168-11, RIC 169-11, RIC 170-11, RIC 173-11, RIC 175-11, RIC 176-11, RIC 177-11, RIC 178-11, RIC 179-11, RIC 180-11, RIC 182-11, RIC 184-11, RIC 185-11, RIC 186-11, RIC 187-11, RIC 264-11, RIC 270-11, RIC 271-11, RIC 273-11, RIC 274-11, RIC 275-11, RIC 276-11, RIC 277-11, RIC 278-11, RIC 344-11, RIC 380-11, RIC 549-11, RIC 557-11, RIC 565-11, RIC 574-11, RIC 575-11, RIC 576-11, RIC 577-11, RIC 593-11, RIC 599-11, RIC 600-11, RIC 601-11, RIC 602-11, RIC 603-11, RIC 604-11, RIC 605-11, RIC 606-11, RIC 609-11, RIC 614-11, RIC 616-11, RIC 617-11, RIC 619-11, RIC 620-11, RIC 622-11, RIC 623-11

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** approximately 45 acres

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)**

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

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- 1. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- 1. Zone: 17 Easting: 371823 Northing: 4513340
- 2. Zone: 17 Easting: 372355 Northing: 4513310
- 3. Zone: 17 Easting: 372329 Northing: 4512693
- 4. Zone: 17 Easting: 371787 Northing: 4512728

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

The boundary of the Downtown Mansfield Historic District is shown as the dotted line on the accompanying map entitled *Downtown Mansfield Historic District Boundary Map*.

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

The boundaries selected for the Downtown Mansfield Historic District include the most intact concentration of historic properties that reflect the city's history, development, and architecture. The northern and eastern boundary separate the historic commercial development of the district from the vacant land and industrial development to the north and east. The southern and western boundaries separate the historic commercial, banking, governmental, and institution portions of the district from the low scale residential development to the south and west.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Joshua Lapp, Principal & Lauren Crosby, Planner  
organization: Designing Local  
street & number: 110 E Main Street, Suite A  
city or town: Columbus state: Ohio zip code: 43215  
e-mail josh@designinglocal.com  
telephone: 614.607.1557  
date: 04/20/2018

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15-minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

**List of Illustrations on Continuation Sheets**

1. 1808 plat of Mansfield. *Richland County Recorder*
- 1a. 1641 plat of New Haven Connecticut, *New Haven Museum*
2. 1830 engraving of public square (Central Park) and early courthouse. *The Richland Source*
3. Illustration of Mansfield Machine Works, 1880. *Ohio History Connection*

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4. Photo view looking south to a balloon launch on public square (Central Park), 1850s. *Richland County Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society*
5. Newspaper advertisement calling for volunteers to fight in the Civil War, 1862. *Richland County Library*
6. Photo of the first masonry courthouse on the square, 1860s-1870s. *Richland County Library*
7. Illustrated post card looking west at Park Ave West, 1880s. *Richland County Library*
- 7a. Undated map of Mansfield's streetcar lines.
8. Photo of crashed interurban car #124 in Mansfield, 1908. *Ohio History Connection*
9. Photo of a streetcar in Mansfield on North Main Street. *The Richland Source*
10. View of Lincoln Garage on North Diamond, 1920. *Ohio History Connection*
11. View of downtown Mansfield looking north towards public square (Central Park), ca. 1920s. *Richland County Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society*
12. View of downtown Mansfield looking northwest, 1960s. *Richland County Library*
13. Newspaper advertisement advocating for the cut-through of Central Park. *Mansfield News Journal*
14. Newspaper advertisement against the cut-through of Central Park. *Mansfield News Journal*
15. Andreas Atlas map of Richland County 1873

**Photo Log**

Name of Property: Downtown Mansfield Historic District

City or Vicinity: Mansfield

County: Richland

State: Ohio

Photographer: Lauren Crosby

Date Photographed: January 5, 2018

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

- 1 of 35. View of North Central Park, looking southeast.
- 2 of 35. View of North Central Park Gazebo, looking northeast.
- 3 of 35. View of South Central Park and South Park Street, from North Central Park looking south.
- 4 of 35. View of South Central Park, looking northwest.
- 5 of 35. View of South Central Park Fountain, looking west.
- 6 of 35. Streetscape view of South Park Street, looking southeast.
- 7 of 35. View of South Main Street, looking west.

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- 8 of 35. View of resource #108 at the corner of South Walnut and Park Avenue looking north.
- 9 of 35. View of Park Avenue East, looking north.
- 10 of 35. View of resource #101; 70 Park Avenue West, looking west.
- 11 of 35. View of resource #68; 18 North Walnut Street looking east.
- 12 of 35. View of resource #67; 21 North Walnut Street, looking west.
- 13 of 35. Streetscape view of West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, looking northwest
- 14 of 35. View of resource #71; 76 North Mulberry Street, looking southeast
- 15 of 35. View of resource #75; 70 West Fourth Street, looking northwest
- 16 of 35. View of Fourth Street facade of resource #65; 67-75 North Walnut Street, looking south
- 17 of 35. Streetscape view of East Fourth Street, looking northwest
- 18 of 35. View of west (rear) elevations of North Main Street buildings, looking east.
- 19 of 35. View of the east side of North Main Street, looking southeast
- 20 of 35. View of resource #s 47, 48, 49; 111, 113, and 115 North Main Street, looking west.
- 21 of 35. View of resource #74; 15-17 East Temple Court
- 22 of 35. View of resource #46; 105-109 North Main Street, looking west.
- 23 of 35. View of resource #51; 100-104 North Main Street, looking east
- 24 of 35. View of resource #42; 75 North Main Street, looking northwest.
- 25 of 35. View of resource #41; 67 North Main Street, looking west.
- 26 of 35. View of resource #94; 6 West Third Street, looking northwest.
- 27 of 35. Streetscape view of East Third Street, looking east.
- 28 of 35. View of resource #s 35 & 36; 27 and 33 North Main Street, looking west.
- 29 of 35. View of resource #s 32 & 33; 15 and 17-19 North Main Street, looking west
- 30 of 35. View of resource # 2; 28-34 North Main Street, looking north
- 31 of 35. View of resource # 110; 50 Park Avenue East, looking south.
- 32 of 35. View of resource #s 91 & 92; 25 and 29 East Third Street, looking north.
- 33 of 35. Streetscape view of East Fourth Street, looking northwest
- 34 of 35. View of resource # 17 & 18; 117 and 123 North Diamond Street south and east elevations, looking northwest.
- 35 of 35. Streetscape view of North Diamond Street, looking northwest.





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Illustration 2: 1830 illustration of Mansfield Public Square showing the first Richland County Courthouse, as well as early commercial and residential structures along the south, west, and east perimeters of the park.

*Source: The Richland Source*



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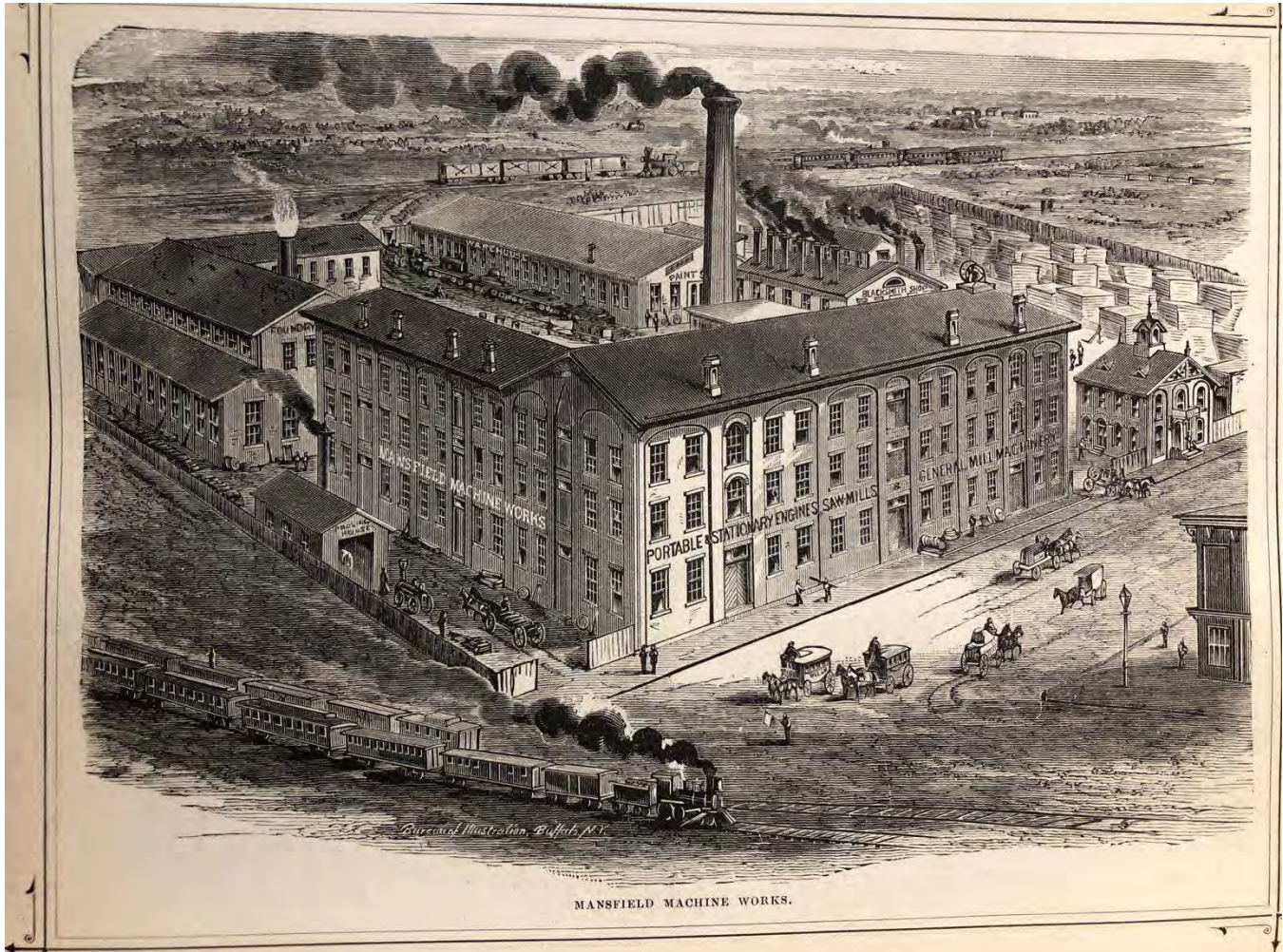


Illustration 3: 1880 illustration of the Mansfield Machine Works manufacturing yard and storefront on North Diamond Street adjacent to the rail lines. This company was a major producer of steam engines, boilers, and agricultural implements in Richland County.

*Source: Ohio History Connection*

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Illustration 4: Historic photograph (ca. 1850s) of balloon launch within Mansfield Central Park  
*Source: Richland County Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society*

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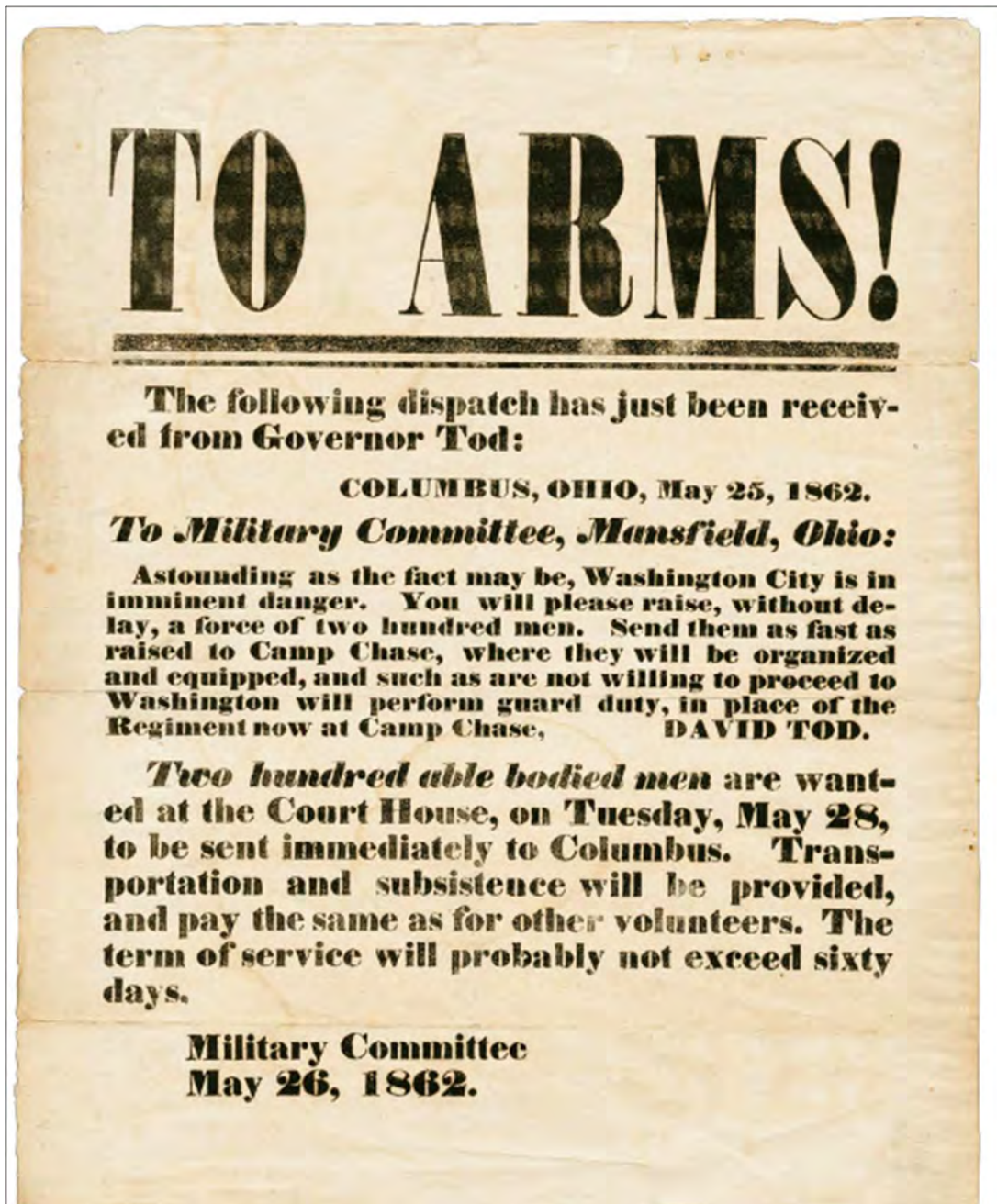


Illustration 5: An 1862 leaflet calling Richland County men to the Richland County Courthouse in Mansfield, to train for service in the Union Army during the Civil War.

Source: Richland County Library

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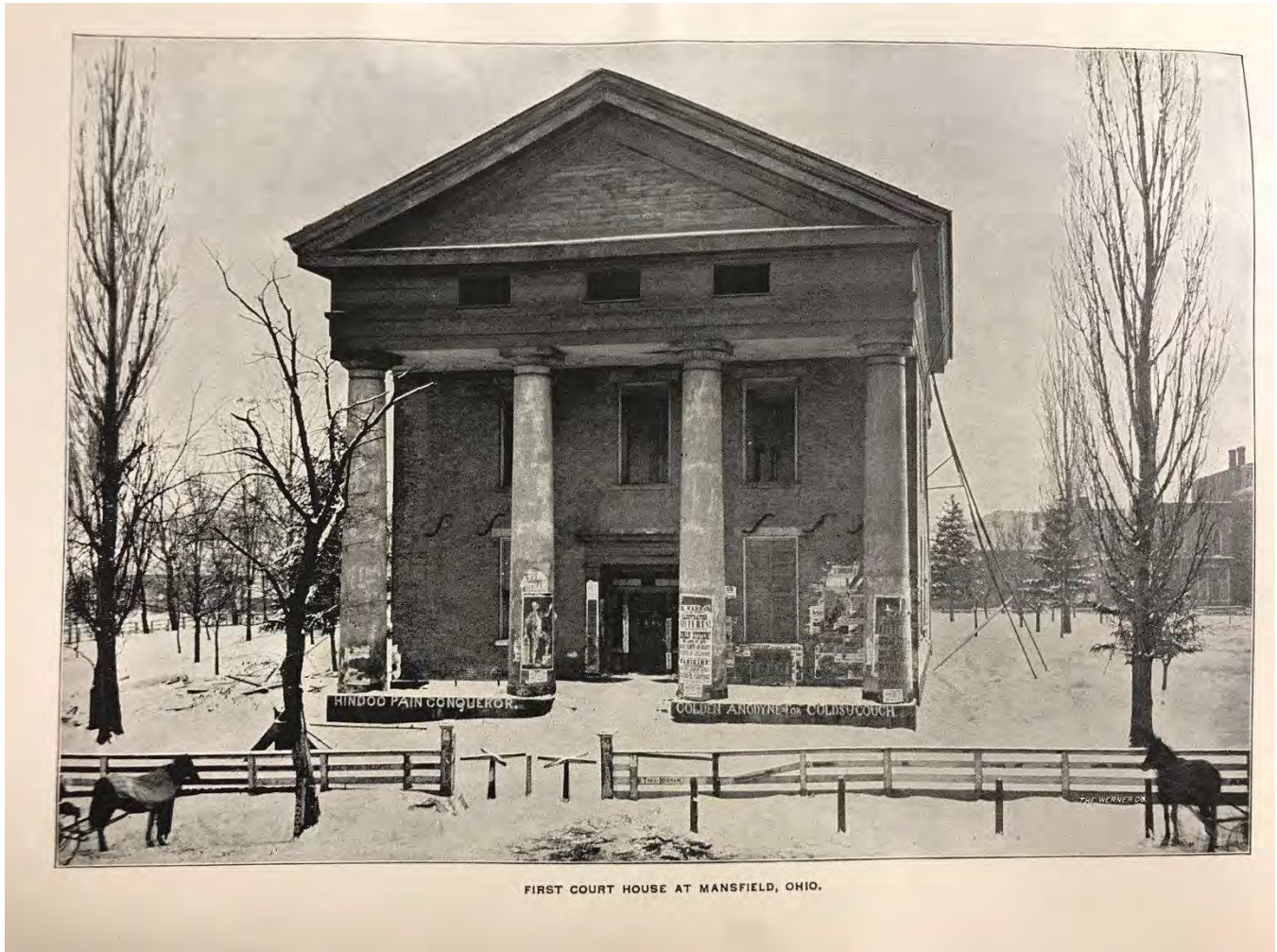


Illustration 6: Photograph of the first masonry courthouse (the third courthouse in Richland County) taken after the 1851 Greek Revival renovation.

*Source: Richland County Library*

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Illustration 7: A colored illustration of the electric streetcar line on Park Avenue West as seen from North Main Street. This line was one of the first services of its kind in the state of Ohio.

*Source: Richland County Library*

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Illustration 7A: Undated map of Mansfield’s streetcar lines from *The Story of the Mansfield Transit Systems* compiled by Jeffrey R. Brashares, undated. The Ohio History Connection Library Archives.

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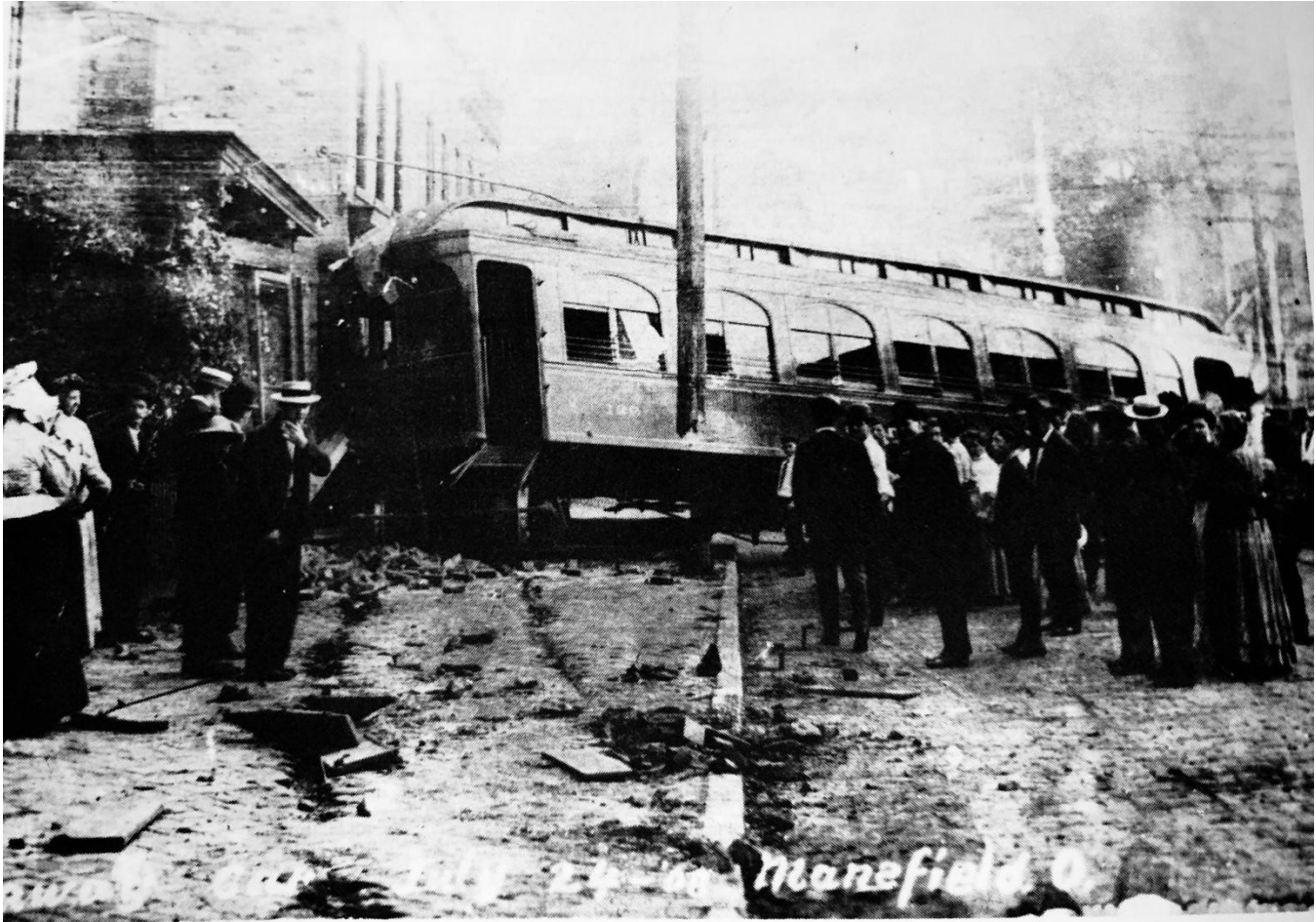


Illustration 8: Photograph of an interurban electric streetcar accident July 21, 1908. Accidents like this one pictured, due to lack of adequate maintenance of tracks and cars, contributed to the decline of the use of the interurban streetcar.

*Source: Ohio History Connection*

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Main Street, Mansfield, Ohio

1311 C. U. WILLIAMS, PHOTOGRAPHER, BLOOMINGTON, ILL.

Illustration 9: A circa 1900s photograph of a brick-paved Main Street in Mansfield. Streetcar lines on Main Street ran down the center of the street, which would later cause issues with automobile traffic.

*Source: The Richland Source*



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**G. M. ROWLAND** **W. A. FENDRICK**

# Lincoln Garage

**ROWLAND & FENDRICK**

**CAPACITY**  
**250 CARS**

**The Most Complete Stock of Tires and Tubes in the City**

**WASHING AND ACCESSORIES**

**Phone 848**

**61 N. Diamond St.**

Illustration 10: An advertisement for the Rowland & Fendrick Garage, still located at 61 North Diamond Street, found in the *Official Lincoln Highway Road Guide*. This guide was created for use by those travelling the Lincoln Highway, which travelled through Mansfield initially by way of Fourth Street.

*Source: Ohio History Connection*

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Illustration 11: A circa early 1920s aerial photograph of downtown Mansfield, featuring an intact Central Park. This photograph shows the smaller scale of pre-WWII development, featuring mostly two- and three-story commercial buildings.

*Source: Richland County Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society*

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Illustration 12: A circa 1960s aerial photograph of downtown Mansfield, featuring a divided Central Park. This photograph shows the larger scale of post-WWII development, featuring more mid-rise banking and office buildings around the Central Park area.

*Source: Richland County Library*

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**"Sure it's a Bottleneck!"**

**IT'S THE LOGICAL and SENSIBLE THING TO DO --  
BUT WHY DO WE HAVE TO VOTE ON IT?**

**HERE IS WHY WE HAVE TO VOTE:**

The City Council has passed an ordinance appropriating funds to run a street through Central Park. Certain interests have obstructed the construction of the street with legal maneuvers until you, the voters, approve the ordinance your elected representatives have passed.

But as surely as there is a **BOTTLENECK** now—so there is a remedy! This remedy has been recommended by **EXPERTS**—engineers hired by our city to study traffic problems, have recommended **A STREET THROUGH THE PARK**. Every driver, bus rider and every pedestrian **KNOWS** that we have a bottleneck at Central Park! Now, it's up to you the driver, you the bus rider, and you the pedestrian to get rid of this Bottleneck — **VOTE FOR THE STREET THROUGH THE PARK**. Look what we gain — 2 modern, beautiful parks instead of one that is now in a state of decay; better traffic control for both autos and pedestrians; a progressive, modern look for the city of Mansfield — Let's move ahead — **VOTE FOR THE STREET THROUGH THE PARK!**

**HERE IS WHAT YOU ARE VOTING FOR!**



It is the plan for **IMPROVING** Central Park which provides for running a modern four-lane boulevard-type street through the park from Diamond Street to Main Street. There would be a ten foot divider between the east and west lanes. **THIS GIVES A MODERN STREET THROUGH TWO MODERN PARKS**. The parks will be large, over 100 feet wide by 310 feet long—each about one acre. The streets at the sides of the park would be changed from through streets to service streets for the parking of cars. The amount set up by the city ordinance for this job is \$30,000 —\$10,000 to come from general funds, and \$20,000 from street funds.

**PULL THE "FOR" LEVER**

**THE COST IS \$30,000**

Use The Lever On The Left



**FOR AGAINST**

**MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE REFERENDUM**

Majority Vote Necessary

Purpose: To construct a Street from Diamond Street to Main Street through Central Park, \$10,000 from General and \$20,000 from street funds.

**Here's How You Benefit:**

- Easier Flow of Downtown Traffic**  
Engineers hired by the city to study its traffic problems have recommended a street through the park. Local traffic police, the fire chief, city, county and state highway engineers have spoken for it. They say that a straight line is the shortest distance between two points, that it is easier, safer and faster to go through the park than around it.
- Greater Safety**  
There will be fewer dented fenders when the street is put through the park, and the police can set up traffic lights to better control auto and pedestrian traffic. Better traffic control means more safety for you, your family and your car.
- Additional Downtown Parking**  
Fifty additional parking spaces will be available for diagonal downtown parking under this new plan—this is the convenient type of parking such as is found in the West Park Shopping Center—and these additional spaces mean additional revenue for the city!
- Two Modern Parks**  
\$10,000 has already been given to the city for the beautifying of the two new parks when the new street is put through. **THIS IS NOT A PROMISE OF MONEY BUT A FACT**—given by 1,200 progressive people of Mansfield so that one rundown park will be eliminated and be replaced by two modern parks, each being about one acre in area.

CENTRAL PARK IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION — BOX 86 — MANSFIELD

NEWSPAPERARCHIVE

Illustration 13: A circa 1950s political advertisement featured in the *News Journal*, arguing for the proposed cut through downtown Mansfield's Central Park, in order to alleviate automobile congestion through downtown.

Source: *Mansfield News-Journal*





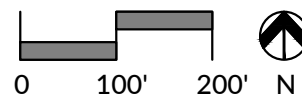


# DOWNTOWN MANSFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT



**LEGEND**

- DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- BUILDING (CONTRIBUTING)
- BUILDING (PREVIOUS LISTING)
- SITE
- BUILDING (NON-CONTRIBUTING)





OH. Richland County  
Downtown Mansfield Historic District  
National Register of Historic Places Nomination

Resource Number	NR Resource Category	Property Name	Property Street number	Street Directional (N, S, E, W)	Property Street Name	Property Street Type (AVE, BLVD, DR., LN, RD, ST.)	Property Street Direction (N, S, E, W, NE, NW, SE, SW)	Date of Construction	Style	Type	Architect (if known)	Builder (if known)	C	N/C	Previously List
1	Site	Central Park (North and South)		N & S	Park	AVE	W	Multiple		Park			1		
2	Building	H. L. Reed Co. Store	28-34	N	Main	ST.	E	1865	Italianate	Commercial			1		
3	Building		19	N	Park	ST.	N	ca. 1890s	No Academic Style	Commercial	T. Zaugg Alteration (1950s)		1		
4	Building		21	N	Park	ST.	N	ca. 1890s	No Academic		T. Zaugg Alteration		1		
5	Building		23	N	Park	ST.	N	ca. 1890s	No Academic		T. Zaugg Alteration		1		
6	Building		25	N	Park	ST.	N	ca. 1890s	No Academic		T. Zaugg Alteration		1		
7	Building		27-31	N	Park	ST.	N	1946	Art Moderne	Commercial	Chas. Conklin	Weinstern Construction	1		
8	Building	Richland Community Service C	35-39	N	Park	ST.	N	1946	Mid Century	Commercial			1		
9	Building		10	S	Park	ST.	S	1912	Classical revival	Commercial			1		
10	Building		12	S	Park	ST.	S	ca. 1890s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
11	Building		16	S	Park	ST.	S	ca. 1890s	Italianate/Modern Facade	Commercial				1	
12	Building		20	S	Park	ST.	S	ca. 1880	No Academic Style	Commercial				1	
13	Building		28	S	Park	ST.	S	1905	Spanish	Commercial					1
14	Building		36	S	Park	ST.	S	1938	Moderne	Commercial			1		
15	Building		12	N	Diamond	ST.	E	1905-1910	Late Gothic	Religious			1		
16	Building		71	N	Diamond	ST.	W	1909-1914	20th Century	Commercial			1		
17	Building		117	N	Diamond	ST.	W	1894	Italianate	Commercial			1		
18	Building		123	N	Diamond	ST.	W	ca. 1865	Italianate	Commercial			1		
19	Building		131	N	Diamond	ST.	W	1914	English Tudor	Commercial			1		
20	Building		139	N	Diamond	ST.	W	ca. 1920s	Modern Industri	Commercial				1	
21	Building		141	N	Diamond	ST.	W	ca. 1920s	Modern	Commercial				1	
22	Building		147-151	N	Diamond	ST.	W	ca. 1894	Romanesque	Commercial			1		
23	Building		157	N	Diamond	ST.	W	ca. 1896	No Academic	Commercial			1		

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24	Building		163	N	Diamond	ST.	W	ca. 1896	Romanesque	Commercial			1		
25	Building		158-162	N	Diamond	ST.	E	c. 1922	20th Century	Commercial			1		
26	Building		18-20	S	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
27	Building		16	S	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
28	Building		10-14	S	Main	ST.	W	1882-1896	Italianate	Commercial			1		
29	Building		8	S	Main	ST.	W	1882-1896	Italianate	Commercial			1		
30	Building	The Mechanics Building &	2	S	Main	ST.	E	1926	Neo-Classical	Commercial					1
31	Building	Richland Trust Building	3	N	Main	ST.	W	1929	Art Deco	Commercial	Althouse and Jones				1
32	Building	John's Hobby Shop	15	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1860s	No Academic	Commercial			1		
33	Building	Martin Hardware	17-19	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1860s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
34	Building		21-23	N	Main	ST.	W	1900	20th Century	Commercial			1		
35	Building		27	N	Main	ST.	W	1967	20th Century	Commercial			1		
36	Building		33	N	Main	ST.	W	1957	Midcentury	Commercial			1		
37	Building		41	N	Main	ST.	W	1880	No Academic	Commercial				1	
38	Building		32	N	Main	ST.	E	ca. 1900	20th Century	Commercial			1		
39	Building		34	N	Main	ST.	E	ca. 1900	20th Century	Commercial			1		
40	Building	First National Bank, Trust	42-44	N	Main	ST.	E	1925	Neo-Classical	Commercial	York and Sawyer	Geo. Feich & Son,	1		
41	Building	Wiler Building	67	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1920s	20th Century	Commercial			1		
42	Structure	Richland Carrousel	75	N	Main	ST.	W	1991	No Academic	Commercial				1	
43	Building		52-56	N	Main	ST.	E	ca.1918	20th Century	Commercial			1		
44	Building		101	N	Main	ST.	W	1904	20th Century	Commercial			1		
45	Building		103	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
46	Building		105-109	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
47	Building		111	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
48	Building		113	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
49	Building	The Court Hotel	115	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
50	Building	Blecker Building	96-98	N	Main	ST.	E	1881	Italianate	Commercial			1		
51	Building		100-104	N	Main	ST.	E	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
52	Building		106-108	N	Main	ST.	E	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
53	Building		117-119	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
54	Building		125	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1870s	No Academic	Commercial			1		
55	Building		137	N	Main	ST.	W	ca. 1890s	20th Century	Commercial			1		
56	Building		129	N	Main	ST.	W	1993	No Academic	Commercial			1		
57	Building		118-122	N	Main	ST.	E	ca. 1880s	Italianate	Commercial			1		

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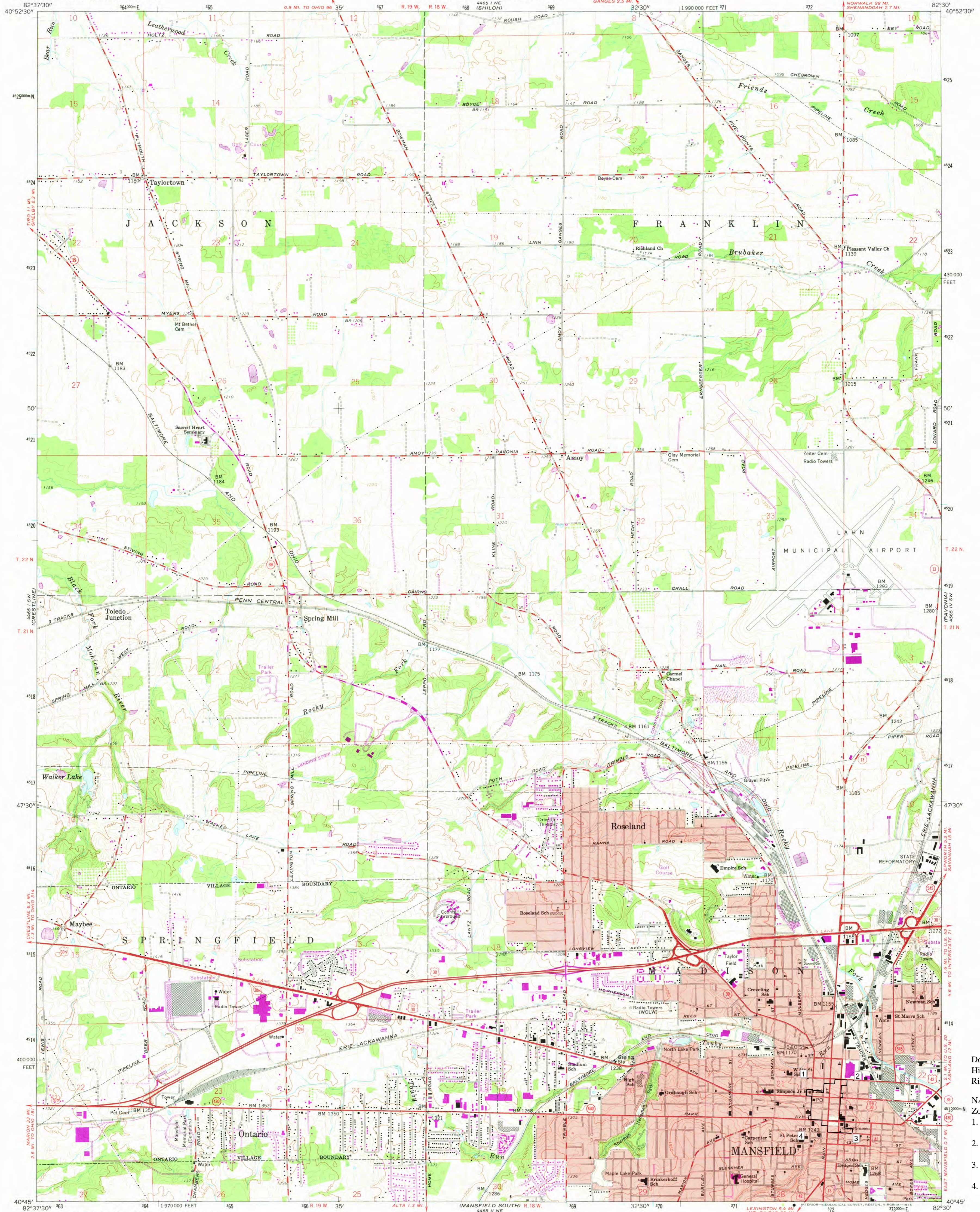
58	Building		124-126	N	Main	ST.	E	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
59	Building		128	N	Main	ST.	E	1900	20th Century Co	Commercial			1		
60	Building		130	N	Main	ST.	E	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
61	Building		134-136	N	Main	ST.	E	ca. 1870s	Vernacular Neoc	Commercial			1		
62	Building		138-140	N	Main	ST.	E	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
63	Building		142	N	Main	ST.	E	ca. 1880s	20th Century	Commercial			1		
64	Building		70	N	Walnut	ST.	E	ca. 1920s	20th Century Co	Commercial			1		
65	Building		67-75	N	Walnut	ST.	W	ca. 1920s	20th Century Co	Commercial			1		
66	Building		31	N	Walnut	ST.	W	1971	Contemporary	Commercial				1	
67	Building		21	N	Walnut	ST.	W	1912	20th Century	Commercial			1		
68	Building		14	N	Walnut	ST.	E	1926	English Tudor Re	Commercial			1		
69	Building		18	N	Walnut	ST.	E	ca. 1910s	20th Century Co	Commercial			1		
70	Building		32	N	Walnut	ST.	E	1957	Mid Century	Commercial			1		
71	Building		76	N	Mulberry	ST.	E	1914	Second	Government/	James Knox Taylor		1		
72	Building		20	N	Mulberry	ST.	E	1911	Queen Anne	Commercial/R			1		
73	Building		7-11	N	Mulberry	ST.	W	1964	20th Century	Commercial			1		
74	Building	Mansfield Bureau of Motor	15-17	E	Temple	CT.	N	1900	20th Century	Commercial			1		
75	Building	The Mansfield News Journal	70	W	Fourth	ST.	N	1944	Art Moderne	Commercial			1		
76	Building		46	W	Fourth	ST.	N	ca. 1960s	Contemporary	Commercial				1	
77	Building		48	W	Fourth	ST.	N	1916	20th Century	Commercial			1		
78	Building		44	W	Fourth	ST.	N	1916	20th Century	Commercial			1		
79	Building		40	W	Fourth	ST.	N	1916	Neoclassical	Commercial			1		
80	Building		36	W	Fourth	ST.	N	1906	20th Century	Commercial	Hancock & Dow		1		
81	Building		14-18	W	Fourth	ST.	N	ca. 1880	Italianate	Commercial			1		
82	Building		12	W	Fourth	ST.	N	ca. 1870s	Italianate	Commercial			1		
83	Building		4	W	Fourth	ST.	N	1913	Classical	Commercial	York & Sawyer				1
84	Building	Hancock-Dow Building	21-23	E	Fourth	ST.	N	c. 1886	Richardsonian	Commercial		Robert Hancock &			1
85	Building		25-27	E	Fourth	ST.	N	ca. 1882	Italianate	Commercial			1		
86	Building	Galaxie Lounge	29	E	Fourth	ST.	N	1900	Italianate	Commercial			1		
87	Building		31	E	Fourth	ST.	N	ca. 1890	Italianate	Commercial			1		
88	Building		35-37	E	Fourth	ST.	N	ca. 1882	Richardsonian	Commercial			1		
89	Building		39-43	E	Fourth	ST.	N	ca. 1882	Italianate	Commercial			1		
90	Building		51	E	Fourth	ST.	N	ca. 1920s	20th Century	Commercial			1		
91	Building		29	E	Third	ST.	N	1907	Second	Residential/Co			1		

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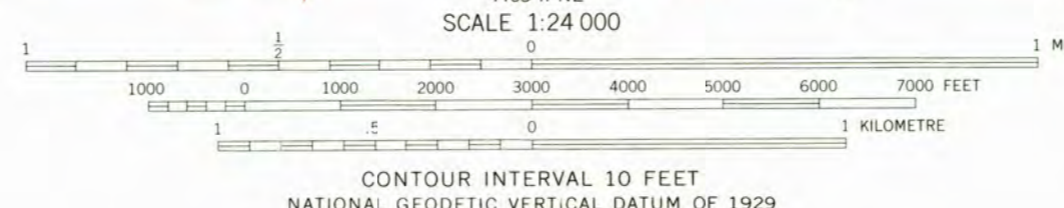
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92	Building	Richland County Mutual	25	E	Third	ST.	N	1881	High Victorian	Residential/Co			1		
93	Building		15-23	E	Third	ST.	N	1881	Italianate	Commercial			1		
94	Building		6	W	Third	ST.	N	ca. 1946	Mid-Century	Commercial			1		
95	Building		24-32	W	Third	ST.	N	ca. 1929	20th Century	Commercial			1		
96	Building		36	W	Third	ST.	N	ca. 1950	Modern	Commercial			1		
97	Building		40	W	Third	ST.	N	1917	20th Century	Commercial			1		
98	Building		58	W	Third	ST.	N	ca. 1960	Modern	Commercial			1		
99	Building	Richland County Public	43	W	Third	ST.	S	1908	Neo-Classical	Public (library)	Vernon Redding		1		
100	Building		51		Library	CT.	S	1890	Colonial Revival	Residential/Co			1		
101	Building		70		Park	AVE.	W	1892-1893	Richardsonian	Commercial			1		
102	Building		54		Park	AVE.	W	1906	No Academic	Commercial				1	
103	Building		50-52		Park	AVE.	W	ca. 1910s	20th Century	Commercial			1		
104	Building		46-48		Park	AVE.	W	ca. 1920s	20th Century	Commercial		The Jacob Wolf	1		
105	Building		44		Park	AVE.	W	1969	Mid Century	Commercial				1	
106	Building		40		Park	AVE.	W	1947	Contemporary	Commercial			1		
107	Building	The Soldiers and Sailors	34		Park	AVE.	W	1887-1889	Richardsonian	Public	Oscar Cobb	Oscar Cobb			1
108	Building	The Farmers Savings and	26-28		Park	AVE.	W	1928	Neoclassical	Commercial	Althouse and Jones	Ray Hossler, Tiffin	1		
109	Building	Stewart Towers	13-15		Park	AVE.	W	1922	Neoclassical	Commercial					1
110	Building	Richland County Courthouse	50		Park	AVE.	E	1968	New Formalism	Commercial			1		
1A	Object	The Doughboy						1999						1	
1B	Object	Freedom Is Not Free						Unknown						1	
1C	Structure	Gazebo						2000						1	
1D	Object	Lincoln Memorial						1925					1		
1E	Object	Vasbinder Fountain						1881					1		
1F	Object	Richland County Soldier's						1881					1		

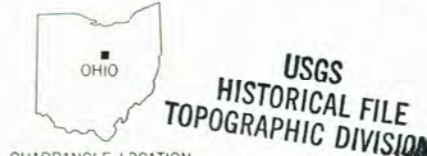
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Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA  
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods  
Aerial photographs taken 1959. Field check 1960  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Ohio coordinate system, north zone  
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 17, shown in blue  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Entire area lies within Congress Lands north of the old Seven Ranges  
Land lines based on the Ohio River Base  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty — Light-duty  
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt  
U.S. Route — State Route



MANSFIELD NORTH, OHIO  
N4045—W8230/7.5  
1960  
PHOTOREVISED 1972 AND 1974  
AMS 4465 1 SE—SERIES V852

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with  
State of Ohio agencies from aerial photographs taken  
1972 and 1974. This information not field checked

Downtown Mansfield  
Historic District,  
Richland Co., Ohio  
NAD 1927  
Zone 17  
1. East 371823  
North 4513340  
2. East 372355  
North 4513310  
3. East 372329  
North 4512693  
4. East 371787  
North 4512728

JUN 16 1975

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THE CITY OF MANSFIELD  
AND THE PEOPLE OF THE TOWN OF  
MANSFIELD  
MAY 1900  
THE MANSFIELD  
PUBLIC SQUARE  
MANSFIELD, OHIO









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NO  
PARKING  
TRUCK  
LOADING  
ZONE

14



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76





NEWS  
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JOURNAL



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COURT



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24 GWER

Crazy Griddle





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SALE



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→



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Downtown Mansfield Historic District

Multiple Name: \_\_\_\_\_

State & County: OHIO, Richland

Date Received: 6/10/2019      Date of Pending List: 6/25/2019      Date of 16th Day: 7/10/2019      Date of 45th Day: 7/25/2019      Date of Weekly List: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference number: SG100004214

Nominator: SHPO

Reason For Review: \_\_\_\_\_

X Accept       Return       Reject      7/25/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: AOS: commerce, community planning & development, and architecture; POS: 1860-1968; LOS: local

Recommendation/ Criteria: NR Criteria: A & C

Reviewer Lisa Deline      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2239      Date 7/25/19

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

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



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
NPS TRANSMITTAL CHECK LIST

OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
800 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43211  
(614)-298-2000

The following materials are submitted on \_\_\_\_\_  
For nomination of the Downtown Mansfield to the National Register of  
Historic Places: Historic District, Richland County, OH

- Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form  
 Paper  PDF
- Multiple Property Nomination Cover Document  
 Paper  PDF
- Multiple Property Nomination form  
 Paper  PDF
- Photographs  
 Prints  TIFFs
- CD with electronic images
- Original USGS map(s)  
 Paper  Digital
- Sketch map(s)/Photograph view map(s)/Floor plan(s)  
 Paper  PDF
- Piece(s) of correspondence  
 Paper  PDF
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

- Please provide a substantive review of this nomination
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objection(s) do \_\_\_\_\_ do not \_\_\_\_\_  
Constitute a majority of property owners
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_



June 5, 2019

Julie Ernstein, Acting Chief, National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 7228  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Ernstein:

Enclosed please find one new National Register nomination. All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the new nomination submission.

NEW NOMINATION

Downtown Mansfield Historic District

COUNTY

Richland

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the information to the National Register of Historic Places nominations for Downtown Mansfield Historic District.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact the National Register staff in the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at (614) 298-2000.

Sincerely,

*for* 

Lox A. Logan, Jr.  
Executive Director and CEO  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Ohio History Connection

Enclosures