

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 88002112 Date Listed: 2/17/89

Walnut Street Historic District Delaware IN
Property Name: County: State:

Downtown Muncie MRA
Multiple Name

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.

Patrick Andrews

Signature of the Keeper

9/16/92
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

This Supplementary Listing Record amends the nomination of the Walnut Street Historic District by changing the status of two buildings in the district, 106 East Jackson Street and 200-202 S. Walnut Street. When the historic district was entered in the National Register, these two buildings were covered in modern (ca. 1970) materials and were thus listed as non-contributing. During a recent rehabilitation of the buildings, the modern sheathing materials were removed and it was revealed that a substantial amount of original exterior fabric of both buildings remained intact. The buildings retain a sufficient degree of original materials to contribute to the district's sense of time and place. The nomination for the Walnut Street Historic District is officially amended to change the status of 106 East Jackson Street and 200-202 S. Walnut Street to contributing to the historic district.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 5

2075
WALNUT STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

This district contains 93 buildings, 22 are non-contributing and 71 contribute to the area's history. There are no structures or sites in the district. There is one contributing object, a bronze sculpture at Charles and Walnut Streets seen in photo #59. There are no non-contributing objects.

The Walnut Street Historic District, comprised of the north-south core of Census Tract One, the central business district of Muncie, reflects several eras of the city's commercial, industrial, and civic growth. From its historic center, the courthouse square, the isolated agricultural community expanded to the east along Main Street, well into the mid-nineteenth century. The coming of the Indianapolis and Bellfountaine Railroad to Muncie in 1852 produced a rapid expansion in the city's population and stimulated commercial growth south along South Walnut Street. Originally mixed residential and commercial at its eastern and southern arms, the area encompassed by this district eventually became entirely commercial in nature.

A variety of architectural styles exist within the district. The majority of buildings were constructed between 1880 and 1920. Fine examples of the Italianate, Queen Anne, Classical Revival, Romanesque Revival, and the Beaux Arts styles are intermixed. Primarily of brick or stone construction with several examples of pressed metal and cast iron detailing, the buildings within this district reflect the attention to detail and the quality of workmanship indicative of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Although the scale of individual structures varies from narrow, two level storefronts to four and five story commercial quarter blocks, the overall sense of scale remains unified. The east-west, north-south square grid plan developed to the front property lines has resulted in a uniform street facade. While the failures of urban renewal have left regrettable "gaps" in the tissue of much of the city, the Walnut Street Historic District is fortunate to have over 70% of its 1880-1920 structural density intact. The Walnut Street Plaza, possessing the richest density of historic fabric, is open to vehicular traffic yet also can serve as a pedestrian mall to accommodate street fairs, festivals, and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 6

concerts.

The following are descriptions of representative buildings in the district.

110 East Main Street	Classical Revival
American National Bank	Contributing
1925	Building #118, photo #28

The American National Bank Building is a two-story detached commercial structure faced in ashlar limestone. The building has three bays defined by two-story round arched windows. The central bay window is divided to accommodate the main entry, which has an architrave surround is enriched with acanthus and garland motifs. Decorative roundels are placed above and to either side of the entry bay. The structure has a full entablature with a leaf-and-tongue molding on the architrave, as inscription on the frieze and dentils under the cornice. The inscription reads "American National Bank & Trust Company" and is flanked by acanthus tablets. A paneled parapet rest above the entablature. It has a decorative cartouche in the center. The bank has a flat roof. The west facade was altered c.1950.

200 East Main Street	20th Century Functional
Little Block	Contributing
1902	Building #130, photo #30

This structure is two stories tall and occupies a corner lot. The ground floor was altered in c.1982, when it was refaced with modern brick. One bay to the east was rehabilitated using a glass storefront and recessed entry, probably close in design to the building's original appearance. The corner bay is chamfered and has a principle entry. The second floor is of running bond brick with irregularly placed window groupings. The windows are one-over-one double hung sash with limestone sills and lintels. There are three groupings of three windows on the south elevation. The Little Block has a metal cornice with large brackets marking the chamfered bay, smaller brackets framing frieze panels and modillions.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 7

115 North Mulberry Street 20th Century Functional
Guardian Title Building Contributing
c.1915 Building #115, photo #31

The Guardian Title Building has exceptional integrity. The structure is three stories tall and is faced in tan brick. The storefronts are divided by brick pilasters with dressed limestone bases, there are three pilasters with narrow windows in between on either side of the main entry and two located towards either corner of the facade. Storefronts have large single lights with three-light transoms. The entry has double leaf glazed doors with sidelights and transoms. A metal cornice divides the first floor from the upper levels. The second and third floors are organized into three recessed panels, each having three windows on each story in each panel. At the third floor sill level, one finds heavy, rock-faced limestone blocks on the pilasters dividing the panels. All fenestration is one-over-one double hung wood sash with rock-faced limestone sills and lintels. Above the paneled areas is a narrow metal cornice, a horizontal paneled area and a metal entablature with dentils, modillions and a prominent cornice. A parapet completes this flat roofed building.

216-224 East Main Street Italianate
Boyce Block Contributing
1880 (Listed) Building #128, photo #33

The Boyce Block is an outstanding example of the commercial Italianate style. The building is two stories in height, and it covers a half block. The first story retains most of its original storefronts, consisting of brick pilasters with stone banding and Corinthianesque capitals alternating with ornate cast-iron Corinthian columns. The storefronts have large plate glass windows with leaded multi-paned transoms. The front to the west was altered in about 1960, but this part of the building has housed a theatre since about 1900. A metal cornice separates the first and second floors. The second level is defined by brick pilasters with a brick corbel table above the window lintels. All windows on this story are one-over-one double hung sash with ornately incised limestone lintels. A massive metal cornice rests above the second story. It has large brackets, a frieze of antefixes and a central pediment with the name of the building placed on it.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 8

The entire building was recently rehabilitated, the paint has been stripped and the limestone detailing is more apparent.

300-304 East Main Street	Classical Revival
Commercial Club Building	Contributing
1904	Building #141, photo #34

This is a three-story, attached commercial building constructed of stretcher bond tan brick and limestone. The first level has stone pilasters. The storefronts were altered in about 1980. The principle facade, which faces south, has two round arched windows flanking a central Palladian window group on the second floor. The Palladian window group is contained within a broad elliptical arch. These arched windows have limestone springers and keystones. Most of the second floor windows are six-over-six double hung sash. Stone pilasters divide the main facade into three bays. The third floor has two square three-over-three windows on either side of a limestone tablet. The tablet reads "COMMERCIAL CLUB" and has a shouldered molding and swag ornaments below. The Third floor windows have Greek key style lintels. The west elevation of the building has two pilasters separating the end bays from the central portion. The second floor has round arched windows in the end bays. The central portion consists of alternating window types; pairs of windows with stone flat arches alternate with Palladian window groups, similar in detail to the main facade. The third floor has the same third floor windows as the main facade in the end bays. The central portion has similar windows, with flat arch lintels instead of the key design. The Commercial Club has a plain metal entablature and parapet. A broad hip roof crowns the building. Gabled dormers punctuate the roofline. One is centered on the main facade and three are found on the west facade. The dormers have a cornice with returns and thermal windows infill the dormer fronts. The dormers light a vast third floor ballroom (not pictured).

103 East Main Street	Italianate
Patterson Block	Contributing
c.1880	Building #151, photo #35

The Patterson Block is the second largest pre-1900 building in the Walnut Street Historic District, next to the Boyce Block. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

composed of a corbel arcade in brick and a stone corbel table. The third story of the principle elevation has three massive round arched windows with multiple archivolts and multi-coursed arches. The sash have been replaced. Limestone basket-weave capitals mark the corners of the building. The Goddard Block has an elaborate cornice consisting of brick dentils, a limestone beltcourse, a brick corbel arcade and a metal cornice and parapet. A scroll pediment with inscriptions is centered over the main facade. The side elevation has the same cornice and belt coursing as the main facade, but the windows have segmental arches and are not symmetrically placed.

125 East Charles Street	Tudor Revival
F. D. Rose Building	Contributing
1926 (Listed)	Building #204, photo #58

Banker F. D. Rose supposedly had this building designed to resemble rustic European architecture, which he had seen first hand during World War I. The picturesque structure is two and one-half stories in height. The storefronts are of brick with large plate glass windows and transoms. The second story is stuccoed and has paired steel casement windows, with eight lights. The building has several cross gables which project forward and are jettied over the first story. The cross gables have brackets at the corners and half-timbering decoration in the gable ends. Small casement windows are centered in these gable ends also. The building has a hip roof over the main block. The roof is covered in random color and size slates. Two gabled dormers echo the cross gable designs on the east elevation. This building was recently rehabilitated using the Investment Tax Credit program.

400 South Walnut Street	Beaux-Arts
McNaughton Block	Contributing
1903	Building #202, photo #59

Built in 1903 by architects Crapsey and McCullough, the McNaughton Block is one of the finest commercial buildings in the city. The building is five stories in height and is detailed on two elevations. The first and mezzanine (second) stories are faced in dressed limestone while the upper facades are of stretcher bond brick. A series of limestone pilasters define the storefronts,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 11

which have been replaced with modern windows. The main entry is on the west elevation. It features two monolithic Tuscan columns in antis surmounted by a large round arch with radiating voussiors and a console keystone. The second story has square windows, the walls have channeled stonework. There are three windows at this level on either side of the round arch. The third and fourth stories are treated as one level with seven bays. In the center, above the round arch, one finds a semi-hexagonal bay flanked by two giant order Corinthian columns in antis. The columns are fluted. Two sections stand on either side of this area, they have Corinthian pilasters designed to match the columns. The third and fourth levels within these sections are marked by paneled spandrels. The end bays have channeled brickwork and the window areas are defined by architrave surrounds and projecting stills resting on consoles. A plain entablature divides the third and fourth stories from the fifth level. The central bay has a wide opening flanked by cartouches. All windows at this story have shouldered surrounds with large keystones. A dentiled cornice rests above the fifth story. The building is crowned by a blank parapet with distinctive fleur-de-lis and antefix crestwork. The north elevation has much of the same detailing as the west elevation, but it lacks the round arched entry and semi-hexagonal bay. All of the large double-hung windows of the building were replaced in about 1960 with glass blocks.

117-125 West Charles Street
Geiger Block
1896

Queen Anne
Contributing
Building #195, photo #62

This building is a two-story, detached commercial structure with simple Queen Anne detailing. The first floor has large glass storefronts with brick piers at the corners of the structure and simple cast-iron pilasters separating the doors and glazing areas. The central storefront and one to the east were altered in about 1965. The second story is of red brick. The second level is punctuated by pressed metal oriel windows; there are two in the center of the facade, and two flanking these, separated by a regular window. The oriels have one-over-one double-hung windows. The "regular" windows are one-over-one sash also, and they have multiple coursed flat arch lintels with dentil course on the top edge. Two regular windows are found on either end of the second

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 12

floor. Two three-story octagonal turrets mark the corners of the building. The turrets have stone pilasters with dentiled capitals, a stone belt course over the second story windows and round arched windows with sawtooth coursed arches on the third level. The turrets have octagonal spires. The parapet of this flat roof building has two brick dentil courses. Brick piers frame the metal name plate of the building.

401 South High Street	Classical Revival
Old Post Office and Federal	
Building	Contributing
1907	Building #194, photo #63

The Old Post Office is one of few former public buildings in MRA boundaries. It is a one and one-half story limestone building. The building has two elevations of equal importance. The north elevation has three bays with an entry to the east.

The bays are divided by Doric pilasters. The windows and entry have shouldered architrave surrounds surmounted by a bowed frieze and cornice. The sash are six-over-six double hung. The entry has a transomed door with a larger transom above. The east elevation is more ornate in character. It has projecting end bays with one window each to match those of the north elevation. Between the end pavilions are six bays separated by Doric pilasters, each by having a round arched opening with molded archivolt with scroll keystones. Each arch has a fanlight. The two central and two end bays have six-over-six windows with multi-paned sidelights under the fanlights. The second and fifth bays of this section house entries with stone stairs. The entry bays have a wood Doric frieze, with triglyphs and metopes between the transomed doorway and the fanlight. A plain entablature with modillions and a paneled parapet finish the exterior walls. The Old Post Office has a low, truncated hip roof with six bulls-eye dormers on the east elevation. A sympathetic addition was placed on the west side of the building in 1930, including a loading dock area.

420 South High Street	Classical Revival/Colonial Revival
Roberts Hotel	Contributing
1921 (Listed)	Building #201, photo #66

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 13

The Roberts Hotel is the largest 20th century historic building in the MRA boundaries. The building is seven stories tall, rectangular in plan and built of red brick with limestone detailing. The first two stories are mostly limestone. The stories are united by paired Corinthianesque pilasters which define each bay. First story fenestration consists of one rectangular single light flanked by six-over-nine double hung sash. The second (mezzanine) level has square three-over-six windows. A plain entablature finishes the "base" of the building. Above the second story, the building has corner pavilions marked by brick quoins and limestone urn bas-reliefs. The third story windows have shouldered surrounds. The fourth through sixth stories have the same treatment on each story. All windows above the second story are six-over-six sash., A frieze band with limestone beltcourses and medallions with swags divides the uppermost story from the rest of the building. A wood cornice with dentils and a plain brick parapet rests on top of the hotel.

525 South Walnut Street
Cohen Block
c.1900

Classical Revival/Eclectic
Contributing
Building #209, photo #68

One of the most eclectic buildings in the district, the Cohen Block is a three story, tan brick, attached commercial structure. Storefronts are marked by brick pilasters on the first floor. Several storefronts remain intact, while others have been boarded over. The main entry is centered in the south elevation, and consists of two Scamozzi Ionic pilasters supporting consoles and an arched hood, all in terra-cotta. The south elevation has two end pavilions indicated by alternating quoinwork. All windows on the upper stories of the building have brick segmental arches with keystones. Windows are paired in the central area, and organized in bands on the end pavilions. End pavilion windows are divided by pilasters with corbeled capitals. Second floor fenestration is one-over-one double hung sash, while the third floor features eight-over-eight sash with four light transoms. The west pavilion of the south elevation has paired windows with quoins, but the east pavilion of the south elevation has a broad segmental arch with radiating voussiors and quoins encompassing four windows. The arch has an extra transom of leaded glass. Lozenge patterns are symmetrically placed across the upper facade. The end

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 14

pavilions have curvilinear broken pediments, while the central portion of the south facade has a corbeled cornice. The east elevation repeats many of the same details of the south elevation, but is organized around a central pavilion with a broken pediment.

601 South Walnut Street Italianate
Marsh Block Contributing
1888 Building #209, photo #73

The Italianate style remained popular in Muncie well into the last quarter of the 19th century, as seen in this two-story brick commercial building. The building is composed of two projecting end sections and a prominent central bay. Most of the original brick piers and cast-iron pilasters have survived, but the open plate glass storefronts have been altered in various ways. Sections of leaded glass storefronts also exist in the south bays. A rowlock brick course and a rock-faced limestone beltcourse separate the stories. Each section of the facade has two one-over-one double hung windows with plain stone sills and ornate lintels. The lintels have incised motifs and a dogtooth inside edge. An emphatic corbel table marks the upper facade. A metal cornice runs across the building, and there is a segmental arched nameplate over the center area.

614 South Walnut Street Renaissance Revival
Haymond Block Contributing
1904 Building #216, photo #74

The Haymond Block is a typical early 20th century commercial building in the Walnut Street Historic District. The tan and dark brick structure is three and one-half stories in height and occupies a narrow lot. A rock-faced stone pier and a cast-iron pilaster frame the altered storefront. Two projecting vertical sections flank a central bay above the ground floor. The brickwork has three courses of tan brick to one course of dark brick, producing a brilliant pattern. The second story end windows have flat arches with radiating voussoirs, and the third story end windows are round arched with radiating voussoirs. The central area has one large square window on the second floor with brick panels above. A broad round arched window marks the center of the third floor. It has molded archivolt, a stone keystone and it is divided into two lights by a wood mullion. An egg-and -

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 15

dart molding and stone beltcourse run above the third floor level. The half story has niches framed by pilasters on the end bays and a stone name tablet in the center. A brick parapet completes this flat roofed building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 16

WALNUT STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT INDIVIDUAL STRUCTURE RATING

<u>Bldg. No.</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Date and Rating</u>
84	Commercial Building 207 N. High Street	c. 1890 Contributing
85	C. W. Swain Building 201 N, High Street	1896 Contributing
86	The Washington 100-116 E. Washington St.	c.1930 Contributing
86A	Commercial Building 120 E. Washington St.	Non-contributing
86B	Moore-Youse Maxon House 122 E. Washington St.	c.1860 Contributing
109A	Arrasmith Building 123 North High Street	c.1906 Contributing
109B	Commercial Building 119 North High Street	Non-contributing
109C	Commercial Building 117 North High Street	c.1915 Contributing
110A	Commercial Building 107 North High Street	c.1880 Contributing
110B	Commercial Building 105 North High Street	c.1875 Contributing
111	Commercial Building 103 North High Street	c.1865 Contributing
112	Masonic Lodge Building 200 West Main Street	1863 Contributing
112A	Delaware County Courthouse	1966 Non-contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 17

113	J. H. Williamson Bldg. 124 North Walnut Street	1916 Contributing
114	Commercial Building 121 North Mulberry Street	c.1925 Contributing
115	Guardian Title Building 115 North Mulberry Street	c.1915 Contributing
116	Neely Block 124 East Main Street	c.1900 Contributing
117	Commercial Building 120 East Main Street	c.1924 Non-contributing
118	American National Bank 110 East Main Street	1924 Contributing
119	Commercial Building 116 North Walnut Street	c.1950 Non-contributing
120	Commercial Building 118 North Walnut Street	c.1910 Contributing
121	Commercial Building 120 North Walnut Street	c.1905 Contributing
122	Commercial Building 122 North Walnut Street	c.1910 Contributing
123	Commercial Building 122 North Mulberry Street	c.1955 Non-contributing
124	City Garage 211-213 E. Washington St.	c.1930 Contributing
125	House 217 E. Washington St.	c.1890 Contributing
126	Gas Station 225 E. Washington St.	Non-contributing
127	Apartment Building 119 South Jefferson St.	c.1910 Contributing
128	Boyce Block 216-224 East Main St.	c.1880 Contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 18

129	Commercial Building 206 East Main Street	c.1890 Contributing
130	Little Block 200 East Main Street	c.1890 Contributing
131-32	Commercial Building 114-16 North Mulberry St.	c.1910 Non-contributing
133	Commercial Building 118 North Mulberry St.	c.1905 Contributing
134	Commercial Building 120 North Mulberry St.	c.1905 Contributing
139	Scott Building 312 East Main Street	c.1905 Contributing
140	Commercial Building 308 East Main St.	c.1915 Contributing
141	Commercial Building 300 East Main Street	c.1915 Contributing
145 146 147	Commercial Group 111-107 West Main Street	No rating c.1890 (Demolished, April 1987)
148	Wysor Block 101 South walnut St.	No Rating c.1906 (Demolished, April 1987)
149	Commercial Block 115 South Walnut St.	c.1940 Non-contributing
150	Anthony Block 127-125 South Walnut St.	c.1888 Contributing
151	Patterson Block 103 East Main St.	c.1881 Contributing
152	Commercial Building 107 East Main Street	c.1880 Contributing
153A	Commercial Building 109 East Main Street	c.1900 Contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 19

153B	Commercial Building 111 East Main Street	c.1890 Non-contributing
154	Commercial Building 117 East Main Street	c.1890 Contributing
155	Commercial Building 119-125 East Main St.	c.1900 Contributing
156	I.O.O.F. Building 124-120 South Walnut St.	c.1890 Non-contributing
157	Heath Iron building 116 South Walnut Street	c.1885 Contributing
158	Commercial Building 114 South Walnut Street	c.1890 Non-contributing
162	Commercial Building 109-111 West Jackson St.	c.1880 Contributing
163	Commercial Building 107 West Jackson St.	c.1890 Contributing
164	Winans Block 203-201 South Walnut St.	c.1906 Contributing
165	Commercial Building 205 South Walnut Street	c.1888 Contributing
166	Ballard Hardware 207 South Walnut Street	c.1916 Contributing
167	Crystal Theatre 209 South Walnut St.	c.1881 Contributing
168	Penzel Bookstore 211 South Walnut Street	c.1896 Contributing
169	Commercial Building 215 South Walnut Street	Non-contributing
170	Bliss & Fudge Building 217 South Walnut St.	c.1890 Non-contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 20

171	Commercial Building 221-223 South Walnut St.	Non-contributing
173	Commercial Building 202-200 South Walnut St. 111 East Jackson	Non-contributing
174	Bank 220 South Walnut St.	c.1980 Non-contributing
175	Commercial Building 210-208 South Walnut St.	c.1895 Contributing
176	Commercial Building 206 South Walnut Street	c.1890 Non-contributing
177	Commercial Building 204 South Walnut Street	c.1890 Non-contributing
183	Mitchell Building 301 South Walnut Street	c.1908 Contributing
184	Commercial Building 313-309 South Walnut Street	Non-contributing
187	Goddard Building 302-300 South Walnut Street	c.1890-94 Contributing
190	Columbia Building 306 South Walnut Street	c.1920 Contributing
191	Commercial Building 304 South Walnut Street	c.1890 Contributing
194	Federal Building 401 South High Street	1907 Contributing
195	Geiger Block 117-125 West Charles St.	c.1896 Contributing
196	Freund Building 401 South Walnut Street	c.1906 Contributing
197	Commercial Building 409 South Walnut Street	c.1890 Contributing

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 21

198	Commercial Building 411 South Walnut Street	c.1890 Contributing
199	Commercial Building 421 South Walnut Street	c.1960 Non-contributing
200	Commercial Building 425 South Walnut Street	c.1895 Contributing
201	Roberts Hotel 430 High Street	c.1921 Contributing
202	McNaughton Block 400 South Walnut Street	1901-03 Contributing
203	F. T. Roots Building 119 East Charles Street	c.1890 Contributing
204	F. D. Rose Building 125 East Charles St.	c.1926 Contributing
205	Benadum Building 420 South Walnut Street	c.1905 Contributing
208	Commercial Building 521 South Walnut Street	c.1900 Contributing
209	Cohen Block 525 South Walnut Street	c.1900 Contributing
210	Commercial Building 528 South High Street	Non-contributing
211	Eagles Lodge 520 South High Street	c.1900 Contributing
212	Commercial Building 600 South Walnut Street	c.1900 Contributing
214	Feinberg Building 125 West Seymour Street	c.1899 Contributing
215	March Block 601-609 South Walnut St.	c.1888 contributing
216	Haymond Block 614 South Walnut Street	c.1904 Contributing
218	Commercial Building 616 South Walnut Street	c.1905 Contributing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

WALNUT STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

A number of historic resources are located within the Walnut Street Historic District. Hardly any of these date from the years between 1827 when the town was first platted and the beginning of the Civil War in 1860. One well documented structure does remain from that period. The Moore-Youse-Maxon House (#386, photo #77, listed 5-24-84), a Federal-Greek Revival structure built c.1860, is currently owned by the Delaware County Historical Society. It is one of five or six of the earliest houses in the entire city, and is the best frame example from the pre-Civil War period.

The majority of buildings within the district are from the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century and represent a cross section of architectural styles from that period. Many buildings within the area are of Italianate design, the most widely used nineteenth century style in Indiana commercial architecture. These include larger commercial blocks with retail store fronts on the first level and office space on the upper floors. An example of this is the Patterson Block (#151, photo #35), c.1876, distinguished by its fine cast iron detailing. Smaller scaled examples of commercial Italianate architecture are also represented in the Walnut Street district. An example is the building at 209 South Walnut Street (#167, photo #44), c.1881. The Italianate remained an important style to the turn of the century. One of the latest examples in the district is the building at 208-210 South Walnut Street (#175, photo #49) built c.1895.

The influence of H. H. Richardson's Romanesque Revival style, characterized by a rock faced stone exterior, can be seen in the Anthony Block (#150, photo #38), c.1888. Designed by Otter and Williams of Dayton, Ohio, it is the only building in Muncie featuring Texas Red Buff Sandstone. Another significant example of the Romanesque Revival influence, perhaps the city's best, is Union Station (#219, photo #72), constructed in two stages between 1891 and 1902. It was built on the site of the old Indianapolis and Bellfountaine Depot by the newly formed Cleveland, Cincinnati, Columbus and St. Louis Railway Company during the years that Cornelius Vanderbilt owned "the big four". It is a prime example of a small scale use of this style for turn-of-the-century railway depots in the mid-west. The oldest known commercial structure remaining in the downtown area is the Old Masonic Hall #112, photo

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

#24). This structure has faint suggestion of Romanesque massiveness in the corbelled brick relief work at the attic story. The delicate keystone hoods above the third floor fenestration and the simple linetelled tops of the second floor windows illustrate the variety of stylistic influences affecting nineteenth century commercial architecture. The hall, built in 1863, was the first permanent meeting quarters for Delaware Lodge No. 46, the oldest Masonic body in Delaware County. On May 23, 1843, the Free and Accepted Masons of Muncie were given their charter. Meetings were held at the home of Dr. Samuel P. Anthony until the organization's growing membership required more ample and accessible lodge rooms. Many Masons received their degrees in this hall in 1905. Subsequently, this structure has housed the Muncie Evening Press, the Woodbury Elliot Grain Company, a photo studio and, in later years, the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

In addition to the Italianate and the Romanesque Revival, the Queen Anne style, one of the richest of nineteenth century architectural styles, is represented in the district. The outstanding C. W. Swain Building (#85, photo #22) was designed by Nethercot & Hutchings in 1896. Constructed of stone and brick, this building has been sensitively rehabilitated.

The district also contains several excellent examples of the Beaux Arts styles from the turn of the century. The McNaughton Block (#202, photo #59) was constructed between 1901-03. It was designed by Crapsey and McCullough and served as the William A. McNaughton Company department Store until 1932. The Mitchell Block (#183, photo #55), completed in 1909, is another example of Beaux Arts design. This building has steel beam construction, an Indiana limestone exterior and a false fourth story to mask its roof. It was built by Dr. Harvey Mitchell on the site of his original home and office and was subsequently inherited by his daughter, Harriet Mitchell Anthony. The Old Post Office, erected in 1907 and expanded in 1930, is another splendid example of the Beaux Arts idiom. This building was designed by James Knox Taylor, supervising architect of the Treasury Department. It also was constructed of Bedford limestone. Similarly, the American National Bank Building #3118, photo #28), built in 1924, also employed limestone construction along with marble and brick.

The section of the district known as "rats' row", originally a red-light district, grew increasingly respectable as commercial

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 7

development expanded towards the rail lines. The Marsh Block (#215, photo #73) of 1888 along the southern edge of the district housed the New Southern Hotel on its second level and a variety of businesses on its ground floor. The building was constructed by William Marsh and Harry Streeter as a speculative venture and is the only remaining "gas boom" hotel in the city. The heavy corbelled brick cornice yields a sense of mass similar to that of the Old Masonic Hall of 1863. The massing of end and center pavilions gives this structure a more formal nature. In that respect the building is somewhat like the larger, grander Roberts Hotel (#201, photo #66, listed 7-15-81) of 1924. That six story brick and limestone structure has housed some of the city's most famous and infamous guests including Eleanor Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, John Dillinger, and Al Capone.

The influence of transportation on the district is noticeable along the entire length of the rail lines. Of special significance is the Goddard Warehouse (#213, photo #71) constructed by Joseph Goddard, an enterprising grocer. Goddard capitalized on the city's prosperity and used its assets to become one of the region's major grocery wholesalers. The warehouse is a four story structure of brick with distinctive brick and limestone detail.

Restoration activities within the Walnut Street Historic District are ongoing. However, many facades have been partially or entirely obscured by attempts at modernization. Excellent examples of adaptive re-use include the Rose Court Building (#204, photo #58, listed 3-1-84) which provides space for a number of businesses. The investment tax credit incentives and a current city government sensitive to the need to protect cultural resources will continue to encourage rehabilitation. Currently there is no comprehensive plan for the area.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: 18

UTM References:	16 637200	4450 420
	16 637560	4450 350
	16 637420	4449 780
	16 637260	4449 740

WALNUT STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point at the intersection of the south right of way

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 8

line of the alley north of West Washington Street and the east right of way line of the alley west of North High Street, then proceeding east along the alley approximately 250 feet to the west curbline of North High Street, then south along that line to the south curbline of West Washington street, then east along that line to the west curbline of North Walnut Street, then north along that line to the alley north of East Washington Street, then east along that line to the west curbline of North Mulberry Street, then south along that line to the south curbline of East Washington Street, then east along that line to the west curbline of North Jefferson Street, then south along that line to the south right of way line of the alley north of East Main Street, then east along that line to the eastern property line of 312 East Main Street, then south along the property line to the north curbline of East Main Street, then west along that line to the west curbline of North Mulberry Street, then south along that line to the alley north of East Jackson Street, then west along that line to the alley east of South Walnut Street, then south along that line to the south curbline of east Charles Street, then east along that line to the west curbline of South Mulberry street, then wouth along that line to the north curbline of East Howard Street, then west along that line to the alley east of South walnut Street, then south along that line to the north curbline of East Victor Street, then southwest along that line to the east curbline of South High street, then north along that line to the alley north of West Seymour Street, then east along that line to the west curbline of South Walnut street, then north along that line to the north curbline of West Howard Street, then west along that line to the alley west of South High Street, then north along that line to the south curbline of West Charles Street, then east along that line to the alley west of South walnut Street, then north along that line to the north curbline of West Main Street, then west along that line to the alley west of North High street, then north to the point of origin.