. ADDRESS	900 Main S				E. TWP/CITY Pigeon		D NAME			
RATING Outstanding	g CSignificant/No	table Contributing	/Reference 🗆 Non-	-Contributir	utm references 16	1 (4(5)0(2)9)01 (4	12[0,2[9,6]0]			
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MOUNT CONT	ACT PRINTS HE	RE								
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COMMON NAME	See below.		4. PROPERTY	''S MAILI	NG ADDRESS	5. LOCATION N				
OWNERSHIP		· ·	Kenneth 6		Henke, et al		Seminary Tract, part lot 18 and Lilleston & Lockhart's Sub, part lot			
VISIBLE *	Yes	No	Evansyil				ode: 21-6-19			
USE PRESEN	T PAST		PRESENT	PAST	7. ENDANGERED	8. CATEGORY	9a. LOCAL LEGAL P	PROTECTIONS		
esidence		Military			Vacant	District	Historic Dist	trict		
ovt./Pol. 🖺		Entertainment Scientific			Neglected Encroachment	Building(s) Structure	Landmark	ction		
ndustrial 🗆		Religious			Other	Site	Other			
griculture 🖂		Park				Object				
ransportation 🔲		Museum Educational			9b. SURVEYS					
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D. CONDITION	11. BUILDING	INTEGRITY	11a. Specify	Alteration	ns	17.	SITE PLAN			
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	Altered Moved		Structural			SVCAA	NORE ST			
Deteriorated	Date		Replacement	-			75.37			
Ruins			Additions _S	everal	vehicle bays (?)					
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2. DATE 1930 13. 5. DESCRIPTION		1ow.					MAIN ST			
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n numerous Douglas L Stern

22 DATE 07 February 1983 (Amended)

STATE OF INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES INDIANA HISTORIC SITES AND STRUCTURES INVENTORY

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Douglas L Stern

G. PREPARED BY

(Amended)

07 February 1983

H. DATE

19: Additional Architectural Information form (continued)

Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. Service Store Page 2

of Evansville.

As an architectural expression, the Firestone Service Store symbolized the marriage of product and building. The automotive imagery in the building was underscored by the zig-zag ahistorical ornament. The newspaper account put it this way on April 5th 1930: "Owners and architects have demonstrated that attractiveness may be combined with utility in the automotive sales and service station of the progressive order." Long gone were the days of the cramped and darkened mechanic's shop: The showroom was notable for its "cheersome character," the "illumination plan clothes the building in colorful brilliance at night" and "powerful 300-candle floodlights provide an exterior illumination which rivals daylight." The local designers, (Frank) Fowler and (H. Gilbert) Karges, clearly showed their exposure to the Modern Movement from their years with Clifford Shopbell & Company, the Evansville firm which became noted in the early-20th Century for work in the Prairie and Chicago Schools.

Along with gas stations and motels, this building is one of a rapidly vanishing breed of early structures designed to service the needs of the automobile and its users. Since these structures are only now coming of sufficient age to qualify for the Register, it is not surprising that they have heretofore gone unrecognized for their important role in the early days of the auto. The Firestone Tire Store has the added significance of being one of the city's most detailed and least altered examples of the Art Deco style.