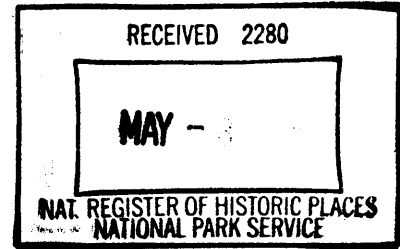


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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**



**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

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

1. Name of Property

historic name **Huntingburg Commercial Historic District**

other names/site number _____ 037-287-46000

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Geiger, 4th, Jackson, and Market Streets N/A not for publication
city or town Huntingburg N/A vicinity
state Indiana code IN county Dubois code 037 zip code 47542

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Signature of certifying official/Title _____
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

Date 4/26/06

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

Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper
Patrick Andrews

Date of Action
6/21/2006

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
46	7	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
46	7	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE:

GOVERNMENT:

DOMESTIC:

COMMERCE/TRADE:

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Business

COMMERCE/TRADE: Financial Institution

COMMERCE/TRADE: Restaurant

COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty Store

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN:

Italianate

LATE VICTORIAN:

Romanesque

19th & 20th c. REVIVALS:

Classical Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

BRICK

walls

BRICK

STONE: Limestone

roof

ASPHALT

other

METAL: Cast Iron

CONCRETE

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- 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.)

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1871-1956

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Mursinna, Henry

Boyle, Harry

George L. Mesker & Company

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 5.5 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	503760	4238500	3	16	504080	4238320
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	16	504080	4238510	4	16	503760	4238320

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Judy Olinger, consultant for
organization Huntingburg Chamber of Commerce date 03-07-2005
street & number 403 North Geiger Street telephone 812/ 683-5055
city or town Huntingburg state IN zip code 47542

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name Various
street & number telephone
city or town state zip code

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

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Huntingburg Commercial Historic District

Section number 7 Page 1

Property name

Dubois County In.

The Huntingburg Historic Commercial District is comprised of the Central Business District, or town center, and appears very much now, as it did in the early 1900's. It is located 5.7 miles north of the intersections of highways U.S. 231 and Interstate 64 in the rolling, hardwood-forested hills of Southern Indiana. Huntingburg's Main Street is U.S. 231, and Sixth Street is Indiana 64. The Norfolk-Southern railroad, running east/west, bisects the city into north and south sections, with spurs of the Rockport to Jasper line heading north and south. With completion of the next railroad, the Louisville to St. Louis line, railroading spurred phenomenal growth in Huntingburg and it quickly became the largest city in Dubois County. The district includes the commercial and civic core of Huntingburg. The district mainly includes the buildings on both sides of Fourth Street, stretching about one block either side of Main Street.

Huntingburg's present population is 6,000, while that of Jasper, the county seat, is 12,000. There are five incorporated towns in the county (two of them being cities) and sixteen villages and hamlets. The original mile square plat of the town consisted of the entire section 34, township 2 south, range 5 west. In 1836, Col. Jacob Geiger purchased three quarters of it from the U.S. Government for his hunting territory. He soon purchased the remaining southwest corner, as attested by the deed, dated November 11, 1837. It was this corner that became the city of Huntingburgh.(sic) The original survey was composed of twenty-five blocks running from Chestnut Street, east to Van Buren Street and First Street north to Sixth Street. These four streets are not originally shown as streets. Originally they were cited as boundaries of the town. The town followed a regular north-south grid pattern. Main Street is the principal north-south street, and Fourth Street is the main east-west street. Some confusion has appeared in previous documents caused by the renaming of streets in 1874 using the same names but repositioning them. South Street is now Second Street. Van Buren Street is now Third Street. Jackson Street is now Fourth Street. North Street is now Fifth Street. Geiger Street is now Main Street. West Street is now Walnut. East Street is now Jackson, and First Street is now Second Street.

The town center is a part of that original plat of the town from the 1,920 acres purchased by Col Geiger. A native of Louisville, KY., Geiger traveled into this wilderness to indulge his passion for hunting bear and pigeons. He stayed on a farm north of the town on a parcel of land he purchased in 1836. He then purchased the remaining parcel in 1837 and named it Huntingburgh.(sic) (The h was dropped July 13, 1893.) In 1852, he built a large brick home on the corner of what is now the southeast corner of Sixth and Geiger streets. Under the guidance of E.R. Brundick, a local pharmacist, who became the first mayor, the town was incorporated in 1866.

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Huntingburg Commercial Historic District

Section number 7 Page 2

Property name

Dubois County In.

Within the boundaries of the historic district are fifty-four buildings. Among the fifty-four buildings, forty-six are considered to be contributing and seven are non-contributing. These considerations are as specified by the Interim Report published by Historic Landmarks of Indiana and DHPA. As noted in Section 5, The Old Town Hall and Fire Engine House was listed on the National Register in 1975. The non-contributing buildings have either been altered extensively or were constructed after the period of significance. There are thirty-one contributing two-story buildings in the district, eleven contributing one-story; three contributing three-story buildings and nine (9) non-contributing. The one already listed on the National Register is not included in this count. Many of the academic styles and vernacular buildings commonly seen in Indiana and the Mid-West are exhibited in Huntingburg, as the town played its logistical and timely roles as a part of the western movement of the time. Twenty-six (26) buildings are considered to be 19th or 20th Century Functional, Commercial or late Victorian, two (2) are Romanesque; twenty-five (25) are either classically Italianate, Classical Revival or Neoclassical.

During the time these buildings were being constructed, there were two Evansville, Indiana companies, Mesker Steel and International Steel. Both were well-known throughout the country for their "cheap" storefronts of stamped metal and cast-iron. Neither company is in business today, but at that time they provided a cost-effective product with which businesses in even the small towns could add classic adornment to their business houses. They are no longer advertised as cheap. Mesker Steel and International Steel are both represented in Huntingburg as evidenced by their logos emblazoned on or stamped into the plinths of some of the buildings. A more detailed and historic description of the styles and the companies can be found in Section 8 pp1-5.

There is an often-repeated corbelled brick design used between pilasters on two and three-story buildings, and the designs in the stamped-metal cornices and brackets are often repeated in different widths. Faithful reproductions of the original street lights, poles and luminaires positioned as doubles (instead of the original single placement), light the street and were manufactured by the company that manufactured the originals. A sidewalk project in 1996 replaced the patched, multi-colored and multi-patterned, broken and cracked (dangerous to walk on) concrete with concrete pavers in a pattern that reiterates the polychromatic masonry predominate in the town. Trees provide not only welcome relief from hardscape and humid Indiana summer weather, but also replicate the oldest historic photographs of the area. Beginning on page 3 of this section detailed descriptions of the buildings in the district can be found. Classification is as follows, "C" designates Contributing, and "NC" is non-contributing.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Huntingburg Commercial Historic District

Section number 7 Page 3

Property name

Dubois County In.

**The Huntingburg Bank, 302 Fourth Street
Romanesque Revival built 1897 (C) Photo # 1**

This building is an excellent example of Romanesque Revival architecture. A two-story with full basement structure on the northeast corner of Fourth and Geiger Streets, it is supported by load bearing masonry walls of red brick laid in a running bond. The exterior is accented by wide brick Romanesque arches with corbelled yellow brick headers resting on a corbelled yellow brick belt course. The arches are soldier brick with slightly projecting headers on the extrados. The first floor windows are of double panes filling the masonry arches then one over one double-hung wood sash windows resting on limestone sills. The second floor windows are one over one double-hung wood sash windows resting on limestone sills which become a part of the yellow brick belt course which runs the length and width of the south and west facades interrupted only by a red brick quoin which happens at the truncated corner which forms the angled entry sequence. The roof is steeply pitched and accented by two steeply pitched square pyramidal roofs over the angled front and straight side entries. All are covered with asphalt shingles and sealed with copper flashing. The pyramids are topped by original wrought iron cresting. The built-in guttering system forms the upper cornice and is accented by stamped-metal dentils, all of which are intact. The angled entry has limestone steps and a recessed entry of double wood with single pane glass doors with wood side panels and an arched single pane transom. The masonry arch framing it matches the window arches. The west side entry is flush with a single pane glass filled arch with wood double doors each with a single pane of beveled glass. This entry leads to either the first or second floor spaces. The building was the second site of The Huntingburg Bank. The first floor was used for banking until larger quarters were ready in 1926. Upstairs served as a meeting space for numerous organizations. After the bank moved, Dr. Waverly Bretz purchased the building to use for his medical practice. Later joined by his son, Dr. John M. Bretz, who continued there until the late sixties. The building sat empty until November 1974, at which time it was purchased and rehabilitated by Westover Limited. From June 1976 through September 1996, it was occupied by The Wind in the Willows, and is now rented by Greentree Seasons. Owner: Westover Limited

**The Huntingburg Post Office, 304 Fourth Street
Late-Victorian Commercial one-part block, built 1897 (C) Photo# 1.**

This former post office is a two-story masonry structure near the intersection of Fourth and Geiger Streets and shares a common wall with the Huntingburg Bank building. The walls are

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Huntingburg Commercial Historic District

Section number 7 Page 4

Property name

Dubois County In.

red brick laid in a running bond from footings supporting a wood joist floor over a crawl space. A simple yellow and red-brick corbelled cornice completes the top of the building beginning with a yellow-brick corbelled belt course approximately 2' below the top. The second-floor windows are one-over one double-hung wood frame sash. The first-floor storefront consists of large glass display windows, original recessed entry sequence and a half glass wood door to access two second floor apartments. A supportive steel I-beam separates the two floors. A fluted steel, cast-iron column separates the store's front from the east side entry to the second floor. Wood spindles on wood brackets balconettes define the entries to both the store and the apartments. Removable muntins with stained glass inserts decorate the storefront windows. The building served as the town's post office, until 1927 when it moved to larger quarters at the corner of Fourth and Main Streets. That year, Armin Brace adapted it for use as a bakery. Since 1940 it has had several uses and owners. Margaret Mann sold it to Kermit Ruttkar in 1952, to be used as his flower shop. Ruttkar sold it in 1974 to Westover Limited, who renovated it for the myriad of uses it has had since that time. It is now a bagel and coffee shop. Stamped metal salvaged from the Jasper College in conjunction with reproduced stamped metal has been installed as a suspended ceiling, adding to the ambiance of the building. Owner: Westover Limited

Kenneth W. Craig, CPA, 306 Fourth Street

Built 1984 (NC) (Photo #1)

A modern office building built of faux used brick with a front stoop leading to a pair of six-panel doors with the two upper panels filled with glass. There are sidelights of three panels of glass over a single lower wood panel. Six over six wood frame double hung windows are accented by wood shutters. A gambrel roof of asphalt shingles is interrupted by two dormers built of horizontal modern siding each of which contains a wood frame double hung window with shutters.

Hometown Music, 308 Fourth Street

Two-story Commercial block, built 1906, (NC) (Photo # 2)

A two-story commercial block displaying one over one double hung second story wood frame windows with aluminum shutters set into vertical board and batten patterned aluminum siding. It is non-contributing due to the siding obscuring most of the upper façade. This building is joined to 310 Fourth Street by an asphalt shingle gambrel roof separating the first from the second floor. Below the roof, portions of cast metal columns are showing which frame large glass display windows which are supported on carved wood panels. These elements are original to the historic building. The entry sequence remains original with the original half wood and half glass door.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Huntingburg Commercial Historic District

Section number 7 Page 5

Property name

Dubois County In.

This two-story building was built to be a photographic studio with living quarters upstairs. It is owned by Beth and Paul Vance.

Hometown Music,(310) Fourth Street

One-story Commercial block, Built 1906 (NC). (Photo#2)

The first floor façade was altered in the late forties when the wood panels which had been below the display windows were removed and replaced with yellow brick. The entry remained recessed but was replaced with a modern door with sidelights all of which have one pane over a wood panel. The upper portion has been covered with vertical aluminum siding matching 308 and the gambrel roof from 308 also crosses (310). Store windows are modern in aluminum frames. The interiors have been joined by an opening in the party wall. Owner: Beth and Paul Vance

Greentree Antiques, 312 Fourth Street

Late-Victorian one-part Commercial block, built 1906 (C) (Photo#2)

This one-story façade is entirely original and is an outstanding example of its style. The decorative stamped metal cornice, double frieze and cast-iron columns are flamboyantly painted to reflect the style of the Victorian era. East and west walls are common to the buildings on those sides. A skylight provides natural illumination in the inner areas of the interior away from the south façade of expansive glass. The storefront's wood panels, double doors, recessed entry sequence, display windows and two-part glass transom area are original. There is a poured concrete floor and no basement or crawl space.

Long the home of the "Huntingburg Argus and Signal" newspaper, it remained in the Katter family from the time it was built until 1963 when it was purchased to be a gymnastics and dance studio. It is now Greentree Antiques, owned by Mr. & Mrs. Joe Rohleder.

Walter F. Bretz Storeroom, 314 Fourth Street

Late Victorian, Italianate, two-part Commercial block, built 1898, (C) (Photo # 3)

Unchanged since its construction, this two-story commercial building retains its architectural integrity. The load-bearing masonry walls are of common red brick laid in running bond with a poured concrete floor. A supportive steel beam separates the first and second floors with fluted cast-iron pilasters supporting the beam. The expansive display windows are supported by original, painted, wood panels. The matching flush doorway on the west side leads to a second floor which displays four double-hung, wood-sash windows resting on limestone sills and are

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Huntingburg Commercial Historic District

Section number 7 Page 6

Property name

Dubois County In

placed in a wall divided into four equal spaces by five brick pilasters. The store-front entry sequence is recessed and made of original materials which match the wood panels below the display windows. Each window has a stamped metal hood consisting of side brackets connected by crown mold. The upper cornice is a bracketed, stamped-metal piece. Corbelled brick completes the recesses between pilasters by spanning them across the upper front. Attic vents are highlighted by decorative brick work and separated by two rows of corbelling from the window sections. Signage appears on the window in keeping with the building style.

Mr. Bretz, a pioneer businessman of the community operated a general store in this building and owned it until 1943, when it was sold to Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur Elshoff, who in 1944 sold it to Irving Chase. Chase turned it into a frozen food locker. In 2002, the refrigeration apparatus was removed and the building became Flowers Gifts & Collectibles. In 2005, one bay of the building suffered a fire, however, the building as a whole still contributes to the district. Building owned by Tom Gabhart.

A.H. Miller Drug Store, 316 Fourth Street

Italianate, two-part Commercial block built 1898 (C) (Photo # 3)

This building displays matching (and a shared center) columns and appointments to those of the adjoining Bretz building. The two were undoubtedly built simultaneously as the only differences occur in the upper cornice. This one has a double frieze stamped metal cornice and has three windows between matching pilasters with the same corbelled span and attic vent highlights and corbelling setting the vents off from the window recesses. Rosettes decorate the steel I-beam separating first and second floors. The first floor façade has been radically changed by angling the expansive show windows toward an aluminum framed doorway located on the east front. Vertical board and batten aluminum siding covers the results of lowering the interior ceiling with modern green bricks which support a limestone sill under the display windows. The floor is supported by wood joists above a basement. Ghosting on the east wall of the building affirms A. H. Miller Drug occupied the building from when it was built until sold to Mr. Charles Helmerich. In 1976, the building was used as an outlet store for H. W. Gossard, who operated a manufacturing plant in Huntingburg. It is now owned by Lloyd Graham and operated as an antiques store and locksmith shop.

Tangles Beauty Salon, 318 Fourth Street

Italianate, two-part Commercial block, built 1905 (C) (Photo # 4)

Originally a saloon and converted into a restaurant by 1921, this building had become Heichelbeck's Grocery Store by the 1940s. The two-story brick structure maintains its

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Huntingburg Commercial Historic District

Section number 7 Page 7

Property name Dubois County, In

architectural integrity of the time of its construction. The only slight change is the material (brick) surrounding the large glass display windows. The first floor maintains the original display windows and the recessed entry sequence with a modern east-side door leading to an upstairs apartment. Any other first level changes are camouflaged by an all-over paint scheme. A steel beam, hidden by the awning, divides the two floors and supports the second story brickwork. It is trimmed with an applied entablature with ornamental brackets at each end. A stamped-metal cornice of a very simple design appears as three layers with self brackets adorned with rosettes. The stamped metal window hoods are a simple entablature with connecting crown mold. The second story displays the prevailing pilaster span treatment. Four pilasters divide the upper wall into three recesses which house the three one-over-one double-hung windows resting on limestone sills. The top of each recessed panel has brick corbelling. The attic vents are very simply set into the brick with limestone headers. Matching awnings protect the upper windows and provide business signage in the first-floor transom area. Owner: Rick Stradtner

Ruch's Confectionary, 320 Fourth Street

Italianate two-part Commercial block, built 1889 (C) (Photo # 4)

Untouched by modernization, this two-story masonry building is an excellent example of Late Victorian commercial architecture. After the disastrous fire of 1889 destroyed his three-room wood structure cottage on this same lot, Mr. Ruch was the first to rebuild. This building was open for business only four months after the fire. The wood panels, two over one display windows with two pane transoms, entry sequences recessed into the store and flush on the east front (note the French doors on east side) are all original. The main entry is framed by a pair of cast-iron, foliated columns. First and second stories are separated by a steel beam to which stamped metal crown moldings and finials have been applied. Upon discovery of termite damage in 2001, a concrete floor was poured replacing wood joists and wood flooring. The hood over the French doors east side entry is a segmental relieving arch. The second story consists of five pilasters defining four recesses containing one-over-one, double hung, wood sash windows resting on limestone sills. The three windows to the west are trimmed by stamped metal crown-mold hoods. The easternmost hood, over the window above the French doors, is of corbelled brick. A stamped metal cornice appears as three layers with self-brackets and rosettes with inverted heart finials at each end of the building, spans the four westernmost pilasters as does the prevailing corbelling which spans the window recesses. From fourth to fifth pilasters, is a cross gable with bricks forming dentils along the corbelled edge, and a brick-framed square of perforated dog-tooth brick design forming the attic vent in this section contrasts with the cast iron attic vents in the rest of the building. Now housing Combined Talents, the building

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Continuation Sheet**

Huntingburg Commercial Historic District

Section number 7 Page 8

Property name

Dubois County In.

remained in the Ruch family until July 3, 1995. After the last member of the Ruch family died the building was for the first time owned by others. Owners: Mr. & Mrs. Joe Rohleder.

Winning Apparel, (322) 324 Fourth Street

Italianate one-part Commercial block, built 1886, (N) (Photo # 5)

The two-story building was built in 1886 as the pediment atop the cornice attests. The top of the building retains its historic architectural integrity with its Italianate, stamped-metal cornice with paired brackets, prevailing brick corbelling between four pilasters with pedimented hoods of stamped metal over three two-over-two, wood-sash, double-hung windows. Elegant urn shaped finials finish the upper cornice. An intrusive asphalt shingle roof spans the historic building, including number 324, the building to the east which is a part of the store. The original display windows were replaced by wide span aluminum frame display windows on limestone sills above brick support. The recessed entry was retained although now unused and the original door replaced with a single-light wood frame modern door. Built by Dan Arensman for his wife, Caroline, she operated it until 1901 when Nettie O'Brien moved her millinery business into it. In 1946, her daughter-in-law took over the business and named it O'Briens. It has stayed an apparel store and is presently owned by Dorothy Hasenour who operates it as Winning Apparel. The one-story addition, 324, continues the asphalt shingle awning which divides the historic building, displays the same windows in aluminum frames above limestone on brick walls with the addition of a recessed entry into this part of the building. This portion is (NC).

The Gaslight, 328 Fourth Street,

20th Century Functional, built 1942 & 43 (NC) (Photo #6)

Built as the Victory Theater, the building is of yellow-brick running bond with some red-brick design along the extreme top, the upper façade, including a barn roof overhang, is now covered by dark green standing-metal-seam roofing. Weathered cedar board and batten siding covers the lower portion of the building. Aluminum framed windows replace the former double door entries on each side of the center aluminum framed door. The existing center doorway replaces the former protruding ticket window. A rip-rap limestone half-wall is still evident on the eastern end of the entrance. This was added when the cedar was applied to the front.

Owner: Songer Family

Bolte Building/First National Bank Building, 330 (332) Fourth Street

Victorian Romanesque two-part Commercial Block, circa 1919 (Photo #6)

This is a two-story polychromatic brick building built primarily to be the location of the First National Bank. The south façade wraps around the southeast corner of the building to

**United States Department of the Interior
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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Huntingburg Commercial Historic District

Section number 7 Page 9

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encompass the primary angled protected entrance and is made of buff brick with a red rock-faced brick belt course dividing first and second floors. Flat headers over all windows are of the red rock-faced brick. The semicircular, smooth red-brick entrance arches rest on charcoal granite columns with Romanesque capitals carved in limestone. The arches are filled with their original wrought-iron tracery. All second floor windows are one over one double hung wood sash with multi-pane clear leaded glass transoms on limestone sills which rest on the belt course. There are four pilasters across the upper south façade. The first and second define the western-most retail space and the second and third define the space of the double six-panel wood doors leading to a staircase and the first floor bank space. The third and fourth set apart the entrance corner, with a matching fifth around the corner. Over the westernmost store space, is a triple window group with broad center window flanked by narrower units. The first floor storefront in this section consists of original wood panels below expansive single panel display windows topped by vertical aluminum siding covering the transom. The entry is recessed and is a single glass panel wood door. In the next upper section to the east, there are two matching paired windows. The street level section has double six-panel wood doors to the upstairs with a single panel display window, shorter in length on a limestone sill with vertical aluminum siding in the transom. The entry has a single double-hung wood-frame window with multi-pane leaded glass transoms in both the south and east narrower sections over the entry. The attic vents are paired in the flush areas between the first three pilasters and are of cast iron set into corbelled diamond shapes. The attic over the entry space contains a wood frame single pane window with clear leaded glass transom. All five pilasters are capped by carved limestone finials. The east wall becomes red brick beyond the entry section with a display window of original configuration with three pane lower transom and a multi-pane clear leaded glass section above. Heading north, the first two doors are wood paneled with half-glass doors with vertical siding covering the transoms. The next opening is a small display window, shorter than the others, with leaded glass transom exposed. Third is an all glass aluminum-framed door with vertical siding in transom. All have limestone sills. The transom areas are covered in vertical panel aluminum. The next opening is a single-pane display area with an exposed glass transom on a limestone sill. The next opening is a modern aluminum frame all glass door. Next is a wider display window with vertical siding covering the transom. Another narrow, higher display window occurs with vertical siding in the transom. Next is the double set of six panel wood doors with three-pane transom leading up the back stairway to the apartments upstairs. A one-story addition to the north was added later to be a dental office and is of matching red brick. It displays a one-over-

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one double-hung window on a limestone sill with a six panel wood entry door. All of these openings have limestone sills. Owner: Judy and Joe Rohleder

The building served as a bank from 1905 until 1919. The vault is still in place, its door enhanced with beautiful oil paintings. The second floor has had a myriad of offices – dental, medical, etc. It is now apartments. Mr. William J. Bretz purchased it when the bank closed and operated his jewelry and music store there. In 1905, Christian Kornrumpf rented the west storefront for his piano and organ sales. In 1926, Ray Christopher rented the same space for his appliance sales store. The corner space again housed a jewelry business for some thirty years until 1988. A variety of businesses have occupied the spaces. Today, Greentree Furniture, A Kid's Room clothing store and Cingular Cellular phone store are in the building.

Landgrebe-Kilian Building, (402) Fourth Street, Italianate Late-Victorian two-part Commercial Block, built 1887, (C) (Photo # 7)

This august, three-story building retains its architectural integrity especially since the removal of vertical aluminum siding, which covered the ghosting of original stamped metal window hoods, cornice and pediment which was evident on the south façade before an all over paint scheme was implemented. Built of red brick in running bond, the south and west walls display the predominant corbelled spandrel design between pilasters, nine on the west wall and four across the south façade. Each second and third story recess on the west wall contains a single two-over-two, double-hung wood-sash window on a limestone sill. One exception is on the second floor of the west façade where the second opening from the southwest corner is a boarded-up door with transom space. The Fourth Street storefront has had some alteration in that the entire front has been pushed out to encompass original fluted circular columns which are now showing in the display windows. Below the overhanging awning, the corner pilaster/fluted steel column combination has been covered with wood to which moldings have been added. The horizontal awning extends eight feet to the south and six feet to the west with a forty-five degree angle crossing the corner and crosses the entire south façade. The expansive display windows are aluminum framed with a modern single panel glass door in the original recessed entry. Wood panels with applied moldings are below the windows both on the sidewalk and the angles of the entry. The upper windows on this side have no ornamentation. Above the awning, wood covers the transom area up to the steel beam supporting the upper masonry. A large wooden routed sign rests on the awning and extends above the beam. Segmental rowlock arches form hoods over all the windows on the west façade, the extensions of which rest on corbelled belt courses. All windows above the storefront level were recently replaced with simulated nine-over-nine plastic muntins. Limestone sill continuations form belt courses under the windows. From the northwest

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corner, the first floor openings along Main Street are a pair of five-panel wood doors leading to upper floors with a double transom, the lower of which is a wood panel and the upper glass trimmed in wood moldings. The next is a fifteen glass panel door to a retail space with a bricked-in transom to the arch. The next four spaces contain modern display windows with bricked-in transoms to the rowlock arches. The eighth and last space has no opening.

Building owner: Bill Disinger, doing business as Mimi's Collectibles and Gifts

Disinger Jewelry, 404 Fourth Street

Italianate Two-Part Commercial Block, built c.1885, (C) (Photo # 7)

The first floor has been drastically altered to replace the large display windows with small display windows on limestone sills, double single pane glass aluminum frame center entry doors flush with the front which has brick infill to the beam supporting the upper masonry. There are vinyl-coated hooded awnings covering the two store windows and the one over the main entry reaches to the curb. An entry to the second floor to the east of the storefront is a nine-glass panel transom over a twelve glass panel wood door and wood frame.

The main floor is a wood joist floor over crawl space. The second floor is painted common brick in running bond, flush front with four two-over-two wood frame windows hooded by stamped metal in a crown mold with center arch supported by simple classic brackets design. Attic vents are of wrought iron set into triple stepped-back corbelled openings of which there are only two. The upper cornice is of stamped metal and divided into four equal spaces by five brackets with a scroll design between. Classic urn finials top each end of the building. This building was built and originally operated as a saloon by Charles and Pauline (Kilian) Johnson who owned it until 1977. In 1917, Mr. Ed Welp who had apprenticed for five years for Mr. Christian Kornrumpf, purchased Kornrumpf's jewelry business and rented this building in which to operate it. His son Jim joined him in the business in 1940. After the elder Welp's death in 1972, Jim and Ann Welp operated the store until 1993. Leroy Short bought the building soon after Pauline Johnson's death in 1977, and then sold it to Bill Disinger on May 3, 1985. After Mrs. Welp closed her jewelry business, Disinger moved his jewelry business into the building on the second weekend of October, 1993, and the building continues as Disinger Jewelers today.

Lytton Photography, 406 Fourth Street

Italianate Two-Part Commercial Block, c.1890 (C) (Photo # 7)

The first floor of this building has been altered through the years. The display windows are expansive and it maintains its recessed entry sequence. Faux stone covers the area below the windows however it is painted to follow the overall scheme of the building. The transom above

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of running bond and painted. The first floor is built on wood joists over crawl space. the display windows is filled with plywood. The second floor has three two-over-two wood sash, double hung windows on limestone sills. The fourth opening to the east is a wood two-light, half-glass door with a transom, of wood frame and limestone sill. Stamped metal pediment hoods cover all four openings the metal and ornaments the top cornice with scrolled brackets. The finials are shared with the buildings on each side. A metal bracket and chain is centered between the upper windows evidence of a former sign hung there. Present signage is painted on the windows. Three rosettes cover tie rods on the front flush brick surface of running bond and painted. The first floor is built on wood joists over crawl space. In 1896, the building held C.R. Kluger's Jewelry Store. In 1935, Smith's Furniture Exchange occupied it and today it is Lytton Photography Studios.

The Brown Antique, 408 Fourth Street

Italianate two-part Commercial Block, c.1890 (C) (Photo # 7)

The first floor of this building has had some changing of materials. The bulkhead below the wide display windows has had a faux stone applied. It is painted to blend with the rest of the painted brick building. The building is built with self-supporting side walls of four wyths running bond brick and has a wood floor over wood joists and a crawl space. The transom area over the front is covered with vertical board and batten rough sawn cedar siding. The transom area is covered by a striped canvas awning which crosses the entire display window area. The second story is of flush running bond with three window openings. The windows are of two-over-two wood frame and wood mullion on limestone sills with pediment stamped metal hoods. A stamped metal cornice has a pediment finished with scrollwork and Italianate urns at each end with equal spaced scrolled brackets across. A metal tie rod to the right side of the upper windows matches those of the 406 building indicating the two were probably built simultaneously. Star tie rod washers are visible along the exposed east wall above the one-story building to the east. A metal sign bracket is still on the front. Signage is on store window. Dr. C.W. Schwartz purchased this building from Fred Katterhenry in 1900 to open his drug store. Schwartz sold it to Willard Utt, circa 1944, who in turn sold it to pharmacist John Kesling in 1953. The building is presently owned by Jan Schiple, and operated by Mary and Bob Brown as The Brown Antique.

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The Palace of Sweets, 410 Fourth Street

20th Century one-part Commercial Block, built 1915 (C) (Photo # 8)

Built after the turn of the century on the site of an early post office, the Palace of Sweets, as everyone still knows it, displays a few Arts & Crafts stylistic elements which help it fit into the streetscape. The one-story, red-brick building retains its wide display windows with painted slate supporting them. The entry sequence is original as is the upper façade. The inside still has its terrazzo floor although the stamped-metal ceiling was lost to the weather as the neglected roof allowed heavy water damage. The walls are load-bearing brick and the upper façade has a limestone coping above a soldier course, both of which define the arched parapet. The primary façade as well as the two non-structural pilasters are of running bond red brick and are outlined in monochromatic corbelled rowlock brick. Limestone lozenges accent the corbelled lines in the pilasters as well as provide a geometric decoration into the building's face also accenting the attic vent corners. The site was the post office before 1897 and a Mr. Frank Ely owned a building in this spot, prior to William Ellsworth building this brick building on the lot in 1915. In 1928 Ellsworth sold the business to George Lukemeyer who in 1933 sold the business to Reid Lukemeyer. The Lukemeyer Family owned it until October of 1997 when an heir, Jack Lukemeyer sold it to Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Werne. Owned by Bob and Keith Blair since 2004.

Hugo Finke's Barber Shop, 412 Fourth Street

Italianate two-part Commercial block, built circa 1895 (C) (Photo # 9) Of a very simple design, the running bond, flush brick façade appears as it did when built. The first floor windows and entry sequence are unchanged as the west-side door to an upstairs apartment. The door is one long single-pane wood door. The bulkheads under the display windows are of weathered marble. The three second floor windows are one-over-one double hung wood frame with segmental pediment stamped metal hoods. The building's upper cornice is of stamped metal with a projecting crown mold supported by evenly spaced modillions with large end brackets. A striped canvas awning protects merchandise displayed in the windows from sun damage. Two metal washers near the top indicate an earlier sign removal. Mr. C.W. Winkenhoefer purchased the building and rented it to Mr. Finke and his successor, Darryl Maxey until 1994 when the Winkenhoefer heirs sold it to Jim and Donna Blessinger. Now known as Chase by Chance.

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**The Gem Theater, 414 Fourth Street,
20th Century One-part Commercial block, built 1920 (C) (Photo#9)**

A two-story brick structure, this building had many of its decorative appointments removed when in the 1960s, aluminum siding covered the entire upper façade. Built of red brick in running bond, the first-floor storefront had a modernizing change when the entrance was moved to off-center with the easternmost section made into an angled wall leading to a recessed entry. The bulkheads under the windows are modern roman brick and the display windows are framed in aluminum. The entry door is a single pane of glass with aluminum framing. The second story façade is of flush red brick laid in running bond with side walls being load bearing with a pilaster defining those side walls. There are three one-over-one double hung wood frame windows under polystyrene hoods of a peaked pediment design on limestone sills. Three attic vents are of perforated brick design inside one rectangular row of brick corbelling. The upper cornice is a salvaged stamped metal piece with polystyrene end brackets. A scalloped single color with edge trim design awning completes the storefront. Owner: Donna Blessinger

**The Huntingburg Bank, 416 Fourth Street
Classical Revival, built 1926 (C) (Photo # 9)**

As banks usually are, this one is classically ornamented and constructed of buff or yellow brick in running bond with chocolate mortar. The side walls are load-bearing on reinforced, poured concrete foundations and a partial basement which houses the heating system. The south façade has *terra cotta* appointments of: coping along its medallion-embellished stepped parapet, projecting, molded cornice with a decorative blind arched corbel table frieze band finished with bead and reel molding, fluted Roman Doric columns resting on limestone plinths and topped by a decorative relief band of festoons below egg and dart molding, all window sills, illustrated relief panels above the windows, the lower belt course and capitals above the corner pilasters/piers. All windows are wood-frame three stationary-transoms over three lower windows of which each center section is stationary and the side sections are movable casements. Upper and lower windows are separated by wood spandrels of a very simple design which replicates the divisions of the windows. A one-story office structure adjoins the north side of the building and is entered by an east side solid wood door and lighted by one-over-one double hung wood frame windows both east and north. The building was used as a bank only four years. In 1930, it was forced to close its doors due to involvement with the Wallace Milling Company. At that time it was purchased by the William Sprauer family to use as a photography studio. Finding the use of space to be impractical, the Sprauers sold it on May 10, 1941 to R. P. Olinger who used it as his construction company headquarters until September of 1999 when his

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heirs sold it to EME Group who used it briefly then sold it to Andy Nass who opened The Vault Art Gallery and Frame Shop. Owner is currently Andy Nass.

Overtime Restaurant and Bar, (422) Fourth Street

Italianate two-part Commercial block, built 1890 (C)(Photo # 10)

While this building displays some historic elements that couldn't be obliterated, it has endured some alterations that will be hard to reverse. Load bearing running bond masonry walls frame the entire façade. The storefront was removed and totally filled in with running bond brick from the sidewalk to the cast iron header supporting the second floor. Modern aluminum frame full length glass doors and vinyl clad casement windows have been added all with soldier course headers and rowlock sills. The second story displays five pilasters atop the cast iron beam with tie plate rosettes. Each upper division contains two sets of aluminum frame one over one double hung windows which on the second floor, fill only half the window space and on the third floor fill only two-thirds of the space. The upper section of each is filled with cedar shakes. All windows rest on original limestone sills. Second floor window hoods are of double row segmental arches and side brackets while the third floor hoods are of single row segmental arches with side brackets. The corbelled spans between pilasters are dentillated to match the lowest course of the upper cornice. The next course up is a dog tooth pattern rising to the glazed tile coping over the stepped parapet. Built by a Russian immigrant, Mr. Charles Schneider, who built it to house his Red Front Clothing Store business, his family lived on the second floor and he outfitted the third floor for lodge and organization meetings. This one has been a barber shop with a pool room in the rear, a hardware store, a bakery and a variety store. It is now the family room of The Overtime Restaurant and Bar. Ghosting on the east exterior third story wall is still visible from further east and advertises Greener Bros. Palace Saloon and Poolroom.

Owner: Gary Duncan

Overtime Restaurant and Bar, 424 Fourth Street,

(C) (Photo# 10)

The adjoining building was built using the east load bearing wall of 422 as its western wall and having its east wall load bearing. The first floor has been totally filled in with running bond faux used brick from the sidewalk to the cast iron beam supporting the second floor and between yellow brick vertical columns. Modern vinyl clad casement windows with soldier course headers and rowlock sills have been added. The east section has had an aluminum single pane entry door inserted on a new limestone sill. The second story is built of yellow brick with its recessive surface of red brick. Each window space between the five pilasters has been filled with

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modern aluminum frame one over one double hung windows on limestone sills having the space above them filled with cedar shakes. Yellow brick window hoods are segmental rowlock arches resting on yellow brick stops. Each pilastered section contains a cast iron attic vent and is spanned by the usual corbelling pattern. The cornice used radial bricks to form brackets and is capped by glazed tile. Original entry limestone steps are visible. Owner: Gary Duncan

**Kringle's Kleaners, 426 Fourth Street,
Built mid 1970s (NC) (Photo# 10)**

A landscaped set-back breaks the continuity of the streetscape and a 1970s one-story building of mauve brick with two sets of triple pane casement wood frame windows on limestone sills frame the recessed entry of this obviously modern building. Ten inches above the windows is a wood with moldings belt course and ten inches above that a cornice. Evenly spaced band-sawn brackets accent the wood cornice board with wood moldings between each bracket. The windows are trimmed with wood dentil and crown mold headers and have coach light fixtures on each side. The center doorway is recessed and up two steps to a Colonial style half glass wood door with half glass side lights and a shingled awning forming the entry sequence. An additional accent for the entry is the taller mid-section with a full dimensioned softly concave roof section missing cresting. Built as a small bank, another intrusion in the sidewalk provides a drive through on the east side of the building. Presently owned by Loyce Kulbeth.

**Citizens Insurance, 430 Fourth Street,
Italianate two-part Commercial block, built circa 1886 (C) (Photo# 11)**

Built with load-bearing brick walls in running bond the building has retained its Italianate appointments of the stamped-metal cornice and stamped-metal window hoods. The first floor has been modernized by moving the single panel aluminum frame door to the west front and adding an expansive modern window from the door to the west wall. Slightly angled side panels have a small window-type space for advertising. A standing metal seam awning shades the window area. The second floor has been covered with horizontal vinyl siding and has three vinyl coated one over one double hung windows. Original stamped metal hoods top each window and their matching stamped metal bracketed cornice with frieze panels and arched finials tops the building. Building owners are Sheilah and Kevin Haycox. Originally a jewelry store owned by Fred Kreke, it was operated by his son, J.H. Kreke. The business was later sold and renamed Lammers' Jewelry Store which, for a short time, also housed a barber shop. Mr. Ray Christopher sold electrical appliances here for a short time until the Link Twins purchased it (1935) to serve as offices for their insurance and financing business.

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**Touch of Class Outlet Store, (432&434) Fourth Street
20th- Century Functional, built 1941 (NC) (Photo#12)**

At the turn of the century these two lots held a barber shop and an umbrella store. The original buildings were torn down to make way for this structure which originally housed the A&P Grocery Store owned by the one-time mayor, August Becker. Built of running bond yellow brick with a limestone coping, the street level has no entry but has wide expanses of display windows in aluminum frames. The lower bulkheads and transoms are of harbourite with applied moldings. The extreme east and west ends and center columns are made of the same materials with the moldings applied. All are painted in an all over color scheme.

**Touch of Class Outlet Store, 436 Fourth Street
Italianate two-part Commercial block, built 1871 (C) (Photo#12)**

Built by the Blemker family as a dry goods adjunct to their adjoining grocery store, this building has load-bearing walls on the west and was built up to the building to its east. The first floor maintains its recessed entry sequence and has the lower bulkhead and transom areas covered with wood and applied wood moldings. Wide expanses of display windows are framed in aluminum. The entry door is a modern aluminum framed top to bottom single pane of glass. Above the transom area, the second floor is divided into three sections by four pilasters with each recessed area containing original one over one double-hung wood framed windows. Stamped metal hoods styled as a crown mold with side brackets top each window each of which rests on a limestone sill. Above each window, attic vents are of denticulate bricks with the spans between pilasters of the much used corbelling design. The projecting stamped metal cornice has equally spaced brackets with stamped panels between each. The ends have rounded stamped metal finials. A frame for an awning also shows and has been replaced.

**Touch of Class Outlet Store, East Side,
Built at the same time as 436, as the grocery store of the Blemker enterprise, it is also
Italianate two-part Commercial block, built 1871(C) (Photo# 12).**

The first floor has no entry but has had the lower bulkheads replaced with the wood inserts with moldings applied. The columns match the others of wood and applied moldings as does the transom. The transom is generally covered by a canvas awning. The second floor is of painted brick in running bond, with recessed window sections defined by four pilasters one of which is shared with the building to the west. Minor changes were instituted to assure individuality. The stamped metal trim is the three layer with rosettes design and the hoods above the windows are a simple crown mold of metal. The hoods and limestone sills are left alone because of the modern

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much smaller one-over-one double hung windows in aluminum frames. The attic vents are denticulate bricks and the prevailing corbelling pattern spans between pilasters. A variety of double hung windows on limestone sills line the upper east wall to light the upper apartment. Inverted heart finials of stamped metal finish the cornice of the building.

**Katterhenry's Store, 401-403 Jackson Street,
403 Italianate one-part Commercial block, 401 Italianate two-part Commercial block
Built 1875 (C) (Photo# 13)**

Built by Fredrick William and Louis Katterhenry for their prosperous mercantile business, the large two-story building was for the dry-goods and clothing store and the one story store was attached to it for their farm supplies, seeds, fertilizer etc. They are connected by interior doors and presently have two names. The one story is a restaurant and the two story houses a house wares specialty shop both owned by the same person and operated in conjunction with the other. The one-story building 403 is built as an attachment with the north wall being load bearing of painted running bond brick on a concrete slab floor and maintains its recessed entry. The expansive display windows are metal framed and sit on wood bulkheads outlined with wood moldings. A steel I-beam forms the lintel for the upper brickwork. The transom area above the windows is covered with plywood which is hidden by the canvas awning. Brick corbelling forms a slightly projecting cornice beginning at the top with four courses laid in running bond above one course laid as dentil above one denticulate course over one stretcher course. The next course is laid as a header with three courses of running bond over a one row corbelled belt course. Each piece of the pattern is painted in contrasting but harmonizing colors to emphasize the brick patterns. Two lion's head escutcheons which held a former awning still adorn the front. Formerly The Clover Seed store then Katterhenry's Grocery Store, then Katterhenry's Ready to Wear until purchased by Don and Linda Robertson in 1973. It was then sold to Black Wednesday Realty who operated it as The Little People before it was converted to Fat and Sassy by Bob Rosenblatt. Currently owned by Jean and Chuck Walk.

**Katterhenry's Store, 401 Fourth Street,
Italianate two-part Commercial block, built 1875 (C) (Photo # 13)**

This building's expansive display windows extend along Jackson Street as well as on Fourth Street and enframe a recessed angled entry with a cast iron column at the extreme corner which is covered with wood and wood moldings. The lower bulkheads are of wood outlined with wood moldings. The west façade has a cast iron header which becomes a lintel for the second story brick-work. The south side, shorter span has an iron lintel which is not decorative. The building

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has load-bearing walls with a wood floor over crawl space and is built of brick in running bond and painted. The west side's upper projecting cornice is a simple crown mold supported by equally spaced scroll brackets all of stamped metal. The three second story window hoods are also of stamped metal and are semi-circular with a center ornament over modern six over six double hung windows of rectangular shape. The arch under the hood is filled in with painted wood. This façade displays three lion's head escutcheons. The present awning is striped canvas. The south façade is matching materials but with a more narrow expanse of display window. Two lion's head escutcheons demonstrate the extent of the original awning. This Fourth Street first floor façade is interrupted only by a fifteen pane stationary window on a limestone sill at approximately the center of the wall and a six over six modern window and entry door under segmental rowlock arches which are filled in with painted wood at the extreme east end of this building. Five cast iron grates ventilate the crawl space and are showing along the sidewalk surface. Four metal star tie-rod covers divide the two floors. Five six-over-six windows on limestone sills under segmental rowlock relieving arches light the upper story. The corbelled cornice is the same as 403 Jackson with its flamboyant denticulated brick patterns. Cast iron attic vents are tucked into the lower edge of the corbelled cornice. Owned and operated as The Stocked Pot by Jean and Chuck Walk.

**Katterhenry's Gift Shop, 502 Fourth Street,
Modern Commercial block, built c 1950; (NC) (Photo #13)**

Katterhenry built this addition in which to move their grocery operation however its longest use was as a specialty gift shop. Built with load-bearing walls on a concrete slab, the façade has wood with wood moldings bulkheads under display windows and a recessed entry sequence and two-thirds glass wood door all of which are original. The transom area is filled in with harbourite panels and wood moldings. A cast iron beam separates the transom from the upper brick façade. Half way to the top a soldier course of brick supplies the only decoration in the running bond painted brick facade. Three attic vents of cast iron are seen above the soldier course and glazed tile coping tops the building. Owned by Jean and Chuck Walk and operated as Colletta's Beauty Shop.

**The Katterhenry-Becker House, 431 Fourth Street
Italianate style, built c. 1886 (C) (Photo #14)**

Built by Louis of the Katterhenry brothers' business enterprises, this is a two-story house of painted brick in Italianate design with a standing metal seam roof and half basement. Exterior, load-bearing walls are triple-wythe cavity type. Originally, a roofed stoop welcomed visitors to

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the multiple-light, beveled glass door on the north façade. In the early 1920s, a one-story, wrap-around porch supported by Ionic columns and having a matching standing metal seam roof was added along the east half of the north façade and most of the east wall. The double-hung, wood-frame one-over-one windows are singles with the exception of the west half of the north façade, which has the windows paired. All are symmetrically placed, all are supported by limestone sills and all have a stamped metal hood with a center arch with rosette and side brackets. From the entry door eastward, the front wall angles out to form an equal-sided bay, which forms polygonal interior rooms. The prevailing brick corbelling appears on the two angled walls. Cast iron attic vents are centered above the paired windows and above the single center window of the bay. While the exterior remains as when built, the interior has undergone extensive changes to convert the first floor into offices and the second floor into living quarters. The front entry has the limestone step engraved with the LOUIS KATTERHENRY name (Photo # 14). Built and occupied by his family and descendants until 1965, when it was purchased by a local industrialist to be his company's corporate headquarters in January 2003, it was purchased to be offices of Edward Jones and a second-floor residence of that company's proprietor, Rick Pflanz.

Real Estate Office, 427 Fourth Street

20th Century Functional, built c. 1940 (C) (Photo #15)

This primary space is symmetrically divided by fluted pilasters into three sections. The center space is the widest flanked by two equal sized spaces, one of which is a window and the other the main entrance. The windows are aluminum framed the center one being divided into two panes and the door is a 3/4 glass in a wood door. The door is topped by a multi-lite transom, the center transom windows covered by a REAL ESTATE sign and the third transom by a window unit air conditioner. Beneath the three panes of glass are three cast iron basement ventilation grills. It is built of buff brick in running bond on load bearing walls atop poured concrete basement walls. Topping the retail space is a frieze topped by a dentil and crown mold. The half columns begin east of the entry door as a single, the door, then paired columns, the windows, paired columns, then a single column completes the sequence. The second floor is simply running bond buff colored brick with three paired casement windows on a rowlock sill. The only adornment above the windows is a soldier course some three feet below the limestone coping. Owner: Phillip Schneider

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“Huntingburg Independent”, 425 Fourth Street

Late Victorian one-part Commercial block, built 1900 (C) (Photo #15)

Built by a pioneering newspaper family, this building is of load bearing masonry walls. While the center entry is recessed, it has a modern full length glass door with a sidelight. The support for the expansive windows is made of modern roman brick with limestone sills. The transom area is covered with vertical aluminum siding. Above the transom, three attic vents are circular cast iron grills framed by rowlock brick. The projecting stamped metal cornice has equally spaced angled brackets with projecting finials at each end. Now used as Antique Alley by Raymond Sibrel and owned by Bill Tungate.

The Huntingburg Press, 423 and Jose Miranda Grocery Store 421 Fourth Street

Late Victorian two-part Commercial block (C) (Photo # 15)

This was built as one building for two separate businesses divided by a recessed entry to upstairs apartments. The cast iron pilasters are right, left and center of the façade supporting the horizontal cast iron beams which support the upper masonry wall. Both storefronts are matched with moldings attached to wood bulkheads beneath the windows. Both have their original recessed entry sequences and expansive display windows. The second story has six two-over-two, double-hung, arched-top, wood frame windows on limestone sills. All are hooded by arched Neo-Classical stamped metal hoods. Attic vents are six equally spaced pairs of punctured metal rosettes. The upper cornice is stamped metal with a frieze showing narrow molded panels, seven scrolled brackets with three smaller brackets between each pair. The end brackets are topped by stamped metal finials. The 423 building is owned by Judy Rohleder and the 421 store owned by George Stern.

The Purple Plum, 417 Fourth Street,

Late-Victorian two-part Commercial block built 1897, (C) (Photo # 16)

As of March 1, 2005 The Purple Plum has moved into this building. This is a two-story, red-brick building built with load bearing walls in running bond with a familiar pilaster and corbelling design. The second story is divided into three parts by four pilasters. The two side sections have single, one-over-one, double-hung, wood sash windows with limestone sills. The center, and widest section, has similar windows paired. All of them have stamped-metal hoods in a familiar pattern. The upper cornice is also stamped metal with an oft-repeated design of equally spaced brackets and larger end brackets with finials. Each section of the facade has cast-iron attic vents above the windows. The first floor maintains its center recessed entry and

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display windows sheltered by a striped awning. In the 60s, the bulkheads beneath the windows were replaced with a faux old brick. It was built by August Salat, a tailor. His advertising is still ghosted on the east wall as shown in the photograph. His son-in-law, George St. Angelo, took over the business as did his son, Gordon. It has changed hands several times in recent years and is now owned by Mary Uebelhor who is in the process of moving her gifts, children's toys and clay studio shop into it.

**The Flower Shop, 415 Fourth Street,
Late-Victorian Commercial two-part block, built 1893 (C) (Photo # 16)**

This is a two-story red brick building with flush front with load bearing masonry walls. The first floor has been modernized by adding modern aluminum frame display windows on faux saw-cut white stone. The recessed entry remains with a full length glass in aluminum framed door with its transom area filled in with aluminum siding. The cast iron columns framing the doorway have been covered with aluminum as has the transom area above the display windows. The second story has three one over one double hung wood frame windows on limestone sills and that are hooded by stamped metal crown mold between stamped metal brackets. A double string course of yellow brick with a row of yellow denticulate brick between divides the portion above the windows to the bottom of the cornice which is a bracketed stamped metal piece without its finials on its end brackets. An addition with a single pane stationary window with wood transom area has been added to the west side to accommodate a stairway leading to an upstairs shop. A cornice height brick dentil was added to blend it to the next building with two more corbelled courses making the transition. Red brick supports the window with a rowlock sill. Originally Joseph C. Schlegel's Harness and Saddlery Shop, Mr. Schlegel's foresight adapted the business to wheeled traffic as he added batteries and tires to his inventory thus naming it Schlegel's Harness & Tire Shop. There are still folks around who remember a gasoline pump in the sidewalk in front of this store. For some twenty years during the 1940s and 1950s Mundy's Bakery sold goodies here and since 1979 it has operated as a floral shop. Owned by Rose Ann Durcholz.

**WTH Engineering, (413) Fourth Street
Late-Victorian Commercial one-part block, built 1919 (NC) (Photo # 16)**

Built of a rock-faced brick in running bond with load bearing masonry walls, this building has a basement with freight access to the lower south level. The stairway has been removed from the front of the store as has the original entry from the sidewalk. A row of five windows crosses the front of the building with wood and wood moldings forming bulkheads under the windows and

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wood with wood moldings filling in the transom area. From the top of the building, there are three courses of brick then a row of bricks placed as dentils, three more courses of brick and an applied wood cornice with band sawn brackets and moldings added atop two rows of corbelled brick. An extension to attach this building to the building to the west was recessed some four feet and fronted by a planter, all of painted brick. This building is non-contributing because of its extensive reconstruction to the storefront and cornice.

WTH Engineering, 411 Fourth Street

Late-Victorian Commercial two-part block, built 1919, (C) (Photo # 16)

Built of red brick in running bond with load bearing walls, cast iron columns define the first floor façade and support a cast iron I-beam header which acts as a lintel for the second floor façade. The horizontal I-beam has four rosettes and the cast iron vertical columns have an interesting decorative pattern. The recessed entry remains with a half glass modern door and wood panels with moldings defining the area below the display windows. Wood panels with wood moldings fill the three transom areas above the windows and door. The second story is of painted brick in running bond with four pilasters dividing the upper wall and forming the three recesses which hold the windows. One over one double hung wood sash windows have stamped metal hoods and the recesses are spanned by the familiar corbelling. A cast iron attic vent is recessed into each of the divisions and is corbelled back two rows of brick. A stamped metal cornice finishes out the top with stylized end brackets and finials. The two buildings are now used for one business and are owned by Rex Jones.

The Downtown Emporium (409) 407 (405)Fourth Street

20th Century Functional, rebuilt 1945, remodeled 1968. (C) (Photo # 17)

Built to replace three buildings which burned, this building has a wide double modern entry-exit sequence with aluminum framing all of the glass. Expansive sections of glass provide display space with half inch tiles covering the lower window supports as well as the vertical side supports which are brick underneath. The transom area is covered in vertical board and batten style paneling. A wide aluminum cap tops the transom. The upper masonry wall has a soldier course defined rectangle on the eastern segment as well as the center segment but this does not appear on the west segment. The two to the east display cast iron attic vents but none in the west portion. Glazed tile coping tops the building.

Schulthise Financial Services, 403 Fourth Street

Late-Victorian Commercial one-part block, built 1906 (C) (Photo #17)

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This building has load bearing masonry walls laid in running bond. The street level has had some modernization such as aluminum-framed full-length glass entry door with display windows having forty-five degree angles on the extreme corners. The door is flush with the front and has sidelights and a glass transom over the three. The building's transom area and bulkheads beneath the windows as well as the sides of the windows are covered with wood panels with wood moldings added. The attic level is divided into three recessed sections by four pilasters all of running bond brick masonry with the prevailing corbelling pattern spanning the pilasters. Attic vents are cast iron and set into corbelled brick designs which are accented by a stylized paint scheme. The upper cornice is a double frieze of stamped metal with end brackets, one of which has a missing finial. Built by a pioneer printing family, the Pickhardt's, the first-known use was as a printing office. It is most remembered as Kemp's Café, a saloon and, more recently, as Disinger-Kruger Jewelry Store. Bill Disinger leases the building to Jim Schulthies Financial Services.

**US Post Office-or- The Telephone Building, 401 Fourth Street
20th Century Functional, built c. 1925 (C) (Photo # 17)**

Built of red and yellow running bond masonry on load bearing walls with limestone appointments, it is very simply styled and functional. There is a two-thirds basement. The north façade has the upper two thirds built of yellow brick with a thirty inch wrap-around above a limestone belt course. The lower one-third of the north side is of red brick as is the rest of the building. The Fourth Street storefront has two modern half glass doors and two modern display windows, all having plastic muntins, with stucco board surrounds and transom area. The second story has three two over two awning type metal framed windows as does the west side of the building. A rectangular detail of matching brick laid in a soldier course is a simple adornment above the windows with a limestone dentil and coping finishing the cornice. Glazed tile is the coping for the remainder of the building. This extant building was built by the Huntingburg Pythias Association then sold to the Southern Indiana Telephone and Telegraph Company. It was the next site of the Huntingburg Post Office when it outgrew 304 Fourth Street. The Post Office occupied the principal portion of the first floor with the telephone company on the south end of the second floor with their business offices in the south part of the first floor. The remainder of the second floor was rented to Western and Southern Insurance agents. The building is now owned by Gasser Enterprises. The sound speaker belongs to the Merchant's Association.

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First National Bank, 327 Fourth Street

Neoclassical Revival, built 1919 (C) (Photo # 18)

Designed by H.E. Boyle & Company, an Evansville, Indiana firm, The First National Bank in conjunction with the Masonic Lodge built the imposing structure at the corner of Fourth and Main Streets. Neo Classical Revival in style, with load bearing masonry walls, it is of running bond of brick and mortar both of a deep burgundy hue with accents of carved limestone. Its fluted Ionic columns with carved volutes, classical Greek shouldered window hoods, window sills, window corner lozenges, and enhanced entablatures are all of native limestone. The east wall's first floor windows are modern three-over-three aluminum-framed shaded glass with upper corner quoins of limestone. The frontispiece wraps around both east and west walls. This wrap-around section has Greek window hoods (first floor) of limestone on the stone block foundation and decorative lozenges in the spandrel area. The second floor windows in the above mentioned sections are one-over-one double hung with transoms, aluminum framed windows on limestone sills. The Ionic columns in antis framing the central doorway rest on limestone plinths which are a part of the wrap-around block foundation. The pediment entry is original stonework with modern glazing of double doors with sidelights. The second floor windows (center section) are the same as the side windows placed in triplicate. (A small limestone addition to the northwest corner is the cornerstone visible above the limestone block base.) The belt course entablature above the second floor has "First National Bank" carved into it. The entablature above the third floor is carved "Masonic Temple." All third floor windows are covered with dark burgundy horizontal aluminum siding. The projecting cornice consists of a dripstone and frieze separated by egg and dart molding over dentils of limestone. The stepped parapet is capped by limestone and accented by limestone lozenges. The west wall previously had a building connected by a party wall but Integra Bank recently added a drive-in banking facility, recessed back from the original façade. It is built of matching brick with second story offices supported by brick covered steel columns. The limestone belt course above the second floor is duplicated as a cornice on the addition. A lower belt course of limestone finishes the bottom also. Greek limestone hoods cap the six stationary glass-with-transom windows in this section. It spans three drive-thru lanes. Owner: Integra Bank.

Reutopohler Hardware Store – Frick Hardware, 231 Fourth Street

Italianate Commercial two-part block, built 1890 (C) (Photo # 19)

Again a very familiar style. Built of red brick in running bond with a painted brick façade, the first floor has aluminum framed full length glass display windows with a recessed entry which has double aluminum-framed doors. The original columns, right, left and center, are covered

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with vertical grooved aluminum siding which also crosses the aluminum paneled transom area where it becomes horizontal from mitered corners. The second floor façade is divided by seven pilasters into six recesses which display six two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash windows which have simple crown mold headers of stamped metal. Attic vents of cast-iron are corbelled into recesses above each window and the familiar corbelling pattern spans the recesses. The upper cornice is of stamped metal and is the triple layer style with medallions on self-formed brackets with three large finials, one at each end and one in the center. Owner: Huntingburg Christian Ministries

**Miller-Poetker Building, 319 and 317 Fourth Street
Italianate Commercial two-part block, built 1890 (N) (Photo # 19)**

This handsome commercial establishment leaves no question about who built it and occupied it first. Definitely built as one building with two storefronts separated by party walls and a stairway to second floor rooms, each storefront has been treated differently. The first floor of 319 has had a modern aluminum framed display area and flush entry with full length glass door, vertical aluminum siding covering the entire transom area and it also hides the effects of a lowered interior ceiling. A stamped metal crown-mold shaped drip cap spans the entire façade between stamped metal brackets horizontally and it separates the two floors. An air-conditioning unit intrudes into the transom area. The doorway to upstairs is a modern flush metal door. The first floor of the 317 storefront is four modern wood frame windows on a wood paneled bulkhead topped with six opaque glass panels in the transom area. Two of these are covered by a plastic lighted sign over the recessed entry at the west edge of the building. The second story is a cast-iron classic of ten Neoclassical pilasters providing a symmetrical placement for nine two-over-two, double-hung windows of which the four of 319 have been replaced with modern one-over-one windows small enough to have both top and bottom filled in with vertical aluminum siding. The center window is original two over two double-hung wood sash except the lower section has been removed to allow for an air-conditioning unit. The four over 317 are original two-over-two double hung wood frame windows. A stamped metal projecting cornice is supported by incised brackets that frame flat outlined panels showing roundelles. The next lower frieze contains the names of the builders F. H. Poetker and J. B. Miller separated by a roundel. A central pedimented parapet crowns the building framed by columns with intact finials and finished with supporting scrollwork and topped by cast iron cresting. The finials at the extreme corners of the building are missing. 319 is owned by Virginia Buerkley and 317 is owned by Chad Hoffman.

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**Parker House Antiques, 307 Fourth Street,
20th Century Commercial one-part block, built circa 1920 (C) (Photo # 20)**

Built of dark red brick in running bond, this very simply styled space was built as a car sales room. Molded wood panels support the three wide multi-paned display windows which have wood muntins. The entry is located near the west side of the building and consists of double Dutch style doors with muntins in diamond shapes. A standing metal seam awning covers the transom area wrapping around the east side of the building over a secondary entry of the same style door as the north one. Above the awning, a corbelled rowlock rectangle defined by an outline of soldier and header brick, slightly raised from the wall surface, spans the building accented by four yellow brick lozenges made of yellow brick. A corbelled soldier course runs the entire width of the building four courses below a corbelled running bond four course belt which is one course below a corbelled cornice topped by a metal cap.

Owned by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Menke, Sr.

**Dr. Michael Warren, D. D. S., Dental Office, 305 Fourth Street
20th Century Functional, built c. 1925 (C) (Photo # 20)**

This building was built between the DeMotte Garage and the Struckman Garage of a medium-tone, buff brick. It has two display windows of four equally divided aluminum framed modern windows on wood bases. The entry is a three-quarter length glass in a wood door framed by wood framed sidelights and a transom over the three. The transom area is covered with large elaborately painted wood panels divided by band-sawn brackets of wood supporting a wood cornice board. The upper section has a rectangle of soldier course brick with limestone lozenge corner accents, and a soldier course at the extreme top with a limestone coping. It is built with load bearing walls with a basement wall fully exposed on the south side.

Owned by Dr. Michael Warren, D. D. S.

**Touch of Class Photography Studio, 301 4th Street
20th Century Functional, built 1919, (C) (Photo #21)**

Built as a Ford Garage and still known by that name, this is a one-story, yellow-brick structure on the southeast corner of Fourth and Geiger Streets. Double string courses span the entire north wall and half of the west wall. The upper one consists of two rows of red brick framing one row of denticulate yellow brick and connected vertically to the lower belt by red brick lines. The upper building edge has red brick corbelled half-lozenges above each vertical connector. A metal cap runs the length and width of the building. Red brick soldier courses accent existing openings and former openings. Small modern windows sit on limestone sills surrounded by yellow brick which fills in the openings of the previous windows framed by red brick. The large red brick framed openings were

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garage doors and also feature the red brick lozenge. The parapet features the lozenges on the lower level with a chevron accenting the upper portion. The only entrance is on the west side beside another small modern window in a space closed in with brick. The west side has three rows of denticulate brick extending from the end of the belt courses to the south end of the building. The red corbelled lozenges dot the sections between the windows which are now either totally filled in with brick or filled in to make the much smaller windows fit.

Owner Carla and Fred Bell.

Old Town Hall and Fire Engine House, 309 Geiger Street

Victorian Italianate, built 1886 (NR) (No Photo – Already Registered)

This building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. Designed by Evansville architect, Henry Mursinna, it is of impeccable style and condition and is in daily use.

The American Legion, 312 Main Street

Art Deco, Built 1950 (C) (Photo #22)

This is a two-story Moderne style building built of yellow brick in running bond with accents of native limestone. The front or east-facing façade consists of a slightly recessed entry around a modern aluminum framed glass entry door and side lights. A limestone belt course divides the two floors and wraps around the south corner to define the entry section. A second story window of glass blocks on a limestone sill and having a limestone lintel above rests on a recessed brick spandrel. A carved limestone roundel is the American Legion emblem in the attic section which has an iron vent showing on the south wall. The north two thirds of the east wall is protruding some six inches and is defined by limestone quoins on both edges and topped by three rows totaling forty eight inches of limestone blocks of which each row contains a word-American-Legion-Post 221. The front and rear sections are capped by limestone. All windows on all other walls are of glass blocks and are a slightly taller version of the one on the front. A section of the rear of the building matches the front section as to height and configuration except that the entry door is on the south wall. Owner: Eighth District American Legion and is on loan to the American Red Cross.

Vogl Tailor Shop, 314 Main Street

20th Century Functional, built 1928 (C) (Photo# 22)

A modernized front consists of modern single pane aluminum frame windows on rowlock sills and a modern full length glass aluminum framed glass door, the front is of running bond red brick inside the original running bond red brick. The stepped parapet remains capped by limestone. Originally a tailor shop and built by brothers, Frank and Alois Vogl, it is a stand

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alone building with one floor of wood over crawl space. The Indiana Telephone Company purchased the property and operated its business office there from 1973 until 1976. Bill and Nancy Stratman purchased the building in 1985 and operate their shoe-repair and leather business there.

Benchmark Engineering, 316 Main Street

Mission Revival, built c. 1932. (C) (Photo # 22)

A tiny, yellow brick building of running bond, this stand-alone structure is trimmed in red brick with a small touch of orange brick as a rowlock frame for an attic vent. The east façade has north and south entry doors of metal with nine lite windows under transoms of which the north one is filled in with wood. Two one-over-one double hung windows with rowlock sills are situated between the doors. A red brick soldier course divides the first floor from the attic section which has a crow-stepped parapet of alternating heights leading up to the center semi-circular parapet. The steps and arch are accented by red rowlock brick as is the attic vent which has a red brick diamond shape accenting it. Built as a dental office with the south half rented for varied purposes, it is today used by one entity, Benchmark Engineering. Owned by Ralph Wallem P. E.

Re: Building description narratives

When a building's number is enclosed in parentheses the indication is that number is not used or recognized by United States Postal Service as a current address.

Re: Buildings with special arrangements

#s308 and (310) : Two individual buildings with one owner and one address. An opening in a common wall allows them to be used as one business.

#314: Underwent a serious fire in October 2005. The façade is intact and funds have been secured to provide the engineering studies and specifications to stabilize and rehab the building.

#s(322) and 324: A contributing (322) building and a noncontributing 324 addition to that building have one owner and contain one business. (326) is a missing number in the sequence however is unused.

#s 330 and (332): This building uses one mailing address.

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#s 422 and (424); These are two separate buildings with one owner and one business. The descriptions are individual.

#s(432)-(434)- 436 This is three buildings, two of which are contributing. Built by one family to house two of their business, the upper façade of the contributing portion is common. Owned by one company and the three are operated as one business.

#s 423-421: Built as one building for two separate businesses, each business has its own address.

#(413) and 411: Two separate buildings joined to incorporate one business and one address.

#s (409)-407-(405): Designate former buildings on these lots. The usable address is 407.

#s 319-317: Built by good friends to house two separate business as they still are, the two have a common upper façade.

Section 8 – Statement of Significance

The Huntingburg Commercial Historic District meets Criteria A and C. Begun as a speculative venture by Col. Jacob Geiger in 1837, Huntingburg became a significant commercial center due to its access to rail transportation. Perhaps no other buildings in the district symbolize the relationship of industrialization and the rail revolution to architecture better than Huntingburg's fine collection of cast-iron building technology. The district includes iron storefronts and entire facades by nationally-known Mesker Company and International Steel, both of nearby Evansville, Indiana. Merchants and institutions used many different architectural types and styles for their buildings through the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Many are illustrated by good examples in the district. The district remained the community's main core for professional and retail goods and services well into the 20th century, and continues to play a significant role today. The period of significance begins in 1871, the date of the earliest known building in the district (436 Fourth St.) and ends in 1956 since the significant commercial role of the district was ongoing.

The Huntingburg Historic Commercial District's significance lies in its relationship to events that were a part of broad historical patterns in the settling of this country and its rich heritage of Victorian architecture. It was settled during the migration to the west through the Northwest

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Territory and is representative of the prevailing styles at the turn of the century. Devoid of effective government, settlers had moved into this land along the Ohio River encouraged by land warrants and sales issued primarily to Revolutionary soldiers. While the Ordinance of 1787 established a territorial government, large tract land sales and the Indian threat kept settlements to a minimum until the turn of the century when these issues were settled. In 1800 the territory was divided. The western portion of it became the Indiana Territory from which Ohio was separated in 1803. Now the process of repeated divisions of the original territory and admission of new states began. In working out an orderly transition to self-government and membership in the Union, the Northwest Territory was a model for future development of western lands. The population mix, as well, made it a pattern for the later patterns of American democracy. The mix of peoples is evidenced in Huntingburg as it has been noted that there was involvement in the Underground Railroad. It was just thirty-seven years after the establishment of the Indiana Territory that our city came into being.

Our country was only sixty-one years old and our state only twenty-one when, having heard of this area's fine pigeon and bear hunting, Colonel Jacob Geiger journeyed here from Louisville, Kentucky. The abundant hills and meadows lived up to their reputation, so in 1837, Col. Geiger purchased 1,920 acres of land from the Federal Government to establish the village he called Huntingburg. He came here in 1840 to live until his death in 1867. It is through Mr. Geiger's generosity of donating land that our first churches, schools, public buildings, and cemeteries were established. He and enterprising members of his family also began many businesses which caused the town to become the area's center of commerce for many years.

Early commerce and industry centered around agriculture and natural resources. In 1841, Geiger erected a steam grist mill which, being the first of its kind in this area, ran constantly day and night putting an end to all horse-powered mills in the county. His son-in-law, John T. Doane was our first merchant having established a general merchandise trade. Mary A. Doane Blemker was our first postmistress at the same time she operated the town's first hotel. Very well kept through the years, the lovely brick home which Col. Geiger built is still privately owned. Found in the attic were relics from the Battle of Tippecanoe which were picked up by Col. Frederick Geiger, our founder's father.

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Many other businesses were pertinent to the town's development in those early years. Buggy and wagon builders were common. An article in the newspaper dated June 21, 1883 reads in part as follows: "Huntingburg, the principal town in Dubois County, Ind., is situated at the junction of the Evansville Branch and the main stem of the L.E.& St. L. Railway. Its population is about 1800 and is composed almost entirely of Germans or people of German descent. Thrifty people here and hereabouts, and too democratic for republican enthusiasts. The tobacco business here would astonish a Louisville leaf dealer. Mr. H. Rothert, a descendent of one of the first settlers, has been in the tobacco business about a quarter of a century. He has two large stemming-houses and works about 60 hands." It was an arson fire in the Rothert Stemmerly that spread in catastrophic proportions to destroy most of the business district in May of 1889. According to that same news article, L. Bretz and Co. and H. Dufendach were also leaf dealers. There were nine prosperous saloons, two large flour mills, a Huntingburg Stave and Lumber Factory, a large pottery and a stone pump 'manufactory'. Three large wagon factories, one of which became the largest in the U.S., five smith shops and stove and tin shops abounded as did the saddle and harness business. Two tanneries operated in town and because of the hardwood forests, furniture manufacturers were plentiful. An ad in the local newspaper noted an interesting business segue just after the turn of the century when a saddle and harness businessman added batteries and tires to his enterprise.

The principal general merchant's names are found involved in a myriad of businesses as well as in the government of the new town and are found over and over in the annals of the churches. Some of those names are Katterhenry, Dufendach, Bretz, Rothert, Blemker, Pickhardt, Katter, Winkenhoefer and Meissner. These good German folk were hard-working. They took advantage of the needs of the time and the resources readily available to them. When you peruse documents in the courthouse looking for historic documentation, you see the afore-mentioned names repeated often. Through their good German work ethic, they prospered and the town grew. Huntingburg served a region well beyond its borders. Even today, it is the closest transaction point for large portions of Pike, Warrick and Spencer Counties as well as southern Dubois County. Its only economic rival in Dubois County was, and is, the county seat of Jasper.

A large deposit of kaolin clay was found which spurred creation of pottery businesses. Some of their products have become highly collectible today. After the major fire in 1889 destroyed most of the wood structures of the central business district, using bricks for building products became popular. Because the clay was available, brickyards sprang up as a business opportunity. At one time, four brick companies couldn't keep up with the demand. Today, the architecture of Huntingburg reflects the use of local brick and craftsmanship. The availability of different

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colors of brick and tonality of the district's buildings shows the art of local brickyards. Common elements of corbelling, pilasters, and beltcourses are seen on many 19th century buildings in the district. Once again these reflect local craftsmanship and unite the district.

The advent of the railroad certainly played a vital role in city development as railroad shops, including a round house, were located here. The first line arrived in 1879, and by the 1880s, both the Louisville, New Albany & St. Louis Railroad and a branch line to Cannelton were servicing merchants and passengers in Huntingburg. Using Huntingburg as a railroad center caused growth that made it the largest city in the county. It remained so until Jasper gradually surpassed Huntingburg in size. In the immediate past (August 2005) research in state records has shown that an Indianapolis company had a plan, which was publicly presented, to build an electric interurban railroad connecting Huntingburg to Evansville, Bloomington and other towns. The beautifully designed depot was so commodious that the train-dispatcher of the entire line and the road-master had their offices here.

As people came, all other services followed. Doctors, lawyers and school teachers, clergy, and librarians all added to the business and cultural aspects of the community. Hotels were also big business definitely bolstered by the railroad. In 1883, the principal hotel was the St. George with the St. Clair, the Miller Hotel and Hargrave House also considered good. The Phoenix Hotel soon followed as did numerous others. There were five churches. Industries aside from railroad repair included coopering, due to the verdant forests, and a brewery which brewed the "finest cream beer sold anywhere."

Just as they were leaders in commerce, they also took much pride in their business houses and built some handsome commercial establishments that have withstood the ravages of time. Some of the less substantial have been replaced but a great preponderance of well preserved Victorian-era structures still enhance Huntingburg's town center. The most repeated architectural style in Huntingburg is Italianate. This was a new style which swept America in the mid 19th Century with both homes and public buildings being built in this style borrowed from Italian villas. The Italianate style quickly became the most common architectural style, helped by the ease of access and the low cost of its decorative elements. This style was used on two and three story commercial buildings with flat roofs and it remained popular into the twentieth century. The ornamentation was first crafted in wood or stone but the decorative touches were soon manufactured in stamped metal to allow for extravagant-looking decorations at inexpensive prices. Italianate style was in vogue for fifty years leaving a distinct mark on Indiana's built environment.

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As noted earlier, the district includes many good examples of Italianate commercial buildings. The buildings at 318-322 Fourth Street show the influence of Italianate architecture in the district, seen in the sheet metal brackets and cornice, hooded windows, and elaborate brick craftsmanship. Buildings in the 400 block of Fourth also feature metal window hoods and bracketed cornices. The buildings at 318-322 also show the influence of another significant trend, the use of pre-fabricated cast iron architectural elements.

During the late 19th century, two companies, locally-owned in Evansville, Mesker Steel and International Steel, manufactured stamped metal and cast iron store front appointments and advertised them as “cheap” storefronts. Both are represented in Huntingburg as they have their company’s names emblazoned on or stamped into plinths of structural elements. Catalogues of Mesker steel are readily available, however, historic information is still forthcoming about International Steel; a former employee of that company beginning to collate material. Both companies are well represented in newspaper advertising and articles of that time. Many buildings in the district have traces or whole intact storefronts of cast iron work. Some, such as 312 Fourth and 317-319 Fourth, were built with entire facades of cast iron display areas with sheet metal wall cladding on the upper floors.

Three other buildings show that by the late 19th and early 20th centuries, institutions here as elsewhere in America sought a more monumental appearance for their buildings. The Huntingburg Bank chose the permanence of Romanesque Revival for their 1897 building at 302-304 Fourth Street. Here the use of local brick allowed the unknown architect to create massive arches and belt courses, as well as impressive towers. The bank building at 416 Fourth, built in 1926, shows a decided move toward classicism. This is the best example of the use of architectural terra cotta in the district, as seen in the Roman Doric columns, relief panels, and other details. Lastly, the First National Bank/Masonic Lodge at 327 Fourth, 1919, also reflects the renewed interest in classicism following trend-setting events like the 1893 Columbian World’s Exposition or the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair. Classicism held symbolic significance for both Masonic groups and banking institutions. Harry Boyle, architect of the First National Bank, had worked for Harris & Shopbell in Evansville before opening his own office there. He designed schools in many Southern Indiana and Kentucky communities. He also worked on the Furniture Exchange Building (1908) and Sunset Park Pavilion (1912), an innovative concrete building, both in Evansville.

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The 1950 American Legion Post, 312 Main, completes the architectural spectrum. Its unknown architect somewhat broke local traditions by selecting the streamlined Moderne style, with ample blank wall surfaces and subtle stone and yellow brick.

Already listed on the National Register, the 'Old Town Hall and Fire Engine House' is an outstanding example of Italianate design and it housed the city government for many years even after the second story was considered unsafe for admittance. An earlier generation would have flattened it for six parking spaces but the Huntingburg Foundation rehabilitated it and it is in daily use by the senior citizens, the Huntingburg Chamber of Commerce, and the Huntingburg Foundation, as well as for numerous social events. This is the one building in Huntingburg already listed on The National Register having achieved that status on May 15, 1975.

Faithful reproductions of the original street light poles and luminaires positioned as double lights (instead of the original single light per pole), light the street and were manufactured by the company that manufactured the originals. A sidewalk project in 1996 replaced the patched, multi-colored and multi-patterned broken and cracked (dangerous to walk on) concrete with concrete pavers in a pattern that imitates the polychromatic masonry predominantly used in construction of the town. Trees provide not only welcome relief from hardscape and humid Indiana summer weather, but replicate the oldest historic photographs of the area.

It is rather unusual to have today a viable central business district in the face of mall construction and mega retailers. Even though Huntingburg has had some rather sparse years, the Chamber of Commerce decided something could be done to remedy that malady in the early seventies by hiring one of the finest historically oriented architects in the country in the person of W. Lockwood Martling, Jr. Our town had hired architects and engineers for specific projects for years but we needed someone who could put the whole scene together and make it look better. Using expertise from the architect, the committee (including a local landscape architect) provided color schemes, design suggestions and signage to help get the ball rolling. Suddenly people were more aware of what had been a gift to us from a former generation. Their buildings were built with a flair that was no longer practical and all we had to do was care for it. Once the first steps had been taken to make a decrepit building look better, the program took root and began to grow. An ambitious group of young investors came to the fore who could see that our town was going to look better and they wanted to be a part of it. New stores were opened to fit into a niche that the malls didn't provide. The majority of buildings have had some improvement and enterprising business folks have filled the stores with their wares and services. Some have had permanent damage done to them but most have had some permanent

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improvement. Today most everyone is aware that there is a concerted program afoot to not only take care of what came to us as a gift, but to improve upon it if possible. Local investment of both talent, and financial resources have preserved an architectural heritage for daily use for those of another era.

Huntingburg, though a small community has a very reliable and growing industrial base, infrastructure to support it and a good educational system. People are now aware of the word ARCHITECTURE and are certainly aware of the economics of amenity.

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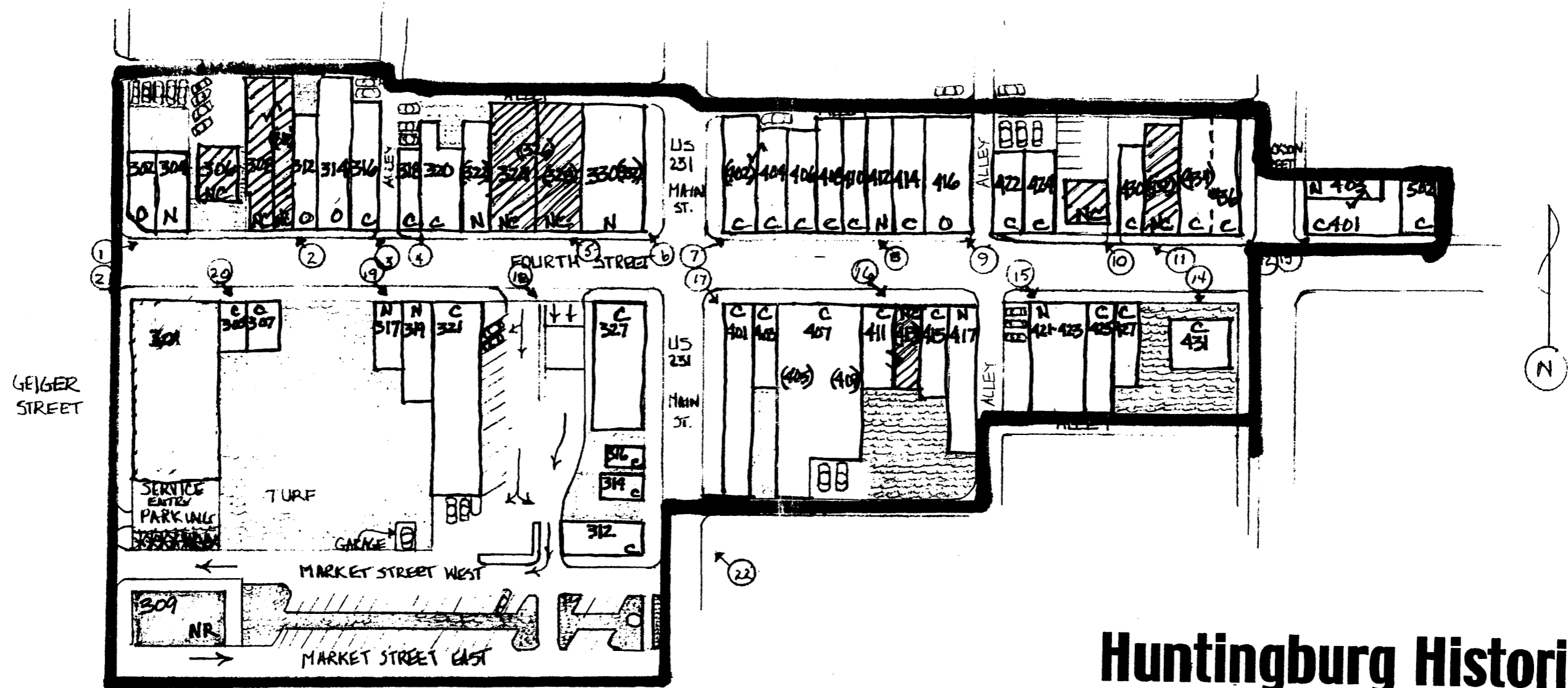
Verbal Boundary Description

Located 5.7 miles north of the intersection of highways U. S. 231 and Interstate 64, Huntingburg's Main Street is U. S. 231 and the primary Central Business District crosses it at Fourth Street. Just two blocks north at Sixth Street, Indiana Highway 64 crosses the town east to west.

Beginning at the northeast corner of Fourth and Geiger Streets, proceed north along the east side of Geiger Street to the south side of the alley running north of Fourth Street. Proceed east down the alley along the north property lines of 302, 304, 306, 308, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 324, 330, Fourth Street. Cross Main Street (US 231) and continue east down the alley along the north property lines of 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 424, 428, 430, and 436 Fourth Street. Turn south on Jackson Street and follow the west curb for 52 feet, cross Jackson Street and proceed east along the north property lines of 403 Jackson Street and 502 Fourth Street. Turn south and follow the east property line of 502 Fourth Street for 55 feet to the north side of Fourth Street. Proceed west along Fourth Street, cross Jackson Street and continue to the northwest corner of the intersection of Jackson and Fourth Streets. Turn south and cross Fourth Street then follow the west curb line of Jackson Street to the north side of the alley south of Fourth Street. Turn west and follow south property lines of 431, 427, 425, 423, 421, 417, 415, 411, 407, 403, and 401 Fourth Street, jogging south to follow the course of the alley. Cross Main street (US 231) and turn south along the west curb line of Main Street (US 231) to the south curb line of Market Street East. Turn west and continue along Market Street East to Geiger Street. Proceed north along the east side of Geiger Street and cross Fourth Street to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification

This is the commercial core of downtown Huntingburg. The boundary includes as many contiguous contributing buildings as possible, without including non-contributing elements or open lots now used for parking. Surrounding areas are residential in character.



- KEY**
- PARKING
 - NON-CONTRIBUTING
 - TURF-GREEN SPACE
 - NATIONAL REGISTER NR
 - CONTRIBUTING
 - EXIST BUILDING NO LONGER USED ADDRESS

Huntingburg Historic Commercial District

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1/1/02