

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property

\_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 97001179

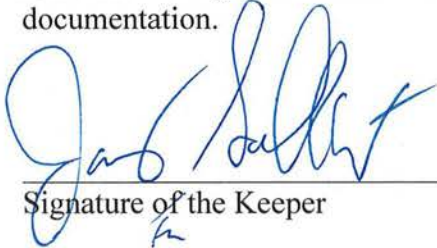
Date Listed: 9/26/1997

Property Name: Washington Street – Monument Circle Historic District

County: Marion

State: IN

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
Signature of the Keeper

12-18-2018  
Date of Action

#### Section 7: Inventory

The property identified in the inventory on page 39 as 156-160 E Market Street, the Inland Building, is identified as NC in the inventory and as C on the accompanying map. The images provided in the original nomination indicate that the building, despite replacement of the windows, was contributing at the time of nomination. It remains contributing today. The inventory should read:

156-160      C      Inland Building

Tax Credit #39631

\_\_\_\_\_  
The Indiana State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

#### DISTRIBUTION:

**National Register property file**

**Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

**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 Washington Street - Monument Circle Historic District  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number Roughly, the area contained between Washington, Delaware, Wabash, N/A  not for publication  
and Capitol Streets  
city or town Indianapolis N/A  vicinity  
state Indiana code IN county Marion code 097 zip code 46204

**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] 8/7/97  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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] 9/26/97  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action  
Edson W. Beall

Name of Property

County and State

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)

Table with 3 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing, and Resource Type (buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total). Values: 40, 27, 0, 2, 0, 0, 42, 27.

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

18

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- COMMERCE/TRADE: Business, Financial Institution, Department Store, SOCIAL: Clubhouse, RELIGION: Religious Facility, DOMESTIC: Hotel, RECREATION/CULTURE: Theater

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

- COMMERCE/TRADE: Business, Department Store, SOCIAL: Clubhouse, RELIGION: Religious Facility, RECREATION/CULTURE: Theater

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

- MID-19th c.: Greek Revival, LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate, 19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Commercial Style, MODERN: Art Deco

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation: STONE; BRICK; CONCRETE, walls: BRICK; TERRA COTTA, STONE: Limestone, roof: ASPHALT, other:

Narrative Description

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

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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DESCRIPTION

The Washington Street-Monument Circle Historic District is situated in the heart of the City of Indianapolis along the first two blocks of East and West Washington Streets, and Market Street, the 100 block of East Ohio Street (southside), Monument Circle, the first block of North and South Meridian Street, the first two blocks of North Pennsylvania and Delaware (westside) Streets and the first block of North Capitol (eastside) Avenue and Illinois Street. **(Photos #1-17 & 27)** With the exception of Christ Church Cathedral, the Indiana State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument and the Columbia Club, all of the buildings are commercial in nature with the function of retail, office buildings, parking garages, apartments and theaters. A good number of the office building were designed to house banks on the lower levels.

The district is located in the center of the original Mile Square plat dating from the founding of the city. The plat was composed of a mile-square grid with a circular street centered in the gridded plat with four diagonal streets radiating outward one block from the circle street.

The aesthetic importance of Monument Circle was recognized and enhanced in 1978 when the City of Indianapolis embarked on a public improvement campaign to visually unify the circular street and its intersecting streets, which were enhanced with brick streets and sidewalks, and compatible street furniture. These elements and the elimination of bus traffic respected the visual and historical value of the area, making it more attractive to pedestrians and civic gatherings.

The district retains its urban high density with few parking lots and vacant lots punching holes in the urban fabric. Cleared lots functioning as surface parking lots are found in the 100 block of East Washington, the first block of North Delaware and the 100 block of East Market Street. These lots were cleared in the 1960s and 1970s. A large vacant lot in the first block of North Pennsylvania Street was cleared of two nineteenth-century buildings in 1995. Vacant land exists at the northeast corner of Illinois and West Washington Streets through to the southwest quadrant of Monument Circle. These lots as well as the standing facade *sans* building of the Journal Building await redevelopment as a part of the Circle Centre Mall located in the southside of the south side of the first block of West Washington Street. The Griffith Block facade (structure) and the L.S. Ayres & Co. Building are integrated into Circle Centre as is the glass domed Arts Garden above West Washington Street at Illinois Street. There are twenty-six non-contributing, non-historic buildings in part of the district; of note are the Embassy Suites Hotel at Washington and Illinois Streets and the 120 Monument Circle Building at that address. Both were built during the building boom of the 1980s.



WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

The district contains a mixture of high-rise buildings such as Merchants National Bank at seventeen stories. Hotel Washington at seventeen stories, Odd Fellows Building at fourteen stories, National City Bank Building at sixteen stories, Consolidated Building at fifteen stories, the Indianapolis News Building at ten stories, the Inland Building at thirteen stories and the Circle Tower at fourteen stories. There are a number of low-rise buildings such as the two one-story commercial buildings at 144 and 148 North Delaware Street and the collection of two-story buildings on North Delaware between Market and Wabash Streets. **(Photos #17 & 18)**

Most of the historic resources in the district are stylishly detailed in terra cotta, limestone or decorative brick work. The William H. Block Company Building, Kahn Tailoring Building, Circle and Indiana Theaters, Fidelity Trust Building, Selig Building, Taylor Carpet Co. Building, A.B. Meyers & Co. Building, Frederick M. Herron Building, Marott's Shoes Building, and the Indianapolis News Building are fine examples of terra cotta facades. Terra cotta was a popular facade material for commercial buildings built between 1910 and 1930. **(Photos # 28, 23, 19, 15 & 20)** Some buildings use terra cotta as an accent such as the Gay Lord Building, the Indiana Dental College Building, Lombard Building, Consolidated Buildings, Stevens-Coffman Building and the L.S. Ayres & Co. Building. The Sentinel Printing Building and the Stevens-Coffman Building are brick buildings with brickwork corble tables. Indiana limestone is extensively used in the district buildings such as the Griffith Block facade and especially on buildings facing Monument Circle. All the historic buildings there, including the Monument are faced with limestone with sculpted details. The finest limestone detailing is found on the Monument, which has three dimensional sculpture as well as sculpted bands and tablets. **(Photo # 30)**

There is a wide variety of styles exhibited in the district, expressing the time periods in which they were designed and the tastes of the designers and owners. Some styles exhibited are Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Romanesque Revival, Italianate, Italian Renaissance Revival, Art Deco, Art Moderne, Chicago Commercial Style, Late Gothic Revival, Tudor Revival, and Spanish Baroque Revival. Although most of the historic resources are commercial office and retail buildings, the district contains three theater buildings, one church, one monument structure, a clubhouse, a parking garage and two apartment buildings.

The Washington Street-Monument Circle Historic District contains eighteen historic resources previously listed in the National Register of Historic Places. All are individually listed, but Delaware Flats is a part of the Apartments and Flats of Downtown Indianapolis Thematic District.

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Christ Church Cathedral	125 Monument Circle
Circle Theatre	45 Monument Circle
Columbia Club	121 Monument Circle
Delaware Flats	120-128 North Delaware Street
Elliott's Block	14-22 West Maryland Street
Fidelity Trust Building	148 East Market Street
Hotel Washington	32 East Washington Street
Indiana Theatre	134 West Washington Street
Indianapolis News Building	30 West Washington Street
Lombard Building	22-28 East Washington Street
Marrott's Shoes Building	18-20 East Washington Street
Merchants National Bank	11 South Meridian Street
Merchants National Bank Annex	7 East Washington Street
Rink's Womens Apparel Store	29 North Illinois Street
Selig's Dry Goods Co. Building	20 West Washington Street
State Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument	Monument Circle
Taylor Carpet Co. Building	26 West Washington Street
Test Building	54 Monument Circle

The following paragraphs describe individual buildings distributed throughout the district.

**Indiana Theatre**

134 West Washington Street

Constructed 1927; Rubush and Hunter, architects; Remodeled 1979-1980

Exterior terra cotta sculpture by Alexander Sangernebo. (**Photo # 19**)

The theater is a six-story, concrete-framed structure with its main facade clad by high-relief, glazed, white terra cotta. The main facade is divided into three structural relatively plain outer bays flanking the effusively decorated central bay. The high-relief ornamentation in the central bay exhibits Spanish Baroque Revival architecture popularized by the Panama-California Exposition of 1916. The theater was one of the most lavish movie palaces in the city and state, built at the height of cinema design during the booming days of the 1920s, before the Great Depression. The theater interior was radically remodeled in 1979-80 for use as a stage theater. The lavish auditorium, designed to seat 3,200, was lost, leaving the lobby and the ornate Indiana Roof Ballroom as reminders of the theater's splendor.

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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**Indianapolis News Building** (Goodman Jewelers Building)

30 West Washington Street

Constructed 1909-10; Jarvis Hunt of Chicago, architect

**Photo #20**

The Indianapolis News, the city's principal evening daily since the late 1800s, erected this ten-story edifice for its editorial and business offices in 1909-10 and remained there until the News merged with the morning Star in 1948.

The News Building, with its Neo-Gothic terra cotta facade, makes one of the finer architectural statements along Washington Street. The facade of this ten-story building is faced with white vitrified marbled terra cotta and is divided into three bays. The first two floors of the entry were remodeled in the Art Moderne style and it became the home of Goodman Jewelers as it has been for nearly fifty years.

**L.S. Ayres & Co. Department Store**

1 West Washington Street

Original section built 1905; Vonnegut and Bohn, architects

Additions built 1914 and 1928-29; Vonnegut, Bohn and Mueller of Indianapolis, architects

Final addition built 1946; Skidmore, Owings and Merrill of Chicago, architects **Photo #21**

The original 1905 L.S. Ayres and Co. building was the first modern department store edifice (eight stories) built in the city. For over eighty years, the Ayres department store at Meridian and Washington had been one of the leading retail dry goods operations in Indiana. Ayres vacated its historic building in 1992.

The handsome brick walls, glazed windows, and cornice with "A" shields have remained unchanged since the store's construction. Outside, the bronze clock at the corner has become a landmark itself, designed for Ayres in 1936 by Vonnegut, Bohn & Mueller.

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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**Merchants National Bank Building**

11 South Meridian Street

Constructed 1907-12; D.H. Burnham and Co. of Chicago, architects

**Photo # 22**

The Merchants Bank Building is one of the architectural landmarks of Indianapolis and the state of Indiana. It is the city's prime example of a turn-of-the-century skyscraper and was the tallest building in Indianapolis from 1912 to 1962. Moreover, it is the only surviving commission of a member of the Chicago School of Architecture in the city. The architect, Daniel H. Burnham of Chicago, was one of the leading architects and city planners in the country at the turn of the century. The building is designed in the "tripartite" form of many skyscrapers of the period: Limestone-faced and sculpted three story base, stream-lined red-brick shaft of twelve stories, and top story and cornice adorned with stone and terra cotta sculptural motifs. Historically, the Merchants Bank Building claims its distinction as the headquarters from 1908 to 1977 of one of the three leading banks in the state, Merchants National Bank. The grand, two-story banking lobby on the ground floor is one of the last of its kind remaining intact in the region.

**Kahn Tailoring Co. Building (King Cole Building)**

7 North Meridian Street

Constructed 1915; Vonnegut, Bohn & Mueller, architects

**Photo # 23**

The Kahn Tailoring Co. was one of the largest tailoring firms in the city and state during the first half of the twentieth century. In 1915 Henry Kahn erected this imposing headquarters building for the firm at Meridian and Washington. Since 1929, one of the city's most posh restaurants had operated in the basement, first as the "Seville" and later the "King Cole." The Kahn Building is one of the most outstanding terra cotta-faced edifices along Washington Street. The character of the Kahn Building is established by the lavish, pre-cast, terra cotta sculptural details which completely cover its west (Meridian Street) and south (Washington Street) elevations. The architects, Vonnegut, Bohn and Mueller, also exploited the aesthetic qualities of terra cotta in the Selig and Block stores.

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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**Hotel Washington**

32 East Washington Street

Constructed 1912; R.P. Daggett and Co., architects

**Photo # 24**

Built as a first-class hotel, Hotel Washington competed for the patronage of visitors with such luxury hostelrys as the Claypool, Hotel Lincoln, and Hotel Severin. The seventeen-story hotel was built of steel and masonry, fire-proof construction. The main facade is three bays wide and uses the classical column formula. The "base" is three stories in height faced with limestone. The repeating ten stories of the "column shaft" have limestone window sills and contiguous lintels. The fourteenth floor windows are framed with limestone and a cornice separates it from the three top floors forming the "capital" topped with a cornice and round arched windows.

**Hannaman and Duzan Building**

40 East Washington Street

Constructed c. 1852; architect/builder unknown

**Photo # 25**

This modest five-story brick building possesses a considerable amount of historical significance for the city of Indianapolis. It is the oldest commercial building in the city and it is one of only a few surviving pre-Civil War buildings in the Mile Square. It is a rare example of the Greek Revival style adapted to commercial architecture. It was built to house the drug store of one of the city's early druggists, William Hannaman. During the 1860s, the leading wholesale and retail druggist firm of Stewart and Morgan took over Hannaman's business. The simple, Greek Revival lintels are still visible in the upper stories. The Hannaman and Duzan Building also exhibits the slanted roof construction which was used for most pre-Civil War commercial buildings along Washington Street. Other local examples of this roof construction are virtually non-existent. This building is depicted in the 1854 Birdseye View of Indianapolis. Despite the building's distinction, it has been unsympathetically treated. The cornice has been removed, the storefront has been remodeled innumerable times and the second and third floors are completely covered. The fourth and fifth story windows are boarded up.



WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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**Odd Fellows Building (First Federal Building)**

1 North Pennsylvania Street

Constructed 1907-08; Rubush and Hunter, architects

**Photo # 26**

The former I.O.O.F. Building rises nearly fifteen stories on its corner. Constructed of a steel frame skeleton, the edifice was originally faced totally in Bedford oolitic limestone. Like other skyscrapers of the period, the I.O.O.F. Building employed a tripartite design, composed of a "base" (the first two stories); a "shaft" of ten office stories; and a "capital" composed of the top three stories. In the original design, large rounded windows enframed by Italian Renaissance arches lighted the ornate 1,300 seat auditorium and offices of the Grand Lodge of the Indiana I.O.O.F. The space between the pilasters now houses the mechanical systems of the First Federal Building. In the shaft section along the twelfth story, four lion heads and six heads of a woman appear superimposed on uninscribed stone tablets. Below, decorative spandrels link the plain piers of the shaft. The 1961-64 remodeling of the building removed the 1908 facade of the first three stories and replaced it with the polished granite of the present. A succession of banks has occupied the lower levels.

**Hotel Harrison (Harrison Building)**

143 West Market Street

Built 1927-28; William Earl Russ, architect

**Photo # 27**

The nine-story office building standing at the corner of Market and Capitol Avenue served as a major downtown hotel for over forty years. Built by the Benjamin Harrison Hotel Corporation, a local company, Hotel Harrison was erected close to both the Statehouse, with its promise of legislative and lobbyist clientele, and U.S. Highway 40 (Washington Street), a traditional source of travelers for hotels. For most of its history as a hotel, the Harrison was owned by Glenn F. Warren, a successful hotel operator who also owned Hotel Warren at 117 South Illinois Street. In 1971 new owners purchased the hotel and announced plans to convert it into an office building. The nearly total rehabilitation removed the interior character of the hotel and effaced some of the original elements of the facade's design.

The architect, William Earl Russ (1880-1950), was a gifted Indianapolis architect who was known for his affinity for designing in a variety of Revivalist styles. In the 1930s he formed a partnership with architect Merritt Harrison (Russ and Harrison) and helped design such Modernist commissions as Lockefield Gardens Apartments (1936-37) and the State Fairgrounds Coliseum (1939).

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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**The William H. Block Co. Department Store Building**

50 North Illinois Street

East Wing built 1911; Vonnegut and Bohn, architects

West addition built 1934-36; Vonnegut, Bohn and Mueller, architects

**Photo # 28**

Founded by Austro-Hungarian immigrant William H. Block in 1896, the William H. Block Co. speedily grew from a small store on East Washington Street to assured status as one of the city's and state's "Big Three" department stores, along with L.S. Ayres and Co. and H.P. Wasson and Co. The three department store edifices arose at the center of the Indianapolis retail district, dwarfing the smaller stores around them. The Block's store building was designed and built in two sections by the local architectural firm which pioneered in department store design in the city, Vonnegut and Bohn. The original 1911 store on the corner features a Renaissance-inspired overall design, with classical cornice and rusticated first and second stories. The entire 1911 exterior was faced in a gleaming white terra cotta.

In 1934-36, during the worst of the Depression, the Block Company re-hired the same firm, which was now Vonnegut, Bohn and Mueller, to design an addition to substantially augment the store's capacity. The addition emerged as a striking Art Deco creation. The architects complemented the 1911 section by using white terra cotta to match the original and by applying black granite across the entire street-level facade. The addition complements the original, but contrasts in subtle ways, resulting in this final design.

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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**Rink's Women's Apparel Store Building**

29 North Illinois Street

Constructed 1910; Adolf Scherrer, architect

**Photo # 29**

This six-story building was constructed for the Rink's Women's Apparel store in 1910. Founded by Joseph A. Rink in 1886, the Rink Store was "one of the first exclusive women's cloak houses in the nation," according to its management's claims. Originally located across Illinois Street, the firm erected the present, six-story edifice to provide expanded space for its rapidly growing women's apparel clientele. Rink's departments included millinery, furs, evening gowns, children's and a beauty salon with each department on its own floor. By the 1930s, Rink's Women's Apparel Store was attracting fashion-conscious ladies from all over the region. Nonetheless, because of unexpected financial difficulties, Rink's closed its doors in 1939, after 53 years as one of the major women's stores of the city. It served as the home of G.C. Murphy, a "five and dime" store for about forty years and has been vacant for over ten years.

Architect Scherrer used Classical elements such as pilasters and projecting cornice for the facade design. The window treatment of one double-hung sash window and one single-pane window to each bay suggests the influence of the Chicago School of Architecture. The luster light transoms above the second story windows have become increasingly rare in recent years. The Rink Building reflects a unique combination of architectural influences not seen elsewhere in the Mile Square.

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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**Indiana State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument**

Monument Circle

Constructed 1888-1901; Bruno Schmitz of Berlin, Germany, architect  
Statuary by Rudolf Schwarz of Vienna, Austria; George W. Brewster of Cleveland; Nicolaus Geiger of Germany, and John H. Mahoney, Indianapolis **Photo # 30**

The Monument fills the Circle Park that was intended to be the site of the Governor's Mansion. Its basic design consists of a terrace, a pedestal, a column base, a shaft, a capital, statuary and fountain pools. The monument rises from the very center of the Circle and is encircled by four bronze statues on the perimeter, illuminated by eight bronze candelabra. Bronze and limestone statuary, bas relief and inscriptions make the composition very lively. The bronze statue of Victory crowns the shaft and is the material for the three sculptured astragals on the shaft. Dramatic limestone figures depicting war and peace and the common soldier and sailor enliven the terrace level. Though it began as a monument to the Civil War veterans of Indiana, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument has assumed a far greater identification as the centerpiece of Indianapolis and as the single most memorable feature of its downtown; the very symbol of the city.

**Christ Church Cathedral**

125 Monument Circle

Constructed 1857-61; William Tinsley, architect

**Photo # 31**

Christ Church is the oldest church building surviving in Indianapolis, the oldest Episcopal congregation (founded 1837) in the city, and the oldest edifice fronting Monument Circle. It alone remains of the five churches of the major Protestant denominations which were found on the Governor's Circle during the Civil War period.

Architecturally, Christ Church is considered a fine example of an "Early English Gothic" church. The architect, William Tinsley, was a masterful designer in the ante-bellum Gothic Revival Style. Of the considerable number of institutional and ecclesiastical buildings which Tinsley designed in Indiana, it is believed that only Christ Church survives. It employs both rubble and cut limestone and is covered by a slate roof. The distinctive spire is topped by a Chi-Rho monogram. The church was remodeled in 1900 with Tiffany-attributed windows and the addition of the attached parish house and wooden porch.

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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**Guaranty Building**

20 North Meridian Street

Constructed 1922-23; Rubush and Hunter, architects

Stone and plaster sculpture by Alexander Sangernebo of Indianapolis

**Photo # 32**

This nine-story speculative office building of the 1920s was built on a fireproof steel and poured concrete frame with a limestone "skin". The twentieth century Renaissance Revival building was erected by Indianapolis financier Albert E. Metzger at the beginning of a downtown office building boom during the decade following World War I. Metzger and the real estate firm of Klein and Kuhn built three edifices fronting Monument Circle during the 1920s: The Guaranty Building of 1923; the Continental Bank Building of 1926 (remodeled into present Electric Building in 1960s); and Circle Tower of 1929-30 (see below).

Along with its sister the Test Building at the other end of the southwest quadrant, the Guaranty Building is uniquely designed to front Monument Circle. Its limited height, curved Circle elevation, and Renaissance limestone facade harmonize well with other buildings of the period and establish a suitable architectural setting for the Monument. The heraldic sculpture on the exterior facade and the interior's Renaissance style plaster ornamentation are the work of noted Indianapolis sculptor Alexander Sangernebo. The retail shops on the first floor open into the building's lobby as well as onto the street. An interior shopping arcade is thus provided, unusual for Indianapolis office buildings of the period. The Guaranty was the first Circle building erected after the height restriction ordinance of 1922 allowed buildings on the Circle to rise to 108 feet.



WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

**Circle Tower**

5 East Market Street

Constructed 1929-30; Rubush and Hunter, architects

Bronze grill sculpture by Joseph Willenborg, sculptor

**Photo # 33**

Circle Tower is of great architectural interest. The ziggurat-like upper stories receding from the outer facades in terraces are punctuated by stylized Art Deco sculptures. The set-back was the culmination of height limitation debate of 1921-1922 for buildings constructed on the Circle. The solution, adopted by City ordinance and based on the suggestions of St. Louis city planner George Kessler, allowed a limit of 108 feet for height on the Circle Tower. The architects of Circle Tower were able to achieve a higher height for the tower building only by receding the stories above the 108 feet height. The set-back principle, though used extensively in the East during these years, found expression in Indianapolis only in Circle Tower. Circle Tower illustrates the high-point of Art Deco design in Indianapolis. The "ziggurat" crown, sculpture facade panels, the granite sculptures of the arched entryway, and the stream-lined and highly adorned design of the interior lobby, elevators, and street-floor shops all provide a glimpse of the Art Deco style at its best. The entryway bronze grill composed of Egyptian figures by the gifted Indianapolis sculptor Joseph Willenborg reflects the popularity of Egyptian motifs during the 1920s after the discovery of the tomb of King Tutankhamen.

**Consolidated Building**

115 North Pennsylvania Street

Constructed 1909 ; R.P. Daggett & Co., architects

**Photo # 34**

This fifteen-story office building was originally called the Lemcke Annex, a reference to the 1899 Lemcke Building immediately to the south, also the design work of the Daggett firm. The Consolidated Building shares some exterior design features with the Inland Building and the Hotel Washington, not surprising since both were designed by the firm of R.P. Daggett & Co. Following the classical column formula, the first three floors serve as the limestone "base" to the nine floors of the "shaft." The "capital" is composed of the top three floors which are ornamented with terra cotta in the Renaissance Style. The Consolidated Building has lost its cornice and has undergone remodeling at the shop front level. The building was renamed Consolidated in the mid 1920s.

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

**J.F. Wild State Bank Building**

123-129 East Market Street

Constructed 1922; Fermor Spencer Cannon, architect

**Photo #35**

This twelve-story highrise building was designed to house the J.F. Wild State Bank and commercial offices on the upper floors. Built of fire-proof construction, the building is faced with smooth ashlar limestone. This Italian Renaissance inspired building follows the classical pattern of a column with a two-story "base" articulated by a cornice band. The "shaft" portion is nine stories in height, each floor identical. The "capitol" is one story in height with the windows of the twelfth floor piercing the frieze framed by sculpted panels. A cornice crowns the building on all four elevations. The center entrance, which served as the bank lobby, is flanked by attached columns.

**Indiana Garage**

143-151 East Market Street

Constructed 1930; Rubush & Hunter, architects

**Photo #36**

The Gardner-Atkins Realty Company erected this eight-story parking garage in 1930. Designed to hold 600 cars, it was sensitively designed to blend into the streetscape of office buildings. Details such as the glazed casement windows, limestone facade, Art Deco Style parapet panels, the cantilevered canopy, the store fronts and the tiled and wainscoted driveway all contribute to the Indiana Garage's importance as a good example of contextual design.

**Knights of Pythias Lodge No. 56 Building**

115-121 East Ohio Street

Constructed 1906; Rubush & Hunter, architects

**Photo # 37**

Consciously evoking images of the Middle Ages, Rubush & Hunter designed this lodge hall with commercial space to evoke a Tudor castle. The facade is composed of brown brick and limestone. Smooth limestone ashlar frames the two entrances and the shopfront. Above the central shopfront is a two-story oriel with limestone base, spandrels, mullions and crenelated parapet. Stone-framed slit windows flank the oriel. The parapet is stone faced with brick pier panels ornamented with K of P shields and knights' helmets. The building has retail space on the first floor and the former lodge hall area now has a residential function. The eastern pier plinth is inscribed "No. 56 Knights of Pythias May 27, 1906."

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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**Turner Building & Savings Association**

116 North Delaware Street

Constructed 1941; Kurt Vonnegut, Sr., architect

**Photo # 38**

Vonnegut designed this small, two-story commercial building in the Art Moderne Style. This bold design shows that Vonnegut was influenced by contemporary European design, particularly with the use of the red tile facade roof crowning the smooth ashlar facade. The facade is pierced by a two story window opening bisected by a marble-paneled spandrel. Granite frames the entrance and polished pink granite blocks serve as the plinths for the three piers dividing the facade vertically. Glass blocks are found in the second-floor window. Glass block side lights flanking the plate glass first floor window has been removed, replaced by a two-panel light. The Turner Building and Saving Association was incorporated in 1883 and had a long association with the German-American Turnverein. The building has recently been used as a law office.

**Elliott's Block**

14-22 West Maryland Street

Constructed 1875-76; architect unknown

**Photo # 39**

Elliott's Block is notable for its intact brick and cast-iron three-story facade. The building is one of the few in Indianapolis with such an extensive use of cast-iron details in its brick facade. Elliott's Block is three stories in height. The first floor is articulated and supported by cast-iron columns and round arches with cast iron spandrels. Cast-iron surrounds cap the upper floor windows. A sheet-metal cornice crowns the building.

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.)

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
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.
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:

- owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
removed from its original location.
a birthplace or grave.
a cemetery.
a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
a commemorative property.
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
COMMUNITY PLANNING &
ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION
RELIGION
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1852-1946

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Rubush & Hunter
Vonnegut & Bohn
R.P. Daggett & Co.

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:

Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission

Washington Street - Monument Circle  
Name of Property

Marion IN  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 31.1

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 16 | 572450 | 4402350  
Zone Easting Northing

3 | 16 | 571780 | 4401890  
Zone Easting Northing

2 | 16 | 572420 | 4401870

4 | 16 | 571820 | 4402340

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 William L. Selm, for:  
organization City of Indianapolis date 11-25-96  
street & number 200 East Washington Street telephone  
city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46204

**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  
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.



WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Washington Street-Monument Circle Historic District is significant under Criteria A and C. Under Criterion A, the district is significant in the areas of Commerce, Entertainment/Recreation, and Religion. The district boundary includes the area of the city's historical retail and financial district along the district's two parallel streets of Washington and Market. The district contains three buildings that were originally built as theaters; two of these were the largest and most elegant built in the city. Also contributing to the topic of Entertainment/Recreation are the three buildings built by lodges and clubs to house their social and ritual activities. In the area of religion the district is significant as it contains a landmark church, the last surviving one on Monument Circle. Under Criterion C the district is significant for the many architect-designed commercial buildings, office buildings, banking houses, theaters, club houses and a church. Most of these buildings were the work of talented and prolific local architectural firms. Also under Criterion C, the district is significant in the area of Community Planning and Development. The district straddles four blocks of Washington Street, the planned main street of Indianapolis and a segment of the National Road. The district also includes Monument Circle, the circular street in the center of the original Mile Square plat of the city of Indianapolis.

The district boundaries include all of the surviving historic resources of the historic central business district established in the nineteenth century. Washington Street had been planned to be Indianapolis' "Main Street" even before the National Road reached the city. The two blocks of East Market Street developed as the city's financial district while Monument Circle evolved from a residential neighborhood dotted with churches into an urban plaza bound by landmark buildings framing the towering obelisk monument embellished with sculptures and fountains. Local ordinances restricting building heights on Monument Circle were enacted early in this century to protect the views of the monument.

The district contains a mix of historic buildings ranging from the antebellum period to Great Depression in a variety of styles, materials, shapes and sizes. This collection of surviving resources are the historical downtown of Indianapolis.

Community Planning and Development

The Washington Street-Monument Circle Historic District encompasses the central portion of Indianapolis' original Mile Square plat. Indianapolis was founded in 1821 as the capitol city of Indiana by the Indiana state legislature. Indiana entered the Union as the nineteenth state in 1816, carved out of the Northwest Territory. The state legislature sought a central location in the

## WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

new state for the capital city. At the time of statehood Indiana's small population was on the fringes of the state, hugging the waterways of the Ohio, Wabash and Whitewater rivers. The legislature appointed a committee to choose the site and hire surveyors to plat the capital city. Surveyors Alexander Ralston and Elias Fordham surveyed and laid out a mile square city composed of a grid of north-south and east-west streets. In the center of the Mile Square was planned a Circle Street. From the four far corners of the four squares framing the circle were four diagonal streets. All streets of the Mile Square were 90 feet wide with the exception of Washington Street which was 120 feet wide. Washington Street was planned as the town's "main street."<sup>1</sup>

The Mile Square plat was influenced by the Pierre L'Enfant plan for Washington, D.C., which was inspired by the streets, squares and plazas of the royal residence of Versailles. Since Indianapolis was planned as a capitol city for the new state, the Mile Square plat sited the State House Square and the Court House Square equidistant from Circle Street. The Governor's house was to be located in the circular lot framed by Circle Street (now named Monument Circle). The four city squares framing the Circle were known as the "Governor's Square".

The sale of lots in the new capital city on October 8, 1821, reveal the early importance of Washington Street as lots fronting it commanded the highest prices. Washington Street early on functioned as the only commercial street with four taverns fronting it in the town's first year and the street was commonly referred to as "Main Street".<sup>2</sup>

The National Road was planned by the federal government as a thoroughfare to connect the eastern seaboard to the new western states, forging national bonds through commerce, travel and communication. The first leg of the road extended from Cumberland, MD, to Wheeling, VA, between 1811 and 1818. An act of Congress in 1820 appropriated \$10,000 to lay out the National Road through Indiana from Wheeling to the Mississippi River. One of the first acts of the state legislature in 1821 was to petition Congress to direct the National Road to the new capitol of Indianapolis.<sup>3</sup> The surveyors reached Indianapolis on July 5, 1827. The chief surveyor established his headquarters for the Indiana survey in Indianapolis.<sup>4</sup> By 1834 the National Road extended across the state and would guarantee a future of growth for Indianapolis.<sup>5</sup>

The original plat creating the city with its streets and sites for public buildings and the planning of the National Road connecting Indianapolis to the West and the East along Washington Street shaped and molded the function and character of the district.

## WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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With the completion of the National Road and other thoroughfares, but more importantly with the arrival of the first railroad in 1847, the town grew into a city with greater wealth, commerce, manufacturing and a growing population. Accordingly, the business district grew more dense, not to be confined to only Washington Street. In the Civil War era shops, hotels, banks and office buildings began to replace the houses and churches that dotted Monument Circle. Simultaneously, south of Washington Street the Wholesale District was developing, taking advantage of the location between the rail depot and the retail business district.<sup>6</sup>

Monument Circle underwent a profound change with the planning and construction of the Indiana State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument between 1887 and 1902. The Monument changed the city as it was a great source of pride, a literal focal point; it became the symbol of the City. The circular street was renamed Monument Circle. Soon after it was dedicated a city ordinance was enacted in 1905 restricting to 86 feet the height of buildings fronting the Circle.<sup>7</sup> As the downtown began to be rapidly transformed after the First World War, the debate was reopened on Circle height restrictions. Defenders of the Monument again argued that with taller buildings the "... Monument would literally sink into a well and become lost in commercialism."<sup>8</sup> The issue was resolved with a new ordinance in 1922 permitting Circle-fronting buildings to rise to 108 feet in height and up to a maximum of 150 feet provided the additional 42 feet are set back one foot for each three feet in height. This compromise plan was recommended by city planner and landscape architect George E. Kessler.<sup>9</sup> In 1921 local architect William Earl Russ advocated uniform height, style and materials in addition to a restricted height for new buildings on the Circle.<sup>10</sup> The ordinance and Russ' idea had an impact on the redevelopment of the Circle in the decade of the 1920s. Three buildings constructed during this time, the Guaranty, the Test and the Continental Bank Building, were sister buildings in the Renaissance style; nine stories in height with Indiana limestone facades.

### Entertainment/Recreation

Six buildings in the Washington Street-Monument Circle Historic District represent the development and practice of leisure activities for amusement and diversion. The district contains three buildings built as theaters and three clubhouse buildings.

The three theater buildings are the only theaters surviving in the Mile Square. The city's first theater building, Metropolitan Hall, was constructed in 1858 on the lot at the northeast corner of West Washington Street and North Capitol Avenue.<sup>11</sup> The Metropolitan was built for stage performances, but with the advent of the cinema, functioned until its demolition as a movie theater. By the 1920s, movie theaters were part of the downtown streetscapes of Illinois,

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Washington , Ohio, Market and Pennsylvania Streets. Between 1906 and 1927, twenty-four theaters opened their doors in the Mile Square.<sup>12</sup> The Bijou Theater, constructed around 1906 at 108 East Washington Street (demolished) is recognized as the city's first movie theater.<sup>13</sup> The Empire Theater at 126 Wabash Street was constructed in 1892 and was the venue for burlesque shows and sporting events.<sup>14</sup> The Empire today is a parking garage; it was radically rebuilt and remodeled in 1922-1926 to hold 300 cars.<sup>15</sup> The Circle Theatre was completed and opened in 1916, the design work of the Indianapolis architectural firm of Rubush & Hunter. The Circle Theatre was the first theater in the city constructed expressly for feature-length films, but it also accommodated stage and musical performances. Films were featured here from 1916 to 1981.<sup>16</sup> Circle Theatre reopened in 1984 after a \$6.9 million renovation as the home of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. The Circle Theatre was listed in the National Register in 1980. The Circle Theatre Company, which owned the Circle Theatre, was responsible for the construction of the Indiana Theatre at 140 West Washington Street. The talent of Rubush & Hunter produced designs for the city's largest-ever cinema, seating 3,200. Opened in 1927, the Indiana Theatre contained other recreational attractions such as a bowling alley, billiard tables, a soda fountain and a roof top ballroom.<sup>17</sup> Indiana Theatre closed as a cinema but reopened in 1980 as the home of the Indiana Repertory Theatre after extensive remodeling. The Indiana Theatre was listed in the National Register in 1979.

The clubhouses, Columbia Club at 121 Monument Circle, Knights of Pythias (K of P) Lodge Hall No. 56 at 115 East Ohio Street and the Odd Fellows Building at 1 North Pennsylvania Street contribute to the Entertainment/Recreation theme of the district. Fraternal organizations and private clubs have been a part of Indianapolis life since 1824 when the first Masonic lodge was founded.<sup>18</sup> The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F) was the city's second fraternal order established. Centre Lodge I.O.O.F. was founded in 1844. The Grand Lodge of Indiana relocated to Indianapolis from Madison, Indiana in 1846 as it became apparent that Indianapolis was emerging as the state's largest city with the advantage of a central location in the state. The Grand Lodge Hall was constructed in 1856 after the designs of two local, noted architects Francis Costigan and D.A. Bohlen. This striking, four-story building topped with a dome, was one of the largest private buildings in Indianapolis during the mid-nineteenth century, commanding an important location on Pennsylvania Street at the National Road. The Odd Fellows demolished their landmark Grand Lodge Hall in 1907 to make way for the present building, completed in 1908.<sup>19</sup> The fourteen-story Odd Fellows' Building, designed by the local firm of Rubush & Hunter, fulfilled three functions.



## WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

As was its 1856 predecessor, the new building accommodated street accessible showrooms and storefronts on the first two floors. Lodge meeting rooms and an auditorium occupied the top three floors. Nine stories of office space occupied the middle portion.<sup>20</sup> Rents from the commercial office and retail space provided income for the fraternal organization, but changed the image of the Odd Fellows building from a monumental public building to a high-rise office building. The following twenty years saw a transformation of Washington Street and nearby streets from low-rise nineteenth-century commercial buildings to high-rise office buildings. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows sold its building in 1960 to First Federal.

The K of P Hall was constructed in 1906 as the home of Indianapolis Lodge No. 56. K of P were first established in Indianapolis in 1869. Local historian B.R. Sulgrove described the K of P as "the most numerous and respectable secret order after the Masons and Odd Fellows."<sup>21</sup> The first K of P lodge was founded in Washington, D.C. in 1864. Five years later, the K of P Marion Lodge No. 1 was founded in Indianapolis. By October, 1869 two other lodges were established here. By 1884 there were eight lodges including No. 56, all meeting at a central location at the northwest corner of Pennsylvania and Market Streets.<sup>22</sup> In 1910 Indianapolis Lodge Hall No. 56 was described as "one of the three largest K of P lodge buildings in the country."<sup>23</sup> At that time the Lodge had 880 members. The building had rental commercial space on the first floor with lodge activities occupying the balance of the building area.<sup>24</sup> Like the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias chose the Indianapolis firm of Rubush & Hunter to design its lodge hall. Both the K of P and Odd Fellows buildings are no longer owned or used by the fraternal lodges that built them, but they remain monuments to the fraternal lodge movement that flourished in the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries.

One of the most prominent social clubs in the history of Indianapolis is the Columbia Club at 121 Monument Circle. Founded in 1888 originally as a marching club supporting the successful presidential campaign of local attorney Benjamin Harrison that year, it quickly established itself as an influential organization linked to the Republican Party. The organization first occupied the William H. Morrison mansion on the same site. The house was demolished to make way for a circa 1900, multi-story club house, which in turn was replaced by the present Columbia Club building constructed 1924-1925. Designed by the local firm of Rubush & Hunter, the prominent building offered club members guest rooms, dining rooms, lounges, meeting rooms and athletic facilities. The Columbia Club was listed in the National Register in 1983.<sup>25</sup>

The Columbia Club continues to occupy and operate its 1925 building. It has survived the decline of club life, so important in America before the Second World War and continues to enjoy the prestige and status it commanded in the past.



WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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Architecture and Design

Most of the contributing historic resources were designed by architects, most of them local. Many of these resources were constructed by accomplished local builders and ornamented by local artists.

The architectural firm which left the deepest impression on downtown Indianapolis and the district in particular is that of Rubush & Hunter. Twelve of the district's 60 contributing historic resources are known to have been designed by that firm. Preston C. Rubush (1867-1947) and Edgar O. Hunter (1873-1949) founded their architectural firm in 1905 and designed almost 200 buildings in Indianapolis, Florida and elsewhere in the Midwest until the partnership ended in 1938. This firm was a design powerhouse reshaping Indianapolis with new schools, houses, apartment buildings, commercial buildings, churches, factories, hotels, office and civic buildings. The Rubush & Hunter buildings became familiar landmarks replacing the small scale commercial buildings of the previous century.

At the peak of their careers in 1927 an Indianapolis News article described Rubush & Hunter "as familiar to Indianapolis as the Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument; their names represent art and progress."<sup>26</sup> They were able to secure high-profile commissions, especially in the 1920s when their designs redefined Monument Circle and Washington Street. Their work spans a variety of styles, sizes and building types in this district. In this district are examples of their work in Art Deco, Neo Classical-Adamsesque, Italian Renaissance Revival, Late Gothic Revival, Spanish Baroque Revival, Tudor Revival, Art Moderne, and Gothic Revival.

Rubush & Hunter were the leading local designers in the Art Deco Style. This district contains three excellent examples of that style: Circle Tower, H.P. Wasson & Company Building and the Indiana Garage. The Circle Tower (5 East Market Street) is the finest example of the Art Deco Style in Indianapolis. Its distinctive shape incorporates the stair step forms of Art Deco while it conforms to a local ordinance limiting the height of buildings facing Monument Circle. Circle Tower was completed in 1930, as was the Indiana Garage. This eight-story parking lot (143-151 East Market Street), holding 600 cars, is cleverly disguised as an office building. The features include art deco parapet panels, operable casement windows, a driveway paved with ceramic tile and commercial first floor space. The impressive design did not disrupt the aesthetics of the streetscape. The H.P. Wasson & Co. Building at 2 West Washington was Rubush & Hunter's final commercial commission. This project actually involved the remodeling of several existing older buildings, refacing them with an impressive limestone and polished granite facade decorated

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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with Art Deco sculpted panel screens and canopy. This remodeling in 1937 resulted in a quite modern monolithic building with vertical ribbon glass block windows.<sup>27</sup> The Wasson Building's appearance was made to look even more monolithic when its stair-step west half was filled in 1948 (Graham, Anderson, Probst & White, architects, Chicago) to form a cubic rectangle.<sup>28</sup>

Rubush & Hunter designed the three clubhouses in the district: Odd Fellows Building, (1 North Pennsylvania); Columbia Club, (121 Monument Circle); and Knights of Pythias (K of P) Lodge No. 56, (115 East Ohio Street). Of the three, only the Columbia Club was solely a club house; the other two were income-producing office buildings with meeting rooms for two lodges. The K of P hall was designed in 1905, the first year of the existence of Rubush & Hunter. The cornerstone was laid May 27, 1906. Rubush was a K of P member and the firm designed the nearby K of P Castle Hall at 228-230 East Ohio (one block away; not in district), constructed 1905-1906. The design for the brick appropriately draws from the late Middle Ages with a crenelated two-story oriel and other elements associated with Tudor Revival. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows commissioned Rubush & Hunter in 1906 to design a new hall to replace their landmark ante-bellum hall. The firm's plan called for a 14-story building with retail office and lodge space. The cornerstone was laid in November, 1907, and the building was completed the following year. The Renaissance design applies the elements of a classical column to this skyscraper with the articulated first three floors serving as the base; the nine middle stories are identical with their pier and spandrel and window pattern; and the top two floors serve as the column capitol, crowned by a cornice and parapet. Rubush & Hunter looked back to the Middle Ages again for their design of the Columbia Club. Although classical architecture was established for building on Monument Circle earlier in the decade, the designers looked at the building's immediate neighbor, the Gothic Revival Christ Church, for inspiration, and designed in that immediate context. Gothic details carved out of limestone and leaded art glass compose the facade and ornament the interior.<sup>29</sup>

Rubush & Hunter designed the last two surviving movie palaces in the Mile Square. Both the 1927 Indiana Theatre ( 134 West Washington Street) and the 1916 Circle Theatre (45 Monument Circle) are highly ornamented inside and out: plaster interior and terra cotta facade. The Circle Theatre is two stories in height with four pilasters dividing the three bays and supporting a striking classical sculpted frieze and pediment and a painted mural depicting a Grecian pastoral scene. The Indiana Theatre has a richly executed white terra cotta facade in Spanish Baroque Style.<sup>30</sup>

Rubush & Hunter designed in a wide variety of styles and designed a wide variety of building types. The main building type in the district is the office building and Rubush & Hunter are well represented as designers of office buildings. The 1908 Odd Fellows Building (cited in the Entertainment/Recreation section) is primarily an office building with specialized lodge hall space

## WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

on the top floors. The 1908 Daniel Stewart Co. Building at 42-50 South Meridian Street is an example of a wholesale house designed by Rubush & Hunter to serve as office, showroom and warehouse for this drug wholesaler. The 1915 Fidelity Trust Building at 148 East Market is a small scale, eight story office building designed for a bank.<sup>31</sup> Nowhere is the firm's skill and talent in designing office buildings so evident than on Monument Circle and its immediate surrounds. The firm's first design on the Circle was the 1916 Circle Theatre. After the First World War the Circle changed drastically from a hodge podge of small Victorian era buildings to its present character of 1920s handsome, distinctive office buildings. They include the 1930 Circle Tower, 1923 Guaranty Building and the nearby 1926 Illinois Building (17 West Market Street).<sup>32</sup>

The architectural firm of Vonnegut & Bohn contributed to the architectural significance of the district. It was formed in 1888 by Bernard Vonnegut (1855-1908) and Arthur Bohn (1861-1948). Both architects were the sons of German immigrants. Bohn was born in Louisville, Kentucky, but moved as a child with his family to this city where he received his education. He began his career as a draftsman for D.A. Bohlen & Son and studied architecture in the Royal Polytechnic Institute in Karlsruhe, Germany.<sup>33</sup> Vonnegut studied at the public schools and the German-English Independent School of this city. He studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the Polytechnic Institute of Hanover, Germany.<sup>34</sup> Vonnegut's son, Kurt Vonnegut, Sr. (1884-1956) joined the firm after receiving his education at the American College in Strassburg, (then Germany).<sup>35</sup> This two generational architectural firm, to which engineer Otto N. Mueller (1883?-1958) joined from 1911 to 1937<sup>36</sup> was responsible for at least five documented buildings in the district and many others throughout the city. The firm designed numerous building types including industrial, schools, institutional, religious, residential and many commercial and office buildings. Seven documented Vonnegut & Bohn (& Mueller)-designed buildings are located in the district. They are as follows: L.S. Ayres & Co. Building and additions (1905, 1914 & 1929; 1 West Washington Street); William H Block Co. Building and its addition (1911 & 1936; 50 North Illinois Street); Kahn Tailoring Building (1915, 7 North Meridian Street); Fletcher Trust Building (1915, 108 North Pennsylvania Street); Meyer-Kiser Bank Building (1924, 130 East Washington Street) and the Turner Building & Saving Association Building ( 1941, 116 North Delaware Street). The Kahn, Block and Selig buildings are distinctive for their terra cotta facades. The two financial buildings, Turner and Fletcher, exhibit the contrasts of scale, style and detail.<sup>37</sup> All of the above exhibit a high degree of integrity with the exception of the Meyer-Kiser. This building was radically remodeled with an addition and a new facade in 1968.<sup>38</sup>

The distinguished local firm of D. A. Bohlen & Son designed the S.S. Kresge Building at 41 East Washington Street, the 1956 Indiana Building at 120 East Market Street and the 1894 Indiana Dental College Building at 143 East Ohio Street. These three buildings, spanning a sixty year period, illustrate the durability of the Bohlen firm. Diedrich August Bohlen (1827-1890)

## WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

emigrated from Germany in the 1850s. He opened his architectural office in Indianapolis in 1853 and was succeeded by his son, Oscar, grandson August and great-grandson Robert. This firm was responsible for landmark buildings in Indianapolis and throughout the state, many of them religious or institutional. Other examples of their Indianapolis work outside of the district include St. John Catholic Church, Roberts Park Methodist Church, General German Protestant Orphans' Home, and City Market, all listed in the National Register.<sup>39</sup>

Swiss-native Adolf Scherrer designed the Rink's Cloak House Building at 29 North Illinois Street. Scherer (1848-1925) was educated at the famous Kunstakademie in Vienna. He emigrated in 1870 and arrived in Indianapolis in 1873 to enter the employ of veteran Indianapolis architect Edwin May. May and Scherrer's design of the Indiana State House was selected after a competition. Scherrer was supervising architect and completed the drawings after May's death in 1880. Either on his own or in partnership with W. Scott Moore (1889-1891) or his son, Anton, (1921-1925) Scherer was responsible for many local schools, houses, commercial and institutional buildings.<sup>40</sup> Another Scherrer-designed commercial building is the 1907 Louis G. Deschler Company Building at 135 South Illinois Street.

The dynamic firm of R.P. Daggett & Co. is a prominent firm in the history of Indianapolis. Robert Platt Daggett (1837-1915) founded the firm in 1880 after working with distinction in the city since 1868. He was a prolific and versatile architect who shaped the appearance of post Civil War Indianapolis. He designed numerous residences, including the 1872 James Whitcomb Riley House (National Register, 1966) and many other nineteenth century houses, schools and commercial buildings. Daggett's son, Robert Frost (1875-1955) joined the firm after earning his diploma in 1901 from the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Robert Frost Daggett, Jr. (1912-1985) joined the firm in 1948, which dissolved after the younger Daggett's retirement. Other notable Daggett buildings include industrial buildings for Eli Lilly & Co., Indianapolis Athletic Club and the Chamber of Commerce Building. There are seven documented Daggett-designed buildings in the district; two are classified as non-contributing because of drastic remodeling resulting in no historic character or fabric. Hotel Washington of 1912 (32 East Washington Street), the Consolidated Building of 1909 (115 North Pennsylvania Street), the Inland Building of 1916 (156-160 East Market Street), the 1893 Lombard Building (22-28 East Washington Street) and the 1897 H. Lieber Company Building (24 West Washington Street) are the four known Daggett-designed buildings.<sup>41</sup> Both the Lombard and Hotel Washington are listed in the National Register (1982 and 1980, respectively). The 1925 Continental Bank Building (25 Monument Circle) was rebuilt as the Electric Building in 1964. The 1899 Lemcke Building (107 North Pennsylvania Street) was remodeled as the LaRosa Building in 1969

The local firm of Bass, Knowlton & Co. designed the 1925 Test Building at 54 Monument Circle. This Renaissance Revival design was very innovative in that it attractively conceals a parking



## WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

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garage within the office building. The building is a sister to the Guaranty Building, sharing the southwest quadrant of Monument Circle. The firm founded by architect Herbert L. Bass (1877-1926) and engineer Lynn O. Knowlton in 1921. The firm specialized in garage structures and designed many across the country for the U.S. Post Office, but also produced designs for the Cole Motor Company (National Register, 1983) and numerous mansions.<sup>42</sup>

Indianapolis architect Fermor Spencer Cannon (1888-1973) designed the 1922 J.F. Wild Bank Building at 129 East Market Street. Cannon studied architecture at the University of Illinois and worked for Herbert L. Bass for two years before starting his own practice from 1913 to 1929. Other notable work included the 1928 Butler University field house (National Register, 1983). It is appropriate that Cannon designed a bank building as his father was founder of Railroadmen's Federal Savings and Loan Association, to which Cannon succeeded him as president and later, after closing his design office, chairman of the board.<sup>43</sup>

Two Chicago architects of note were responsible for the design of two important buildings of the district. Daniel H. Burnham (1846-1912), the great architect and city planner was commissioned to design Merchants National Bank at the prime location of Washington and Meridian Streets- the "Crossroads of America." Burnham was well established as a designer of highrise office buildings in Chicago and as Chief of Construction for the 1893 World's Columbian Exhibition. Burnham had designed the 1889 Marion Hotel and the 1904 Indianapolis Traction Terminal and Office (both demolished). Built in two phases, 1907-1908 and 1912, the seventeen-story Merchants National Bank Building tower was the city's tallest building for fifty years when the City-County Building was erected.<sup>44</sup>

Jarvis Hunt (1859-1941) of Chicago designed the Indianapolis News-Goodman Building at 30 West Washington Street. Hunt left Boston for Chicago to supervise the construction of his native Vermont state building for the 1893 World's Columbian Exhibition. The terra-cotta faced, ten-story building was constructed in 1909-1910 as home of the Indianapolis News.<sup>45</sup>

The Harrison Hotel at 143 West Market Street was designed by Indianapolis architect William Earl Russ. A graduate of Columbia University, Russ moved his architectural office to Indianapolis in 1913 and formed a lasting partnership with local architect Merrit Harrison in 1934. The hotel was designed in 1927 and constructed the following year.<sup>46</sup>

Irish-born architect William J. Tinsley (1804-1885) designed Christ Church Cathedral. The oldest surviving church in Indianapolis, this excellent example of Early Gothic Revival was designed in 1856 and constructed in 1857-1859.<sup>47</sup>

## WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

German architect Bruno Schmitz' (1858-1916) design for the Indiana State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument was the winning entry in the design competition of 1887. The monument was early in his career and he went on to be one of Wilhelmenian Germany's most prolific monument designers.<sup>48</sup>

The work of two distinguished architectural sculptors can be found on a number of buildings in the district. These two sculptors, both immigrants, had illustrious careers in their adopted city. Alexander Sangernebo (1856-1930) was born in Estonia and educated in St. Petersburg, Hamburg and Paris. He arrived in Indianapolis in the early 1890s as the chief sculptor at the Indianapolis Terra Cotta Company. Sangernebo opened his own studio in 1898. His work can be found on the L.S. Ayers & Co. Building, the Columbia Club, the Guaranty and Test Building, the Illinois Building, Selig Dry Goods Store, Fletcher Trust Building, Odd Fellows Building and the Kahn Tailoring Building.<sup>49</sup> Rudolf Schwarz (1865-1912) was a Viennese sculptor who was educated at the famed Kunstakademie there. Schwarz left Europe for Indianapolis to complete the sculpture on the Indiana State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in the 1890s. Schwarz' work on the Monument included the monumental War and Peace sculptural groups, the cascade groups and the individual soldier statues. Schwarz' work can be found throughout the state, such as the Johnson and Vigo counties Civil War monuments, the Oliver P. Morton statue at the Indiana State House and the sculpted roundels on the John Herron Art Institute Building, where he was an instructor.<sup>50</sup>

The local construction company of William P. Jungclaus Company was a local firm that constructed many buildings in the district. The documented Jungclaus buildings are the Indiana Theatre, Harrison Hotel, Columbia Club, Indiana Building, Illinois Building, Guaranty Building, Circle Tower and buildings for Taylor Carpet Co., H.P. Wasson Co., L.S. Ayers & Co. and S.S. Kresge Company. William P. Jungclaus (1849-1923) left Germany in 1870 to visit his uncle, Indianapolis architect D.A. Bohlen, and remained, finding work as a carpenter. He founded his contracting business in 1875 and has been succeeded by family members ever since. The firm continues as a major builder in the city under the name Jungclaus-Campbell Company.<sup>51</sup>

### Commerce

All of the historic resources in the district, with the exception of three, contribute to the district's significance in the area of commerce. The exceptions are Christ Church Cathedral, the Indiana State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument and the Columbia Club. Most of the commercial activity is in the two areas of retailing and banking. Other areas are hotels and commercial office use; two buildings had the mixed use of apartments and retail use.

Since the founding of the city, Washington Street has been the center of commercial activity. The



## WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

shops, taverns and hotels fronted this street that was also, and still is, a segment of the National Road. As the city grew, so did the business district, but Washington Street remained the east-west axis.

Three major department stores developed during the nineteenth century and all three businesses built impressive buildings which have become downtown landmarks of the twentieth century. The three great department stores were L.S. Ayres & Co., William H. Block Co. and H.P. Wasson Co. The businesses and their buildings dwarfed all others around them.

L. S. Ayres & Company began in 1872 when dry goods merchant Lyman S. Ayres arrived in Indianapolis from New York via Ohio. He became a partner in N.R. Smith & Ayres Company at 28 West Washington Street. Ayres eventually became sole proprietor of L.S. Ayres & Company. Ayres' son Frederic moved the department store into a new era in 1905 with the new building at West Washington and South Meridian Streets where it grew and built traditions and buildings until it vacated its flagship downtown building in 1992.<sup>52</sup>

Similarly H.P. Wasson & Company was founded in 1883 by Hiram P. Wasson at North Meridian and West Washington Streets and emerged as one of the city's three great department stores. It remained at this location until 1979 when it went out of business.<sup>53</sup>

The third big department store was William H. Block Co., founded in 1896. Block was an Austro-Hungarian immigrant who began his career as a peddler and built a company comprised of flagship downtown building at North Illinois and West Market Streets with suburban mall outlets. The first Block's was in the first block of East Washington Street. In 1988, after 92 years, Block's store became part of the Lazarus chain, which closed the store in 1993.<sup>54</sup>

Other retail business has been conducted in a variety of buildings ranging in size and styles and dates from circa 1852 to the 1920s. The oldest building in the district is the Hannaman and Duzan Building at 40 East Washington Street. It is the oldest commercial building in the city and the oldest in the district. It was built to house the drugstore of one of the city's early druggists, William Hannaman.<sup>55</sup> Two other Civil War-era buildings are the Stevens Coffman Building at 152 East Washington Street and the Hereth Block. Joshua Stevens (1791-1858) erected the south portion of this three-story brick commercial building circa 1858. Stevens was a bootmaker and part-time lawyer. His heir and daughter erected the north half circa 1866. Druggists were tenants in the 1860s, 1870s and 1880s. The building also held law offices and saloons and was remodeled in 1890 to its present appearance with terra cotta panels and corbel tables.<sup>56</sup> Hereth's Block at 18-24 North Delaware Street was built in 1866-67. John C. Hereth built the three-story Italianate commercial building in 1866-1867. Hereth and his brother operated their saddle and harness shop here and leased the upper floors for law offices since it had a good location across Delaware

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Street from the Marion County Court House.<sup>57</sup> Early on lawyers sought convenient office space on Delaware and East Market Streets as they continue to do this day.

Hotels have been a part of the district's history from the beginning of the city when visitors spent the night in taverns. The two great hotels of Indianapolis' history, the Bates House (1853-1901) and the Claypool Hotel (1903-1968), were located at the northwest corner of Illinois and Washington Streets where Embassy Suites Hotel stands today. This was an ideal location; on the National Road between Union Station and the interurban terminal. A number of other hotels dotted the streets of the district, but have all been lost, except for two. The Harrison Hotel and Hotel Washington are the surviving hotel buildings in the district. Neither now serve as hotels, but as office buildings. Hotel Washington was constructed in 1912 after the design of the R.P. Daggett architectural firm for J. Edward Krause. Hotel Washington closed in 1963 and reopened after remodeling in 1965 as an apartment building.<sup>58</sup> It was rehabilitated as an office building in 1982. The Harrison Hotel was constructed in 1928. The site at West Market and Capital Avenue was well situated near the National Road and the Traction Terminal and bus station and statehouse. The eight-story hotel closed in 1971, was remodeled and reopened the following year as the Harrison Building, an office building.<sup>59</sup>

Banking is a major commercial activity associated with many historic buildings in the district. Many of the financial institutions were centered on the first and second blocks of East Market Street. The Indianapolis News in 1926 dubbed these blocks the "Wall Street of Indianapolis" as it was home at that time to nearly a dozen banks and trust companies.<sup>60</sup> There were no banks in Indianapolis until 1834 when the State Bank of Indiana was organized and served as the principal bank of the era. It was located at Washington and Pennsylvania Streets.<sup>61</sup> The arrival of workmen on the National Road and the Central Canal stimulated banking and trade. Stoughton A. Fletcher, Sr. started the bank in 1839 that would evolve into the American Fletcher National Bank, still functioning today as Bank One, Indianapolis. The Fletcher bank was first located on East Washington Street near Meridian and moved to Pennsylvania and Market Streets in 1852.<sup>62</sup> After passage of the National Banking Act of 1863, new local banks were founded with national charters which could issue notes backed by U.S. bonds and guaranteed by the federal government. Between May 1863 and the end of 1864, six national banks were chartered including Merchants National Bank and Indiana National Bank, which was the successor to the Indianapolis branch of the State Bank of Indiana.<sup>63</sup> All three banks, Fletcher, Merchants, and Indiana, built buildings in the district which are still standing, but no longer are those banks' headquarters. Merchants landmark building at 11 South Meridian Street was the city's tallest building from 1912 to 1962; designed by Daniel Burnham. Vonnegut & Bohn designed the Fletcher Trust Building at 108 North Pennsylvania Street, which was completed in 1914. D.A. Bohlen & Son designed the 1956 Indiana Building (non-contributing) at 120 East Market Street for Indiana National Bank.

## WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Other buildings in the district were designed as banks or had strong associations with now-defunct banks. The J.F. Wild Bank Building at 129 East Market Street was built for the J.F. Wild State Bank, completed in 1923.<sup>64</sup> The bank closed in 1927. The Fidelity Trust Company was founded in 1905 at 156 East Market Street and constructed the Fidelity Trust Building in 1914-1915 (National Register, 1980). Fidelity Trust moved into the Wild Building in 1937 and had the 1959 Fidelity Building constructed (non-contributing) at 111 Monument Circle shortly before its merger with Fletcher Trust, forming American Fletcher National Bank.<sup>65</sup>

The National City Bank Building at 108 East Washington Street is a sixteen-story office building built in 1921 was the home of that bank. National City Bank was founded in 1912 as was the Commercial National Bank. The two merged in 1923 and merged the next year with Fletcher American National Bank which was succeeded by American National Bank in 1933. Fletcher Trust Company merged with American National in 1954 forming American Fletcher National Bank, which became Bank One Indianapolis.<sup>66</sup> City Trust Company occupied the building by 1930. By 1939, Indianapolis Morris Plan, a savings and loan, occupied the building for several decades.<sup>67</sup>

Savings banks sprang up soon after state law permitted them in 1869.<sup>68</sup> Turner Building and Savings Association (TBSA) was incorporated in 1883 with a long association with the Socialer Turnverein, a German gymnastic and social organization founded in 1851. TBSA was located in the Athenaeum, the home of the Socialer Turnverein, then moved to the Lemke Building (now LaRosa, non-contributing) at 107 North Pennsylvania St. In 1941 TBSA opened its own building at 116 North Delaware Street.<sup>69</sup> The building next to 118 North Delaware was the home of the Peoples Mutual Savings & Loan Association in the 1950s and later by Shelby Street Federal Savings and Loan Association. Peoples Bank was started in 1891 by Felix T. McWhirter, at 122 East Market Street (demolished) and chartered in 1900. By 1905 Peoples moved in to the 1898 Law Building at 130 East Market Street (non-contributing). Peoples Bank bought the building in 1920, which it continues to occupy after replacing the facade sometime in the 1970s.<sup>70</sup>

Although the three big banks of Indianapolis; Merchants, Fletcher and Indiana have all relocated to large towers outside the district, and have themselves merged with out-of-state banks, they and other defunct financial institutions have left their mark on the cityscape.

### Religion

Christ Church Cathedral is the oldest church in Indianapolis and the only church that remains in the district. Four Protestant churches faced Monument Circle from circa 1830 to 1868. Eventually, the First and Second Presbyterian and the Wesley Chapel sold their Circle lots and moved northward as the Circle began to change from an area of churches and residential to a

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commercial. Christ Church was founded in 1837 as the city's first Episcopal congregation. Christ Church is the second church on the site; the first was built in 1838 of wood construction and removed to make way for the present church. Christ Church is the "mother church" for much of the present Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis, from which many later parishes were founded. It was elevated to cathedral status in 1954. The church was listed in the National Register in 1973.<sup>71</sup>

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Verbal Boundary

Commencing at the property line at the southeast corner of North Capitol Avenue and West Market Street, the boundary line proceeds eastward along the north edge of City Square 54, along West Market Street, to and across North Illinois Street to the alley, Bird Street, where the line turns northward across West Market Street up Bird Street to the alley, Wabash Street, and turns eastward to and crossing North Meridian Street. The boundary line continues eastward, then southward at the alley, Scioto Street, to the north edge of Lot 1 of City Square 43, where it turns eastward to and crossing North Pennsylvania Street to the western property line of City Square 44 where the boundary line turns northward to the alley, Wabash Street, then eastward along Wabash to the alley Talbott Street where the line turns northward to East Ohio Street. At Ohio Street the line turns eastward following the north property line of City Square 44 to North Delaware Street then southward along the property line to and crossing East Market continuing southward to and crossing East Washington Street. At the southwest corner of Delaware and East Washington Streets the boundary line proceeds westward along due north property line of City Square 64 to and crossing Pennsylvania Street. At this point the boundary line proceeds southward along Pennsylvania Street to the alley, Pearl Street, then westward to the western edge of Lot 1 of City Square 65, then northward along said edge to the northern property line of said square then westward along that line to the eastern edge of Lot 8 of said square then southward along the eastern edge of said lot to the alley Pearl Street. The boundary line proceeds westward along southern edge of Lots 8 and 9 to and crossing South Meridian Street to the eastern property line of City Square 66 then southward along said line to East Maryland Street. At this point, the boundary line proceeds westward to the alley, Bird Street, then northward along the western property line of Lot 12 of City Square 66 to the northern line of said lot, then eastward approximately 67 feet to a point in alignment with the western edge of Lot 2 of said city square. At this point the boundary line proceeds northward to the southern property line of City Square 66 then westward approximately 86 feet along said line to the east end of the reconstructed Griffith Block facade. The boundary line proceeds southward approximately 2 feet, 6 inches (the thickness of the facade) then westward 45 feet (the width of the facade) then northward approximately 2 feet 6 inches to the north property line of City Square 66 where the line proceeds westward to and crossing Illinois Street along the north property line of City Square 67 to Capitol Avenue. At Capitol Avenue the line proceeds northward along the west property line of City Square 54, terminating at the point of origin at the southeast corner of North Capitol Avenue and West Market Street.



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Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Washington Street-Monument Circle Historic District encompass all surviving historic resources of the historic retail and financial district of Indianapolis which, as the name suggests, are centered on the east-west axis of Washington Street and Meridian Street/Monument Circle. The area immediately south of the proposed district is included in the Indianapolis Union Station-Wholesale District, a National Register Historic District listed in 1982. To the southwest west and northwest of the proposed historic district are no historic resources with the exception of the Indiana State Capitol Building listed in the National Register in 1975. The Capitol is not contributing to the theme of the district as the historic retail-financial commercial district. To the north are no historic resources except for the U.S. Courthouses and Post Office, listed in the National Register in 1974. This property is also included in the Indiana World War Memorial Plaza historic district listed in 1994. The eastern edge of the district faces redeveloped blocks with no historic resources facing Delaware Street.

The proposed district was initially defined by the Center Township, Marion County Interim Report (Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1991). This report presented the findings of the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. This nomination fulfills the requirements specified in the Memorandum of Agreement (ref: Indiana Project STP-B176 Downtown Corridor Improvements Project) of 1994.

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INVENTORY OF RESOURCES

C= contributing NC= non-contributing NR=individually listed in National Register

**NORTH CAPITOL AVENUE**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
1	NC	One North Capitol
27	NC	Parking Garage

**NORTH DELAWARE STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
10	C	Freiberg & Techentin Bldg.
12-16	NC	(GOP) Bldg.
18-24	C	Hereth Block
106-110	C	(Insty Prints) Bldg.
116	C	Turner Building & Savings Bldg.
118	C	Office Bldg.
122-128	C/NR	Delaware Flats
130	C	Bash Bldg.
136	NC	Commercial Bldg.
144	C	Commercial Bldg.
148	C	Commercial Bldg.

**NORTH ILLINOIS STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
29	C/NR	Rink's Cloak House Bldg.
50	C	Wm. H. Block Co. Bldg.

**EAST MARKET STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
5	C	Circle Tower
27	NC	Churchill Bldg.
120	NC	Indiana Bldg.
123-129	C	J.F. Wild Bank Bldg.
130-136	NC	Peoples Bank Bldg.
148	C/NR	Fidelity Trust
143-151	C	Indiana Garage
155	C	Union Title Bldg.
150	C	Commercial Bldg.
156-160	N/C	Inland Bldg.

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**WEST MARKET STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
143	C	Harrison Hotel
129-139	C	Shoemaker Flats Bldg.
123-127	C	Sentinel Printing Bldg.
11	C	Illinois Bldg.

**MARYLAND STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
14-22	C/NR	Elliott's Block

**NORTH MERIDIAN STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
7	C	Kahn Tailoring Bldg.
20	C	Guaranty Bldg.

**SOUTH MERIDIAN STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
11	C/NR	Merchants National Bank (MNB) Bldg.
42-50	NC	Daniel Stewart Co. Bldg.

**MONUMENT CIRCLE**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
54	C/NR	Test Bldg.
1	NC	Electric Bldg.
45	C/NR	Circle Theatre
120	NC	120 Monument Circle Bldg.
121	C/NR	Columbia Club
125	C/NR	Christ Church Cathedral
111	NC	Fidelity Bldg.
NA	C/NR	IN State Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument
46-48	C (structure)	Journal Bldg. Facade

**EAST OHIO STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
115-121	C	K of P Lodge #56 Bldg.
127-133	C	Commercial Bldg.
139-145	C	Indiana Dental College Bldg.

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**NORTH PENNSYLVANIA STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
44	NC	St. Moritz Bldg.
2-10	NC	Commercial Bldg.
16	C	Commercial Bldg.
1	C	Odd Fellows (IOOF) Bldg.
13-15	C	Frederick M. Herron Bldg.
17-19	C	A.B. Meyer & Co. Bldg.
21-35	C	Insurance Center Bldg.
35	NC	Penn Parking Garage
45	NC	Union Federal Bldg.
108	C	Fletcher Trust Bldg.
107	NC	LaRosa Bldg.
115	C	Consolidated Bldg.

**EAST WABASH STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
126	C	Empire Parking Garage

**EAST WASHINGTON STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
6	NC	Commercial Bldg.
8	NC	Commercial Bldg.
9-13	C/NR	F.W. Woolworth Co. Bldg. (MNB Annex)
10-12	NC	Commercial Bldg.
14-16	C	McOuat Building
18-20	C/NR	Marrott's Shoes Bldg.
22-28	C/NR	Lombard Bldg.
30-34	C/NR	Hotel Washington
36	C	Gay Lord Bldg.
38	NC	Commercial Bldg.
42	C	Hannaman & Duzan Bldg.
44	NC	Commercial Bldg.
41-47	C	S.S. Kresge Bldg.
110	C	National City Bank Bldg.
130-132	NC	Commercial Bldg.
140	NC	Commercial Bldg.
146-148	NC	Commercial Bldg.
152	C	Stevens-Coffman Bldg.

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

**WEST WASHINGTON STREET**

ADDRESS	STATUS	NAME
134	C/NR	Indiana Theatre
110	NC	Embassy Suites
30-32	C/NR	Indianapolis News Bldg.
26-28	C/NR	Taylor Carpet Co. Bldg.
24	C	H. Lieber Co. Bldg.
20	C/NR	Selig's Dry Goods Co. Bldg
2	C	H.P. Wasson Co., Bldg.
1	C	L.S. Ayers & Co. Bldg.
NA	NC	Arts Garden
NA	C (structure)	Griffith Block Facade



WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT

PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information is identical for all photographs.

Washington Street-Monument Circle Historic District  
Marion County, Indiana  
Marsh Davis  
November 23, 1996  
IN Division Historic Preservation & Archaeology  
402 West Washington Street, Room W 274  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

- #1; East Washington St. at Delaware St.; View West.
- #2; 100 Blk East Washington St.; View Northwest.
- #3; 1st Blk. East Washington St. at Meridian St.; View Northeast.
- #4; 1st Blk. West Washington St. at Meridian St.; View West.
- #5; 1st Blk. West Washington St.; View Northeast.
- #6; 100 Blk. West Washington St.; View West.
- #7; East Market St. at Delaware St.; View West.
- #8; East Market St. at Monument Circle; View East
- #9; West Market St. at Monument Circle; View West.
- #10; 100 Blk. East Ohio St.; View Southeast.
- #11; North Capitol Ave. at West Washington St.; View Northeast.
- #12; North Illinois St. at Market St.; View South.
- #13; Meridian St. at Monument Circle; View South.
- #14; South Meridian St. at Maryland St.; View Northwest.
- #15; 1st Blk. North Pennsylvania St.; View Southeast.
- #16; 1st Blk. North Delaware St. at Washington St.; View Northwest.
- #17; 100 Blk. North Delaware St. at Market St.; View Northwest.
- #18; 100 Blk. North Delaware St. at Ohio St.; View Southwest.
- #19; Indiana Theatre, 143 West Washington St.; View North.
- #20; Indianapolis News Bldg., 30 West Washington St.; View Northeast.
- #21; L.S. Ayres & Co. Bldg., 1 West Washington St.; View Southwest.
- #22; Merchants National Bank Bldg., 11 South Meridian St.; View Southeast.
- #23; Kahn Tailoring Bldg., 7 North Meridian St.; View Northeast.
- #24; Hotel Washington, 32 East Washington St.(left of center); View Northwest.
- #25; Hannaman & Duzan Bldg., 40 East Washington St. (center); View Northeast.
- #26; Odd Fellows Bldg., 1 North Pennsylvania St.; View Northeast.
- #27; Harrison Hotel, 143 West Washington St.(far right); View Southwest.
- #28; Wm. H. Block Co. Bldg., 50 North Meridian St.; View Southwest.

WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT  
PHOTOGRAPHS

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- #29; Rink's Women's Store Bldg., 29 North Illinois St.; View Northeast.
- #30; IN State Soldiers' & Sailors' Monument, Monument Circle; View East.
- #31; Christ Church Cathedral, 125 Monument Circle; View Northeast.
- #32; Guaranty Bldg., 20 North Meridian St.; View Southwest.
- #33; Circle Tower, 5 East Market St.; View Southeast.
- #34; Consolidated Bldg. (center), 115 North Pennsylvania St.; View Northeast.
- #35; J.F. Wild Bank Bldg., 123-129 West Market St.; View Southeast.
- #36; Indiana Garage, 143-151 East Market St.; View Southeast.
- #37; K of P Lodge No. 56 Hall, 115-121 East Ohio Street, View Southeast.
- #38; Turner Bldg., 116 North Delaware St.; View West.
- #39; Elliot's Block, 14-22 East Maryland St.; View Northwest.



# 1 Washington St - Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co. IN



#2 Washington St - Monument Circle H.D. Merrill IV





#3 Washington St. - Monument Creek H.D. Marion Co IN



\*H Washington St - Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co IN



#5 Washington St - Monument Circle H-D - Marion, IN





# 6 Washington St - Monument Circle M.D. - Marion Co IN



#7 Washington St - Monument Circle H. D. Marion Co. IN



WATERBURY HOTEL

HARRISON TRAVEL INC.

HARRISON TR.

QUINCY

#8 Washington St-Monument Circle H-D-Marion Co. IN





#9 Washington St - Monument Circle MD Marion Co IN



#10 WASHINGTON ST-MONUMENT CIRCLE H.D. Marion Co, IN



#  
11 Washington St - Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co IN





#12 Washington St. - Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co. IN



#13 Washington St - Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co. IN



\*124 Washington St.-Monument Circle H.O. Marion Co IN





#15 - Washington St - Monument Circle HD Maxims IN



#16 Washington St.-Monument Circle H.D. Marin Co. IN



#17 Washington St - Monument Circle H. D. Marion Co. ZN



498 Washington St. Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co. IN





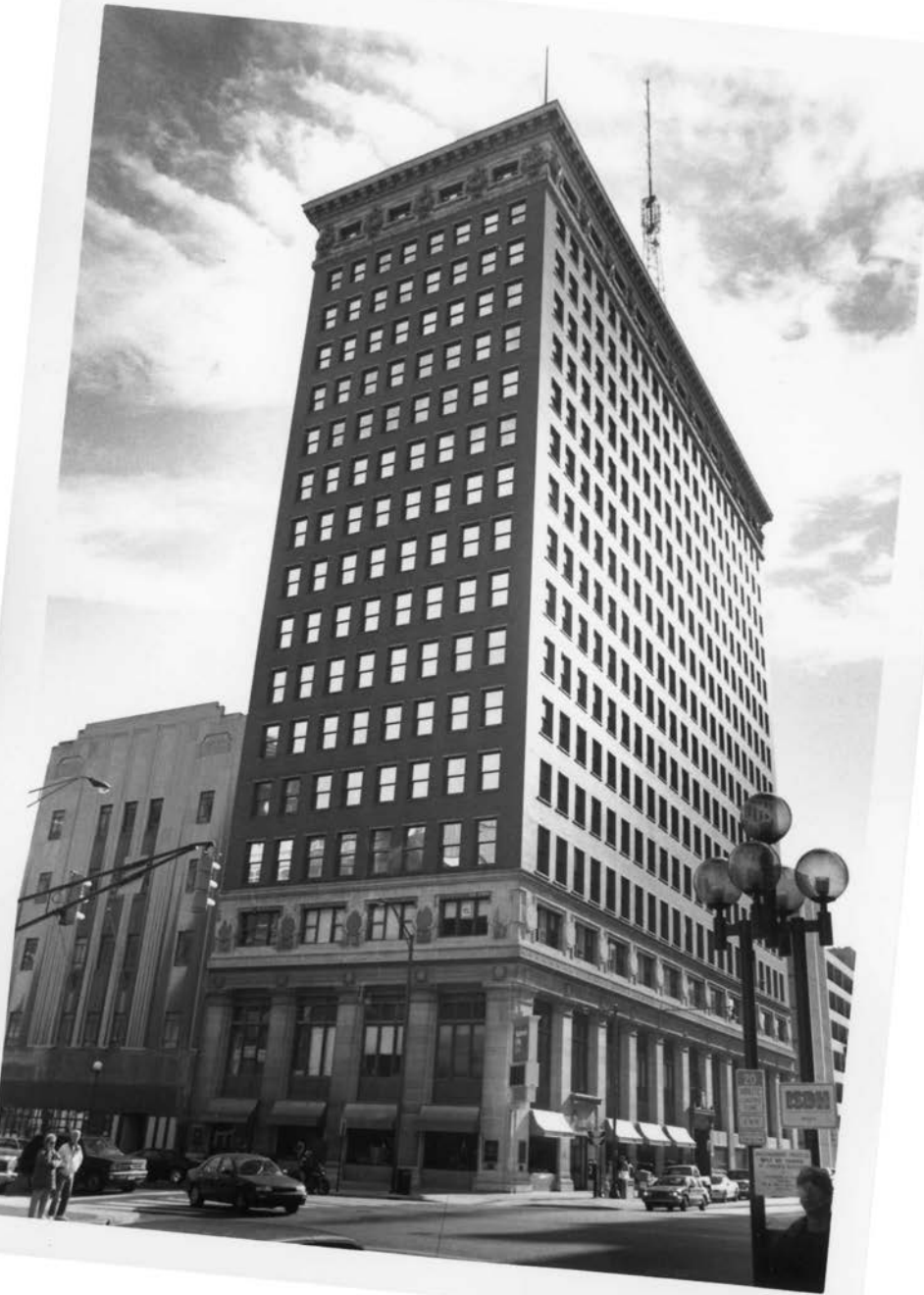
#19 Washington St-Monument Circle H.D. Madison Co IN



#  
20 Washington St-Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co. IN



#21 Washington St - Monument Creek H.D. Marimb ZN





#22 Washington St - Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co. IN



#23 Washington St. - Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co. IN



#24 Washing for St-Monument Circle M.D., Marion Co. ZN



#  
25 Washington St. - Monument Circle H.D., Marion Co. ZN





ROSELYN  
BAKERY

PLACE  
TERRAZZO  
DESIGNER - NEW

#26 Washington St.-Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co. IN



#27 Washington St. - Monument Circle H. D. Marion Co.  
IN



#  
28 Washington St. - Monument Circle H. D. Marion Co. IN

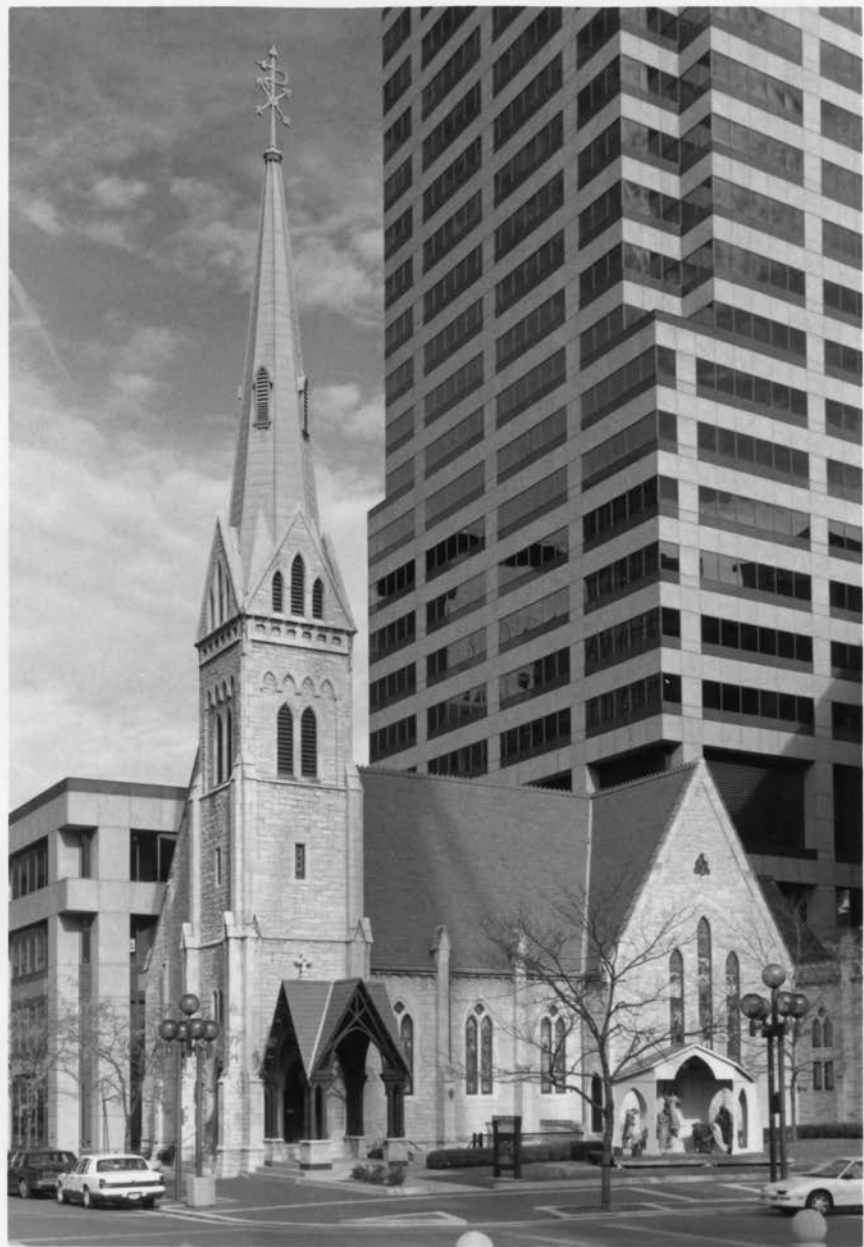


#29 Washington St.-Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co. IN





#30 Washington St. - Monument Circle H.D., Marion Co. IN



#<sub>31</sub> Washington St. - Monument Circle H.D., Marion Co. IN



#  
32 Washington St.-Monument Circle H.D., Marion Co. IN



#33, Washington St. - Monument Circle H.D., Marion Co., IN





#34, Washington St. - Monument Circle H. D. Marion Co, IN



#35, Washington St - Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co., IN



#36, Washington St. - Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co, IN



# 37, Washington St. - Monument Circle H.D. Marion Co. IN





# 38, Washington St. Monument Circle H. D. Marion Co. IN.



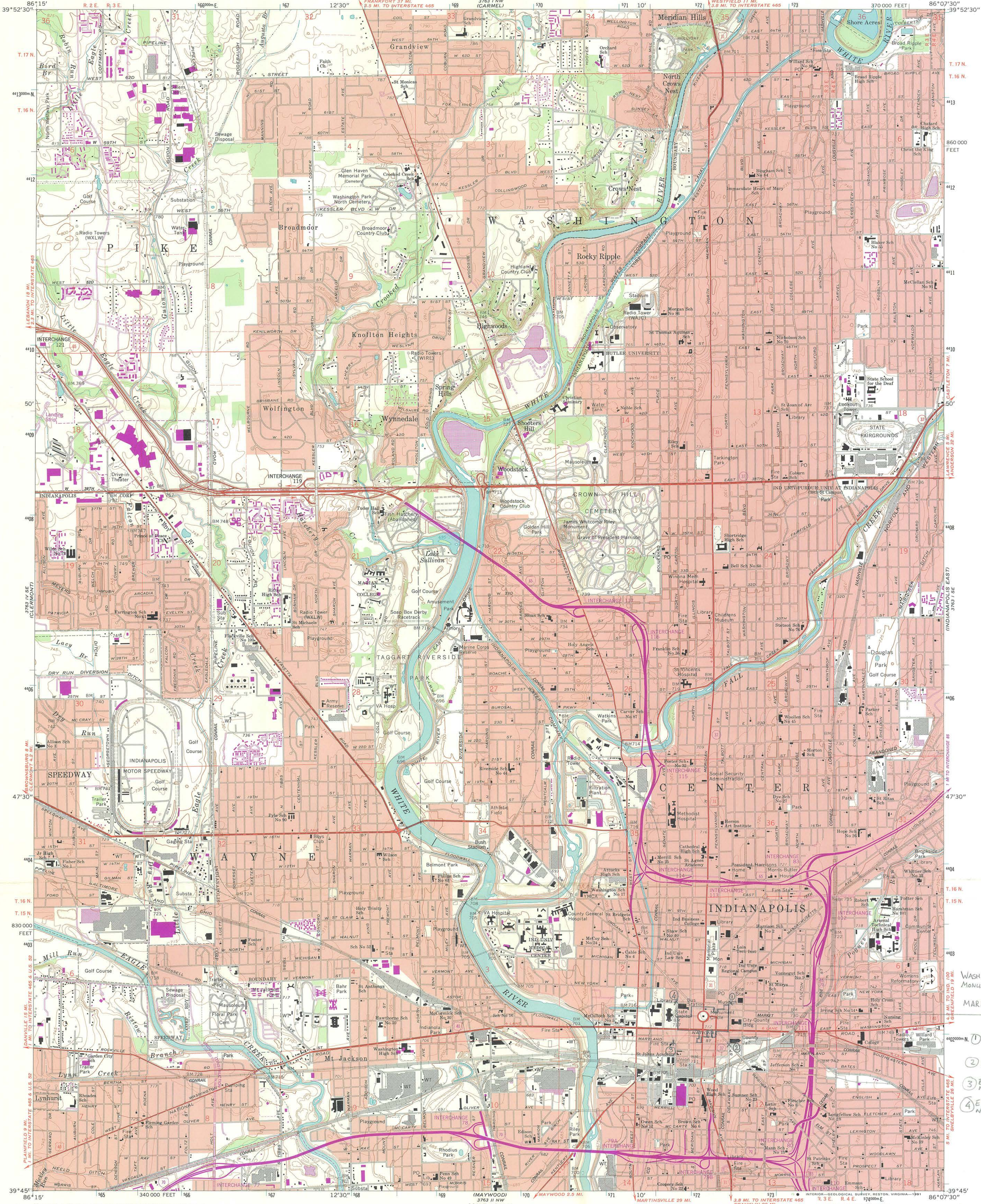
WORTH BANK

INDIANA BIKERS  
WANTED FOR RECRUITING  
AND RALLYING  
CALL 639-0515

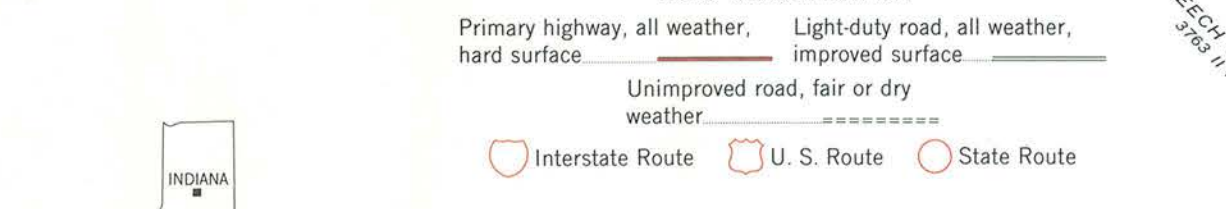
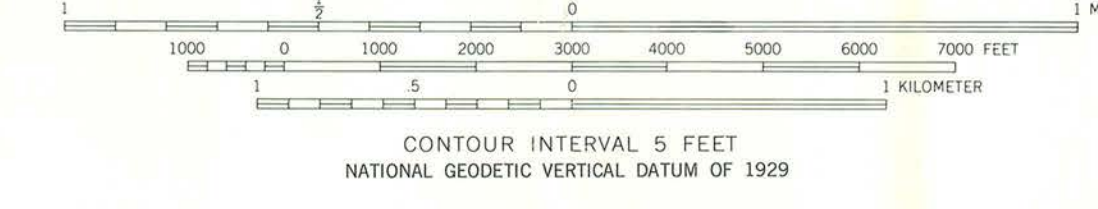
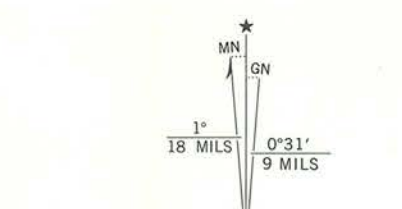
Available  
639-0515

# 39 Washington St - Monument Circle H. D. Marion Co IN





Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Indiana Flood Control and Water  
Resources Commission  
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1941. Topography by planetable surveys 1946  
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1967  
Polyconic projection  
10,000-foot grid based on Indiana coordinate system, east zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 16, shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum  
The difference between 1927 North American Datum and North  
American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) for 7.5-minute intersections  
is given in USGS Bulletin 1875. The NAD 83 is shown by  
dashed corner ticks  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



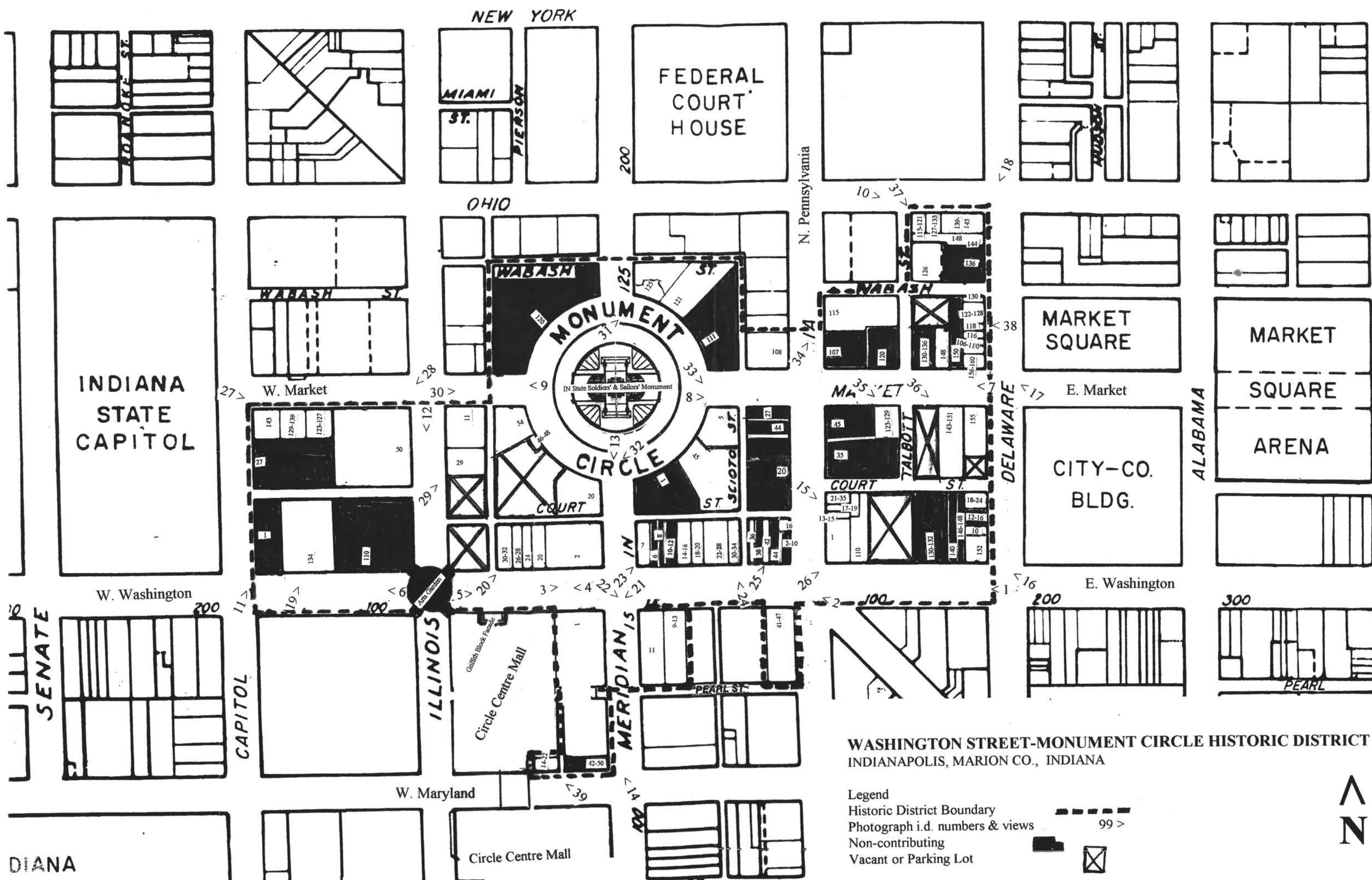
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of  
Indiana agencies from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other  
source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1980

INDIANAPOLIS WEST, IND.  
39086-G2-TF-024  
PHOTOINSPECTED 1984  
1967  
PHOTOREVISED 1980  
DMA 3763 1 SW—SERIES V851

WASHINGTON ST./  
MONUMENT CIRCLE H.D.  
MARION Co. IN  
2.16  
① E 572450  
N 4402350  
② E 572420  
N 4401870  
③ E 571780  
N 4401890  
④ E 571820  
N 4402340





**WASHINGTON STREET-MONUMENT CIRCLE HISTORIC DISTRICT  
INDIANAPOLIS, MARION CO., INDIANA**

- Legend
- Historic District Boundary
  - Photograph i.d. numbers & views  99 >
  - Non-contributing
  - Vacant or Parking Lot X



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Washington Street--Monument Circle Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: INDIANA, Marion

DATE RECEIVED: 8/29/97 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/09/97  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/25/97 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/13/97  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 97001179

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

\_\_\_ACCEPT \_\_\_RETURN \_\_\_REJECT \_\_\_\_\_DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LARRY D. MACKLIN, DIRECTOR

Division of Historic Preservation  
and Archaeology  
402 W. Washington St., Rm. 274  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
tel: 317-232-1646  
fax: 317-232-0693

August 11, 1997

Carol D. Shull  
Keeper of the National Register  
National Register Branch  
Interagency Resources Division  
National Park Service  
Post Office Box 7127  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed is a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Washington Street-Monument Circle Historic District in Marion County, Indiana.

The Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board reviewed the nomination and voted to recommend its inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jon C. Smith'. The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Jon Smith  
Director, Division of Historic Preservation  
and Archaeology

JCS:FDH:mb

Enclosure

"EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"



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