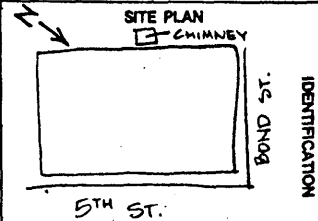


A. NAME CHAS. LEICH
D. ADDRESS 420 N. W. Fifth Street
G. SITE STRUCTURE X
H. NHL NR
I. UTM Reference 16 449610 4203120
B. COUNTY Vanderburgh
E. TOWN/CITY Evansville
C. NUMBER 82-196-0246
F. QUAD SHEET Evansville South

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

1. HISTORIC NAME CHAS. LEICH & CO.
 2. OWNERSHIP: PUBLIC PRIVATE
 NAME Charles Leich & Co.
 ADDRESS _____
 3. LOCATION NOTES Stockwell's Enlg. Bldg. Lots
1-4, 30-33 29-31-1
 4. VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY: YES NO
 5. USE PRESENT PAST
 Residential (sing.)
 Residential (mult.)
 Commerce
 Industrial
 Agriculture
 Transportation
 Organization
 Military
 Political
 Unknown
 Vacant
 Other
 6. CATEGORY DISTRICT _____
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE _____
 SITE _____
 OBJECT _____
 7. ACCESSIBLE YES/RESTRICTED
 YES/UNRESTRICTED _____
 NO _____
 8. ENDANGERED NO
 YES/BY WHAT _____
 9. DATE _____
 10. ARCHITECT/BUILDER _____
 11. PERIODS: PREHISTORIC _____ 17TH/18TH CEN. _____ 1800-1899 1861-1899 _____ 1900-PRESENT _____
 12. AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE
 Archeology-Prehistoric _____ Conservation _____ Law _____ Sculpture _____
 Archeology-Historic _____ Economics _____ Literature _____ Social/Humanitarian _____
 Agriculture _____ Education _____ Military _____ Theater _____
 Architecture _____ Engineering _____ Music _____ Transportation _____
 Art _____ Exploration/Settlement _____ Philosophy _____ Other (Specify) _____
 Commerce _____ Industry _____ Politics/Government _____
 Communications _____ Invention _____ Religion _____
 Community Planning _____ Landscape Architecture _____ Science _____
 13. STYLE Federal _____
 Greek Revival _____
 Gothic Revival _____
 Italianate _____
 Second Empire _____
 Stick Style/Eastlake _____
 Queen Anne _____
 Romanesque Revival _____
 Colonial Revival _____
 Neo-Classical _____
 Bungalow _____
 Vernacular _____
 Other (Specify) N/A
 14. CONDITION EXCELLENT _____
 GOOD _____
 FAIR _____
 DETERIORATED _____
 RUINS _____
 UNEXPOSED _____
 15. ALTERATIONS UNALTERED _____
 MINOR _____
 MAJOR _____
 16. SITE INTEGRITY ORIGINAL SITE _____
 MOVED DATE _____
 17. OUTBUILDINGS/SECONDARY STRUCTURES NO _____
 YES _____
 18. IN ESTABLISHED HISTORIC DISTRICT NO _____
 YES/NAME _____
 19. DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENT (NATURAL AND MAN-MADE) INDUSTRIAL BLDG. NEAR
DOWNTOWN. WHOLESALERS TO DRUG STORES.
 20. INFORMATION SOURCES TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR
 21. PREPARED BY NANCY J. LONG 22. DATE 8/18/77



IDENTIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION/DATE

SIGNIFICANCE

DESCRIPTION

Architectural Information

1. B RECTANGLE
2. F 4 STORIES
3. M 14 BAYS
4. C-B COMMON BOND
5. D
6. C NONE
7. F NO PORCH
8. A UNKNOWN
9. J FLAT
10. C 5-STORY STACK, CORBELLED. NOT VISIBLY CONNECTED TO BLDG.
11. B BRICK
12. J NO DORMERS
13. P FLAT
14. H UNKNOWN
15. R NONE
16. I NONE
17. C-4 NONE
18. B-1 SEGMENTAL ARCH
19. E-1 RADIATING, 3 HEADER COURSES
20. A PLAIN
21. C BRICK
22. A STONE SILLS; 2 COURSES BRICK PROJECT ALONG SILL LINE
23. B DOUBLEHUNG
24. A-0/B-12
25. A SAME (SOME 1ST STORY 1/1 OR 0/BLIND PANEL)
26. B-2 RIGHT ENTRANCE
27. B-1 ARCHED
28. E-1 3 HEADER COURSES
29. A PLAIN SIDES
30. C BRICK
31. A-2 PLAIN W/ REVEAL *Leich*
32. ALTERED Prior to being acquired by the company (1913), this building was the Evansville Woolen Mill Co.
33. Its erection date is not known.
- 34.
35. C UNKNOWN



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

Additional Architectural Information

A. NAME Charles Leich & Co. C. NUMBER 82-196-0246
B. ADDRESS 420 NW Fifth Street
D. UTM References 16 449610 4203120

E. The Charles Leich & Company is the only preserved component of what was originally the Evansville Woolen Mill factory complex. The site itself was first a locus for the Evansville textile industry when John W. Gruen made the shift from "cottage" weaver to textile manufacturer in 1865 and began producing an extensive ~~line of~~ loom products including "jeans, satinnet, linsy, stocking yarn, blankets, flannel cloth, and etc." By 1873, the Gruen concern was merged with the Evansville Woolen Mill, an enterprise dating from 1870 which continued in operation at this location until the early 20th Century.

One section of the present Leich building is believed to have been constructed by the woolen mill proprietors in 1898, followed in the early 20th Century by a larger expansion addition. A depressed cotton market in the spring of 1911 precipitated the closing of many of the country's mills, and this national circumstance may also have had an adverse effect on the woolen mill's performance, for in July of the same year, the company went bankrupt and ceased operations.

The Leich company, forced to relocate after a fire destroyed their downtown pharmaceutical warerooms, purchased the old mill building in 1914 and engaged local architect Harry E. Boyle to remodel it to accommodate their wholesale operations. Essentially, the project entailed only interior alterations; the exterior of the building was little changed. During the Leich occupancy, the basic plan of the old mill structure has been kept intact. The preservation of the building and its association with an Evansville industry which historically made a substantial contribution to the city's economy advance the significance of the old mill block. Also, importance is derived from the fact that the building has served as base of operations for the Charles Leich & Company for sixty-eight years. The company, founded in 1856, is one of Indiana's oldest, and still active, wholesale drug concerns.

F. INFORMATION SOURCES City/Business Directories;
Building Permit Records; 1880 Atlas of Evansville and Vanderburgh
County; Evansville Journal, 8 April 1911 and 5 July 1914.

G. PREPARED BY Joan C. Marchand H. DATE 19 January 1982