

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: 92001646

Date Listed: 12/07/92

Metamora Historic District
Property Name

Franklin
County

IN
State

N/A

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.

(for) Patricia Indus
Signature of the Keeper

12/14/92
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

U.T.M.: The northing value for UTM coordinate #3 is amended to read 4367650, to correspond to the correct value cited on the USGS map.

Photographs: Photograph #17 is described as: Main Street east of Bridge Street; 1991; camera facing S/SE.
Photograph #27 is described as: Main Street at Pond Alley; 1991; camera facing west/southwest.

Classification: The resource count listed in section #4 and section #7 p.2 is inconsistent. The revised count is amended to read 40 non-contributing buildings and 4 non-contributing objects.
[The 4th lamp is at Columbia & Clayborn Sts.]

This information was confirmed in telephone conversations with Paul Diebold of the Indiana SHPO on 12/07/92 & 12/08/92.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

16046

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

OCT 30 1992

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 Metamora Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number See continuation sheet N/A not for publication

city or town Metamora N/A vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Franklin code 047 zip code 47030

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 36 CFR 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.)

Patrick R. Reibter

10-20-92

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State of 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 of the Keeper

Date of Action

Patrick Andrus

12/7/92

Metamora H.D.
Name of Property

Franklin Co., INC.
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(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>115</u>	<u>40</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	objects
<u>125</u>	<u>55</u>	Total

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

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

4

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

See continuation sheet

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival
Gothic Revival
Italianate

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: limestone
walls WOOD: weatherboard
BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other STONE: limestone
METAL: steel

Narrative Description

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

Metamora H.D.
Name of Property

Franklin Co., IN
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical 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 # IN-20 (Aqueduct)
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

ENGINEERING

TRANSPORTATION

Period of Significance

1838 - c.1923

Significant Dates

NA

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory

Metamora H.D.
Name of Property

Franklin Co., Ind.
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 34

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 1 6 6 6 0 9 9 0 4 3 6 7 9 8 0
Zone Easting Northing
2 1 6 6 6 0 2 9 0 4 3 6 8 1 0 0

3 1 6 6 6 0 2 3 0 3 3 6 7 6 5 0
Zone Easting Northing
4 1 6 6 6 0 9 3 0 4 3 6 7 5 9 0

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 with R. Paul Baudendistel
organization for Historic Metamora, Inc. date March 31, 1992
street & number 401 E. 41st St. telephone (317) 283-7820
city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46205

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.

**METAMORA HISTORIC DISTRICT
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

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2. Location

Roughly bounded by U.S. Highway 52, Columbia Street, the Whitewater Canal, Duck Creek, Mount Street and Main Street.

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6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

DOMESTIC: single & multiple dwellings, hotel, & secondary
 structures
COMMERCE: business & financial
SOCIAL: meeting halls
RELIGION: religious structures
INDUSTRY: manufacturing facility
TRANSPORTATION: rail and water related

Current Functions

DOMESTIC: single and multiple dwellings
COMMERCE: business
SOCIAL: meeting halls
RELIGION: religious structures
PARK: state park

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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The Metamora Historic District is a nineteenth century village with numerous houses, a commercial Main Street, industrial buildings and two churches. Metamora is distinct from other villages of similar vintage and size as the Main Street is split by a canal filled with flowing water.

The district is irregular in shape, but is generally linear as the canal and Main Street serve as the core with the highest concentration of historic resources. Most of the historic resources front the east-west streets (from south to north) of Mount (#2), Main (#7, 10, 16, 17, 23 & 25) Clayborn (#36), and Wynn. With the exception of one house, the north side of Mount Street is the southern edge of the district. The eastern extremity of the district is the railroad bridge and aqueduct. The district widens at Columbia Street as Columbia and Wynn Streets are included. The southern right-of-way of U.S. Highway 52 serves as the northern edge of the district between Columbia Street and Mount Alley. The northwestern edge of the district is irregular following the lot lines at the foot of the hill. The boundary includes the south side of Clayborn Street, ascending the hill to include the Dr. Conner House (#30). The southwest edge of the district is irregular because the boundary includes the mill (#5 & 6) but excludes non-historic buildings in the Duck Creek Crossing Addition.

The district lies in low-lying, flat bottomland, with a slight slope from north to south. The northwest edge of the district lies at the foot of a hill with Clayborn Street beginning its climb at Walnut Alley. The eastern end of the district is very low as the land slopes down to meet Duck Creek. The lowness of the east end of Main Street is made apparent by the raised earthen walls of the canal (#27 & 25). Mature shade trees line the northern side of the canal (#25) and are found throughout the district. A number of buildings have large Laurel limestone flagstones for sidewalks (#9 & 19), some properties have concrete walks and many have no paved sidewalks at all.

The district contains very little vacant land. The only large vacant area is composed of five contiguous vacant lots between the canal and Clayborn Street, immediately north of the mill. A portion of this area functions as a park picnic area (#33) serving the state memorial, but historically a 3-unit attached dwelling and a mill stood here. Two vacant lots fronting Mount Street are divided by the vacated Locust Alley; these two lots have never been developed. Most of the historic lots in the original plat and historic additions south of U.S. Highway 52 are included in the district. The district's contributing primary buildings include houses, commercial and industrial buildings and churches. Secondary buildings include barns, garages, sheds and outhouses (#31 & 4). The buildings in the district are either one or

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two stories in height except for the three-story Odd Fellows Building (#12). The vast majority of the buildings are constructed of wood, covered with clapboards. Some have been covered with artificial siding. The district contains some brick commercial buildings, of note is the Odd Fellows Building. Brick is the construction material of the mill and two residences, including the Banes House. The district contains brick commercial buildings, of note is the Odd Fellows Building (#14); however, two exceptions are the Banes House and the Mill (#8 & 5). Four contributing buildings are made of local rubble limestone. Most of the residential buildings are single-family residences, but several buildings were built as double residences.

Local limestone is an important historical building material. The abundance of the material is expressed in the walls of Lock 25, the abutments of the railroad bridge and aqueduct, several buildings, numerous foundations and in the surviving flagstone sidewalks.

The Metamora Historic District contains 115 contributing buildings and 10 contributing structures. These contributing structures include six flagstone sidewalks, two iron fences, the railroad, and the railroad bridge.

The mill, the canal, aqueduct and Lock 25 were all identified in the Whitewater Canal Historic District listed in the National Register in 1973, and are not included in the resource count. The district also includes 37 non-contributing buildings, and twelve non-contributing structures, and four non-contributing objects. The non-contributing structures include four canal bridges, a boat landing, a roofed information sign, four roofed benches, and two relocated iron fences. The non-contributing buildings include three historic buildings that have lost their integrity and non-historic houses, garages, a mobile home, post office, commercial buildings, assorted outbuildings, a stable, and a park bandstand. The non-contributing objects include four historic lamp posts relocated from other locations.

Below are descriptions of 19 contributing buildings and structures in the district.

Duck Creek Aqueduct

Photo No. 25, 28 & 29

The aqueduct is a reconstruction using some of the original framing elements from 1847. An aqueduct was first constructed here in circa 1843, destroyed by flood and rebuilt in 1847. It was reconstructed in 1948-49 soon after its inclusion in the state memorial system. The wood-framed structure rests on quarried

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limestone abutments. The arched truss pieces are historic, but it uses steel bolts to tie the framing members together. Sheet metal lines the trough and clads the gable roof. The north facade of the structure is open with a pedestrian catwalk while the south facade is clad with vertical board and batten wood siding.

**Sarah B. Cupp Cottage
Mount Street**

Photo No. 3

This 1-story, frame, cross-gable cottage rests on a rubble limestone foundation. A bay projects from the south (front) gable end. The corner porch has turned posts and sawn decorative trim. Other details include door transoms, decorative window hoods and brackets. The cottage was probably built in 1889 for widow Sarah B. Cupp who lived here until her death in 1892. It is intact and has changed very little. Although a common late-nineteenth century cottage type, it is unusual for Metamora and is the only one in the town and district. Few buildings in the district date from this time period.

**Gordon Double Residence
Mount and Banes Streets**

Photo No. 1

This large 2-story double residence was built circa 1860 as the residences of brothers Milton B. and Mahlon C. Gordon and their families. This clapboarded, wood frame dwelling was drastically remodeled c. 1910 into its subdued Free Classic appearance. It was depicted in the 1882 Atlas of Franklin County, Indiana (p. 85) as a transitional bracketed Greek Revival building surrounded by an iron fence, stone hitching post, and flagstone sidewalks. The flagstones and post have survived. The c. 1910 interior has survived with its oak woodwork, mantels, and stairs. Two neo-classical porches with Doric columns project from the south and west elevations. An enclosed porch-kitchen is located on the west side as is the semi-detached summer kitchen.

**Gordon Hall Building
Main Street**

Photo Nos. 12 & 14

This 2 1/2 story frame commercial building is unusual and exhibits some good features of the Greek Revival Style. Two storefronts divide the main (north) facade and five windows pierce the second floor facade. Two shed dormers pierce the low-pitched gable roof in the north slope. A 2-story porch on the east facade allows exterior access to the second-story apartment with an open wooden stairs. The western storefront is intact with its Greek Revival pilasters framing the bays. The eastern storefront has been remodeled with rubble stone and barn siding. The two rear

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brick additions served a commercial function. The building is clad with clapboard siding. The interior has retained most of its historical features and finishes. The building was built in 1848 and the second floor hall was an important secular meeting place for Metamora. The building was illustrated in the 1882 Atlas of Franklin County, Indiana (p.85). The hall was converted into a residence in 1908.

Odd Fellows Hall

Photo Nos. 7 & 12

Main and Banes Streets

This brick building is the largest in Metamora, standing three stories tall. Built in 1853, it exhibits plain Greek Revival styling. It is four bays wide and five bays deep. The storefronts are intact composed of six-lighted display windows; double-leaf, paneled doors; transoms; wooden entablature and sheet-metal consoles and cornice. Two historic signs have survived. "K of P" is attached to the main facade between the second and third stories. "IOF" (the second 'O' is missing) is attached to the plain unadorned parapet. Both signs are composed of individually applied letters. All of the second and third-story wood sash windows (originally 6/6) were replaced with metal-sash windows in 1990.

Jonathan Banes House

Photo No. 8

Main and Banes Street

This 2-story, painted brick, Greek Revival, I-House is the most prominent in Metamora. The gabled roof has two end chimneys and is defined by a plain wooden frieze and a cornice. The main (north) facade is divided into five bays with a centered entrance. The first-floor windows extend from floor to ceiling with 2/2 lights. Limestone serves as the material for the sills and lintels of all openings and as the front walk and front stoop. The 1 1/2 story ell is two bays wide with flat brick arches. The east side of the ell (facing Banes St.) originally had an open porch, now enclosed. A later open porch now extends from the old porch. A rear, frame shed addition connects the garage to the house. The interior of the house is intact with the two front parlors flanking the center hall. These areas now function as commercial space with plaster walls, exposed board floors, pilastered fireplace mantels and built-in chimney cabinets. The front yard is enclosed by a historic cast-iron fence. The house was built circa 1845 by Jonathan Banes and his wife Maria Mount Banes (daughter of founder David Mount). Banes was a construction contractor for the canal, responsible for the original construction of the brick grist mill to the north, across Main Street. He built it in 1845 as a three-story cotton mill. It burned and was rebuilt in 1900 and remodeled in the early 1930s to its present appearance (#5).

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Metamora Masonic Hall

Photo No. 20

Main and Bridge Streets

The Masonic Hall was constructed circa 1875. It is intact with its storefront and sign reading "L. Allison & Son" in raised letters. This sign and storefront probably date from 1881 when Allison operated his grocery store. The building is caught in the transition between two styles. All of the detailing is of the Italianate Style, but the temple form suggests Greek Revival.

This building is one of the most intact in the district. The cornice and raking cornice are bracketed with the tympanum clad with sawn shingles. Centered in the tympanum is a roundel bearing the Masonic symbol. The Masonic Hall's intact storefront is tripartite with a centered entrance. The storefront piers are of wood, crafted to appear as rusticated stone. The walls are of rubble limestone coated with smooth stucco scored to look like dressed stone.

Martindale House

Photo No. 21

Main Street

Ezekiel Tyner had the east half of the building built in 1838; it functioned as his residence and storeroom. It is a 2/3 I-House type building. It is the oldest known existing building in the town. Tyner served as a shipping agent for the canal. By 1860 Thomas Tague was operating the building as a tavern (inn) with the west half greatly expanding the building.

The hotel's main (north) facade facing Main Street and the canal is divided vertically into two distinct halves, but unified by a single gable roof and a continuous bracketed entablature. The eastern half is clad with flush vertical board siding, while the western half is clad with wooden clapboard siding. Uniformly both halves are three bays wide with 2/2 windows on the first floor and 6/6 on the second. The second floor window heads are integrated into the frieze of the entablature. The eastern half has a Greek Revival style entrance with the original panelled glazed door with sidelights and a multi-lighted transom. The western entrance is without sidelights. A 1-story ell projects from the south elevation of the west half with a gable roof, dormer and 6/6 lights. Shops occupy the entire first floor of the street frontage, residential usage occupies the balance. The hotel is in excellent condition and possesses high integrity of design and fabric. It was depicted in the 1882 Atlas of Franklin County,

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Indiana (p. 66).

**Metamora Christian Church
Main Street**

Photo No. 24

This clapboard-clad, wood-frame church was constructed in 1871 and is an excellent example of retardataire Greek Revival Style. The main(south) facade fronts the north side of the canal and has a centered, double-leaf entrance in the base of the projecting bell tower. The side walls of the nave have four regularly spaced windows with low-profile hoods. Greek Revival detailing includes the corner pilasters, the cornice with returns and the general massing and proportions of the church. The simple interior is intact and unaltered with the exposed board floors, plaster walls and ceilings and raised chancel. The church rests on a rubble limestone foundation with some concrete block replacement at the north end. The chancel is expressed on the exterior with a gable roof lower than the nave roof. The chancel was added in 1890 and the windows may date from that time. Each sash has small panes of colored glass framing the centered pane of frosted glass. The church closed to function as a house of worship in 1970.

**Redmen Hall Building
Main and Columbia Streets**

Photo No. 18

This 2-story, circa 1870, commercial building is one of four rubble lime stone historic buildings in the Metamora Historic District. It has a hipped roof and very little of its historic character has changed, except for the loss of the original cornice and friezes, and the loss of its stucco finish. The building is prominently situated in the center of the town. The main (south) facade is three bays wide; the west facade is eight bays wide. All of the exterior detailing is of wood including the storefront and door and window frames. The 1867 Map of Fayette, Union & Franklin Counties suggests that the building was constructed after that date and the details are in the Italianate Style. However, local lore holds that the building was built in two stages, with the canal fronting south portion from the 1840s and the north portion from the 1860s. The building is in excellent condition and the detailing, most notably the storefront, is intact. The building historically functioned with a drugstore and later a hardware store on the first floor and a meeting hall on the second floor. The interior is also intact with store cabinetry and plaster walls and

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ceiling.

**Farmers Bank of Metamora Building
Main Street**

Photo No. 13

This 1-story building is a small-scale example of commercial neo-classicism. The main (south) facade is divided into three bays; two transomed display windows flank the centered entrance. The entrance itself is framed by two Ionic pilasters supporting a broken pediment. Limestone appears as an accent color and material in the sills, pier bases and pier capitals, cornice coping and tablet. The tablet is inscribed with "FARMERS BANK." The sidewalls have four bays divided by piers. The interior is intact with plaster, woodwork and the vault. The building was constructed in circa 1923 and now functions as a shop, retaining its bank character inside and out.

**Dr. Thomas H. Conner House
Clayborn Street**

Photo No. 30

Standing seam, sheet-metal clads the low-pitched roof of this frame Greek Revival cottage. The plan is of the central hall, Georgian Cottage type. The west end of the roof is gabled, the east end is hipped. The cottage has a square plan and is built into the hillside with the rubble stone basement wall fully exposed on the south elevation. The front (north) elevation is divided into five bays with a centered entrance with a solid paneled door, multi-paned transom and casement sidelights. The windows of the cottage are double-hung with 6/6 lights. Windows of this type are located on the other three elevations. The two-story south elevation has a transomed center entrance with sidelights and opens onto a circa 1985 second-story frame porch.

The house was built circa 1860 and occupied by Dr. Thomas M. Conner from 1861 to 1896. It served as a tenant farm house for the Cedarside Farm (not included in district) on the opposite side of Clayborn Street from 1896 to 1950.

**Monroe Allison Gothic Cottage
Clayborn Street**

Photo No. 31

This unusual 1 1/2 story, frame Gothic Revival cottage is clad with board and batten wood siding. The main (north) elevation of the Gothic Revival cottage is divided into 3 bays on the first floor with floor to ceiling, 4/4 lighted windows flanking the center entrance with a transom. The full-length upper floor window is identical to the three below. The roof of this cottage is complex with numerous gabled roofs over the numerous additions. The roof line also has a square tower with a low-pitched hipped roof and a gabled dormer. Other features of the house include the

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pronounced decorative bargeboard and a recessed porch with turned fretwork. Varying styles of decorative frame adorn the various additions. The house was built into a hillside with the front yard defined by an iron fence. Fixed louvered shutters have been added.

Monroe Allison had the first (northern) portion of this cottage built in 1870. He added additional rooms to the rear as his family grew. The different patterns of the bargeboard, eaves and porch trim attest to the building's growth over time.

**Walker Brothers Warehouse
Clayborn Street**

Photo No. 32

This rubble limestone, 2-story house has a 3-bay front (south) facade and a hipped roof. The east facade is divided into 4 bays with 2/2 windows. The 2/2 lighted windows on the second floor rise into the frieze with their hoods. The three openings on the first floor originally extended down to the floor, two serve as windows. The front entrance is served by concrete-piered portico, of circa 1900 vintage. A concrete piered porch is located on the east facade also.

The Walker Brothers, John and Daniel, arrived in Metamora from Cincinnati in the late 1840s and operated a general store, a distillery, and a mill; relying on the canal for transportation. This building appears to have served as their warehouse. By 1867, the building functioned as A.I. Senior's brewery according to A. Warner's Map of Fayette, Union and Franklin Counties of that year. By the late nineteenth century, it was functioning as a residence as it does today.

**Peter B. Francis Cottage
Walnut Alley at Wynn Street**

Photo No. 39

This 1-story house, vernacular Greek Revival, Central-passage, I-cottage has a low-pitched gable roof clad in sheet metal. Clapboards cover the walls. The main (east) facade has 5 bays with 1/1 lights and a center entrance. A deep veranda shades the east and north elevations with decorative brackets and a simple balustrade. The house has a rubble limestone foundation and a saltbox roofline with a bracketed cornice. Two ells project from the north and west facades. This cottage was constructed as a two-room cottage for Peter B. Francis. The cottage grew with the addition of the back porch and rear kitchen. Between 1889 and 1913 the back porch was enclosed and the front porch and west room were added. The simplified Greek Revival details of the original cottage remain, which in combination with the large veranda,

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project a strong historical character.

**Metamora Methodist Episcopal Church
Wynn Street at Holland Alley**

Photo No. 38 & 40

This Greek Revival Church is clad with wooden clapboards and sits upon a raised basement of rubble limestone. Architectural details include corner pilasters, a full entablature with a plain frieze, front pediment and a roof mounted spire. The two-tiered square tower is louvered and capped by a pyramidal roof. The east and west facades are each pierced by three bays. A gabled entry pavilion, added in 1866, projects from the center of the main facade opening with a paneled, double-leaf door with a transom. A gabled portico of more recent vintage covers the entrance into the raised basement. All of the basement windows have replacement steel sash probably circa 1940. Two pointed-arched Gothic windows with stained glass pierce the south (rear) facade, added in 1915. The church building was erected in 1853 on a raised basement, insuring a dry worship space in time of flooding. The basement was used as a school before the Civil War. The church continues to function as the Metamora United Methodist Church.

**Thorpe's Blacksmith Shop
Clayborn and Columbia Streets**

Photo No. 35

The blacksmith shop is situated at the southwest corner of Clayborn and Columbia Streets. This gabled two-story building has rubble limestone walls on the first floor and wood framing above. The first floor openings have wooden sills, lintels and 6/6 double hung windows. The central entrance on the north facade (Clayborn St.) has a glazed plank door with a transom. The building is five bays long and two bays wide. The original utility entrance on the east side (Columbia St.) has been removed and refilled with an entrance salvaged from another historic structure. The framed second story was originally covered with vertical board siding and then was later covered with asphalt siding. In more recent years, it has been covered over with recycled vertical barn siding and casement windows have been added as well as a colonial style door frame with multi-lighted French doors. On the west end of the building abuts an historic woodframe cottage with a saltbox roof form. In the late 1960s or 1970s the blacksmith shop received an addition on the south side made of salvaged historic architectural elements. The west facade is still covered with asphalt siding.

**Walker Double Residence
Clayborn Street at Mount Alley**

Photo No. 34

This 2-story, wood-frame double residence is four bays wide. It is clad with wooden clapboard siding and has a gable roof with

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a center brick chimney. Italianate brackets support the cornice of the Greek Revival double residence. A wide vertical board divides the front facade into two halves. The second-story windows have 6/6 double-hung sash. The first floor windows have 1/1, double-hung sash. Changes to the double include the 1988 removal of the two front doors and transoms and their replacements with paneled steel doors. The one-story wing has been rebuilt with the loss of the two flanking back porches.

Brothers John and Daniel Walker moved to Metamora from Cincinnati around 1848 and purchased the lot in 1849 and divided it into east and west halves. They built the double over the property line. John and wife Lucy occupied the west side with Daniel and wife Caroline in the east side. The 1850 census notes John as a merchant and Daniel as a miller; both were attracted to Metamora because of the canal. They built a mill on the canal and a two-story stone warehouse (#32) and operated a distillery. By 1857 the Walkers left Metamora, possibly because of the decline of the canal traffic. The double was a dwelling until its remodeling for commercial use.

**William G. Blacklidge House
Wynn Street at Church Street**

Photo No. 41

This house was built in the Greek Revival style of the temple and wing. It is balanced with two wings flanking the temple. The centered, 2-story "temple" is divided into two bays as are both of the wings. The front doors are in the wings. The "temple" has a gable roof and is prominently crowned by an Italianate bracketed entablature. The first floor windows have 1/1, double-hung sashes and extend from floor to ceiling. The windows on the second floor have 6/6 lights. The first floor, front openings have decorated low-profile hoods.

The two glazed front doors in the two wings are identical late nineteenth century glazed replacements in the Eastlake style. The wing windows match those of the temple with 1/1 lights. The rear of the double exhibits numerous additions. The original west ell has been partially removed. The cornices on the main facade of the wings have been removed. The basic form, shape openings and fabric survive but the building is deteriorated and vacant. There are numerous rear additions in various stages of dilapidation and removal.

William G. Blacklidge was a carpenter according to the 1860s and 1880s gazetteers. The house appears to have been built in the late 1850s.

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Metamora Historic District

8. Statement of Significance

The Metamora Historic District is significant under Criterion A because it was created as a town served by and to serve the Whitewater Canal. The district is also situated on the historic Brookville Road and on the historic railroad built along the towpath of the canal. The district is also significant under Criterion C in the areas of Architecture and Engineering. The district is an outstanding collection of vernacular nineteenth century building types and structures, most of which was constructed during the period of 1838 and circa 1865 when the canal was an active commercial thoroughfare.¹ A few buildings were constructed or remodeled after the canal period when Metamora functioned as a local trading center served by the railroad and the highway for transportation and served by the canal as a power source for the mill industries. The district contains an excellent collection of vernacular buildings and structures reflecting the village's associations with the development of transportation in Indiana in the decades before the Civil War.

Metamora is located in the north central portion of Metamora Township in the western half of Franklin County. This county was the seventh organized (1811) in Indiana with Brookville as the county seat². Metamora Township was organized in 1849, it and Butler Township are the newest townships in the county³. Metamora Township is composed of portions of the county formerly incorporated into Salt Creek, Laurel and Brookville Townships⁴.

A Metamora platter, David Mount, was one of the first settlers in the area that became Metamora Township. He arrived from Pennington, New Jersey in 1811, the year Franklin County was organized. He erected a pioneer gristmill on the Whitewater River near where he would later locate his town of Metamora⁵. Mount's mill was the first of the many nineteenth century mills of Metamora, of which only one has survived. Mount's old river mill was deprived of water power with the construction of the canal⁶.

The town of Metamora was founded with the plat of March 20, 1838, filed by David Mount and William Holland⁷. Their plat consisted of 42 lots with the east-west streets of Main and Clayborn, and the north-south Columbia Street and numerous alleys. Mount and Holland intentionally positioned their town directly on the proposed route of the Whitewater Canal and the Brookville Road. The canal runs down the center of Main street. The Brookville Road, connecting Indianapolis and Brookville, served as the southern run of Main Street.

The town was platted in 1838 after the route of the canal was surveyed⁸. The Whitewater Canal was constructed through Metamora

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between 1839 and 1843. Metamora is situated between Brookville and Laurel on the canal route. The canal was completed to Brookville in 1839 with the first boat arriving on June 8, 1839 from Lawrenceburg. The first boat reached Laurel, through Metamora in November 1843⁹.

The canal had a profound effect on Franklin County and the Whitewater Valley. Metamora was one of the three canal towns founded along the proposed route. Cedar Grove in Highland Township, southeast of Brookville, was platted in 1837. Laurel in Laurel Township in the northwest corner of the county was platted in 1836. Two other towns in the county are situated on the canal route, but they predate the planning of the route (Brookville, 1808 and New Trenton, 1816)¹⁰. None of these towns has retained canal orientation. The canal is a ruin in all these settlements, save Metamora.

William Holland's First Addition of 1839 added eleven lots to the west end of the original plat, north of the canal, straddling Clayborn Street. John McWhorter's First Addition added four lots north of the original plat in 1847 immediately west of Columbia Street. McWhorter's Second Addition of 1848 added five more lots immediately to the west of his first addition fronting Wynn Street. Metamora grew to the south with David Mount's Addition of 1848. This addition created Mount Street and enlarged the town by thirteen lots between Banes and Basin Street. McWhorter's Third Addition of 1852 expanded the town by eight lots north of Wynn Street and one large (non-contiguous) lot on the extreme western end of Metamora on Clayborn Street. The final historic addition was McWhorter's Fourth Addition of 1853 extending the town northward with eighteen lots. All of the historic additions to the original town plot of 1838 occurred during the canal era.¹¹

Metamora never grew beyond McWhorter's Fourth Addition of 1853, and the town was never incorporated.¹² However, the town survived the demise of the canal as a means of transportation. Resourceful businessmen saw opportunities for development of the canal as a source of hydraulic power for a variety of mills. The town not only survived the canal period, but supported a growing population and numerous enterprises. State gazetteers from 1849 to the 1920s provide some insight into the commercial activities and population fluctuations. In 1849 Metamora had 200 inhabitants with no change by 1860¹³. In 1860 five merchants, a hotelier, seven building tradesmen, four millers (flour, wool, and lumber), two meat packers, and three attorneys. Other professions and occupations included physicians, teachers, ministers, a druggist, blacksmiths, wagon, gun and barrel makers, a butcher, tailor, and leather dealers. The town retained its population of 200 and diversity of activities in 1864¹⁴. The population increased

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to 450 by 1880¹⁵, but by 1916 dropped to 330 and fewer businesses and professions were recorded. That year Metamora had five merchants, a miller, two physicians, a bank, a railroad agent, an undertaker, a hotelier, a butcher and a livery¹⁶. By 1928, the population was 300 and three garages were noted in the gazetteer's directory reflecting the growing importance of automobile traffic¹⁷.

The Metamora Historic District's significance is apparent as it contains portions of three historic thoroughfares: road, canal and railroad. The oldest is the road. The Brookville Road connecting Indianapolis and Brookville was established by the Congress on March 3, 1821 to extend mail service to the state's new capitol in the interior from the bustling, established town of Brookville¹⁸. The latter was founded in 1808 and grew in importance in 1819 when the Congress created a federal land office for the sale of land in central Indiana after the New Purchase Treaty of the previous year¹⁹.

The Brookville Road served as the principal thoroughfare between Indianapolis and Brookville, linking numerous villages and towns along the way, including Rushville, Morristown and New Palestine. The old road endured the competition from the canal and later the railroad because it was the major route for local traffic on horseback and horse-drawn vehicles. It endured the railroad with the advent of the automobile. The road was paved with a hard surface for automobile traffic in 1928, with the exception of the stretch through Metamora, from Brookville to the Rush County line. Between 1929 and 1933 this rugged stretch of road was paved and rerouted north of town off of Metamora's Main Street²⁰. The new route severed the northern-most lots of McWhorter's Third and Fourth Additions. Metamora's separation of the heavy traffic of the automobile (U.S. 52) helped to preserve the historic fabric and character of the town. New businesses and housing, oriented to the automobile and the highway developed along U.S. 52 away from the old town along the old route. The historic buildings of Metamora suffered neglect but changed very little until the late 1960s when tourism began to be developed. The houses and stores served as a backdrop to the Whitewater Canal State Memorial, created in 1945.

Despite the congressional authorization creating the Brookville Road and other roads, the heavily settled counties of southeastern Indiana were plagued by poor transportation in the first third of the nineteenth century. Farmers, lumbermen, millers and stockmen were faced with the problem of getting their products to the markets in Cincinnati, "only by the laborious haulage over miserable roads,"²¹ and by rivers. Stockmen drove their animals to the slaughterhouses of Cincinnati on these roads before the canal and the railroads²².

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The rough terrain and the dense woodlands of Franklin County proved to be great obstacles to the construction and maintenance of overland highways. Improved roads never came to the county until after the Civil War, with the introduction of crushed stone as a road-making material²³.

The Whitewater River was used to transport produce to Cincinnati and even on to New Orleans, by way of flatboats until the opening of the canal²⁴. The river flatboats transported processed pork, furs, beeswax, feathers, flour, lard, whiskey and other items to the urban markets²⁵. But the river was not always reliable, plagued with droughts, floods, rapids, shallows and a current that flowed in one direction.

The citizens of Indiana and other western states contracted canal fever as they raced to settle unpopulated land and develop industries, products and markets. The success of New York's Erie Canal provided a model for the West. Interest in canals in the Whitewater Valley began in 1822 with James Brown Ray's suggestion of a Brookville to Lawrenceburg route. Ray, later governor of Indiana, was a resident of Brookville and a member of the state senate²⁶.

A canal meeting was held on August 13, 1825 in Harrison, Ohio, whereby it was resolved to build a canal in the valley. A Whitewater Canal Company was chartered in 1826²⁷. The survey for the canal route began in the summer of 1834, starting in Wayne County and ending, after 76 miles, at Lawrenceburg²⁸. The route included a fall of 491 feet, requiring 56 locks, 7 dams and 12 aqueducts²⁹.

After much planning and lobbying, the Mammoth Internal Improvements Act was passed on January 16, 1836. This bill provided for the construction by the state of three canals, a trans-state highway, and other provisions for improved transportation including a railroad from Madison to Lafayette via Indianapolis³⁰. This ambitious program never came to fruition and all projects were halted in 1839 with the financial panic and depression. However, before the failure, thirty miles of the Whitewater Canal were completed from Lawrenceburg to Brookville. Contracts were already let for the extension of the canal from Brookville to Laurel. In 1842 the state legislature chartered the Whitewater Valley Canal Company, a private company, to complete the waterway³¹. Work resumed in 1842 and was completed to Metamora that year³². By 1843 another fifteen miles of canal were completed to Laurel³³. Two years later, the canal was completed to Cambridge City and extended eight miles north to Hagerstown³⁴. The canal was plagued by floods that washed out banks and destroyed locks. The Duck Creek Aqueduct was destroyed in the summer of 1846.³⁵

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Periodic flooding resulted in the canal being inoperable for long periods of time, which deprived the Whitewater Canal of a "full-flavored canal character," few boats, no hometown poets or memorable skippers³⁶.

The canal's inoperability not only resulted in a stifled canal culture but in serious financial problems for the canal investors and frustration for canal users. Tolls were supposed to repay the investors and pay for maintenance, but many floods made it impossible to keep the boats running. In 1865 the canal was finally sold to Henry C. Lord, president of the Indianapolis and Cincinnati railroad. In 1867 "the towpath became the roadbed of a rail line between Cambridge City and Cincinnati." This marked the canal's end as a transportation route³⁷. With the building of the railroad, Metamora acquired a third historic means of transportation, between the old Brookville Road and the canal. The canal became solely a source of hydraulic power and later tourism.

The canal had a great impact on Metamora, and the vast majority of the historic structures and buildings are from the canal period. Post-canal era buildings and structures in the historic district reflect the town's continued importance as a center for hydraulic powered industries served by the Whitewater Valley Railroad. The aqueduct, mill, lock and canal were listed in the National Register in 1973 as part of the Whitewater Canal Historic District. This district extends from the Laurel Feeder Dam to Brookville³⁸.

The contributing structures in the Metamora Historic District include the canal, the wooden Duck Creek Aqueduct, Lock 25, the railroad and the railroad bridge over Duck Creek and have significance in the field of historic engineering. As noted above, the three canal structures are National Register properties. The aqueduct (#28 & 29) was documented in 1934 in the Historic American Buildings Survey. The aqueduct, as well as the other canal structures, exhibit the engineering technology of the 1830s and 1840s with its heavy, wooden, bow trusses spanning approximately 80 feet, covered by a gable roof and resting on limestone embankments. The aqueduct was built in 1843, rebuilt in 1847 after a flood, strengthened in 1868 and 1901 and finally rebuilt in 1948-49. The rebuilt aqueduct reuses the historic Burr trusses and other timbers³⁹. The historic members still bear the ropeburns of countless ropes of over 130 years ago. The reconstruction was undertaken when the state memorial was created and developed⁴⁰.

The aqueduct's function was to carry the canal over Duck Creek. It was one of twelve on the canal negotiating ten creeks

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and the Whitewater River⁴¹. The limestone-constructed lock 25, at the other end of the district (#6) was one of 56 constructed along the 76 miles of canal to control the level of water at the grade changes⁴². The lock accommodates a wooden waterwheel (a reconstruction) as it did in the hydraulic power-rail period. This wheel turns the grindstones in the functioning mill (#5).

Two historic structures directly related to the railroad are the railroad bed and the steel bridge (#29) carrying it over Duck Creek (the station has not survived). The bridge is a replacement after the great 1913 flood⁴³. The roadbed (#25) is in the same location on the towpath of the canal as it was in 1867.

The historic architecture of the district dates from 1838 to circa 1923. Many date from the canal transportation period of circa 1838 to circa 1865. The district possesses a collection of houses, commercial and industrial buildings and churches reflecting not only a nineteenth century rural village character but the character of one created to serve and be served by an artificial waterway splitting (#15, 17, & 25) Main Street. Metamora was a canal village but it was also one that served the surrounding countryside with its churches, lodge halls, bank, stores, mills, professional and artisan services.

The styles of the historic buildings reflect the time period in which they were built. A well-preserved and wide range of vernacular building types is demonstrated. Many buildings exhibit features of the Greek Revival style; others the Italianate Style; and two buildings exhibit Gothic Revival features. Vernacular functional design is exhibited in the industrial and ancillary buildings. There is one example each of the Neo-classical and Free Classic styles.

The Greek Revival style is well represented with commercial, residential and religious buildings. The best example of the style is the 1853 Metamora Methodist Episcopal Church (#40). It has a full entablature, a plain frieze and corner pilasters. The Dr. Thomas H. Conner House (#30) was built into the side of the hill on Clayborn Street. This center hall house has a five-bay facade with 6/6 lights and an entrance with a transom with casement sidelights. Conner was both a physician and attorney-at-law⁴⁴. The house was built in 1860 and occupied by Conner from 1861 to 1896. The Peter B. Francis Cottage (#39) at Walnut and Wynn Streets is a one-story cottage, five bays wide. It was constructed circa 1865 as a two-room cottage; other rooms and the veranda were added later.

The Greek Revival style is expressed in two commercial buildings. The frame Gordon Hall Building (#14) of 1848 has a gable roof, a regular front facade and store fronts framed by pilasters and a frieze signboard. It is depicted in the 1882 County Atlas⁴⁵. Next to and abutting the Gordon Hall

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Building is the Odd Fellows Building (#12, 14 & 7), an impressive, brick building of three stories with very understated Greek Revival features.

The Greek Revival form of the temple and wings is exhibited in several residences including the Blackledge House (#41) of 1857. Although vacant and deteriorated, it remains striking with its two-story temple flanked by two, one-story wings. The raking cornice is ornamented by brackets blending the Greek Revival form with Italianate brackets.

The Monroe Allison Cottage (#31) of circa 1870 with late additions has many Gothic Revival features such as the sharply pitched roofs, board-and-batten siding and decorated bargeboards. The Greek Revival Methodist Church (#38) has two Gothic pointed arched windows, added in 1915.

The Farmers Bank of Metamora (#13) was constructed circa 1923. This small one-story brick building features modest Neo-classical style detailing in its series of pilasters and the classical entrance with Ionic columns and open pediment. It is typical of modest commercial buildings of the period.

The Gordon Double Residence (#1) at Banes and Mount Streets exhibits Free Classic styling. Built between 1856 and 1866 as a double residence, it was remodeled circa 1910 with matching classical verandas.

The Metamora Grist Mill (#5 & 6) was originally an 1840s three story brick mill, but was rebuilt in 1900 to its present form. The building has a gable roof and segmented arched openings. It is situated on Lock 25, powered by a breast water wheel turning a set of buhrstones for corn and a set for wheat. Thorpe's Blacksmith Shop was constructed in circa 1850. This functional two-story building has a rubblestone first floor and a frame second story. It has been modified to serve as a commercial shop.

The canal was the greatest influence in the shaping of the historic character of Metamora but secondary influences were present in the form of institutions, families and individuals.

Two church buildings are important landmarks in Metamora both in the Greek Revival Style. The former Metamora Christian Church (#24) was founded in 1841 in the Pond House immediately east of the church (#26). Alexander Campbell preached in Metamora twice. Campbell (1788-1866), with his father Thomas, was the founder of the Campbellites or Disciples of Christ. The church was built in 1871 but has not served as a house of worship since 1970. It remains virtually intact since the chancel was added in 1890. It is located directly on the northern bank of the canal. It is a good example of retarditaire Greek Revival. The Methodist Episcopal Church (#38 & 40) was erected in 1853 on a raised rubble foundation. The raised basement kept the nave dry during the great 1913 flood. The vestibule was added in 1886 and the 1929

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Sanborn map notes the 22 foot high bell tower⁴⁶. The Gothic windows were added in 1915.

The lodges played an important role in shaping the architecture and its uses in Metamora. Four buildings were associated with lodge organizations. The Metamora Lodge No. 156 of the Free and Accepted Masons was organized in 1853. The lodge first met in the Odd Fellows Building (#12)⁴⁷. The Masonic Hall building was erected in circa 1875 with the lodge owning the second floor hall and another owner for the commercial ground floor, but the lodge purchased the entire building in 1888. The stone building is clad with smooth stucco and has an exceptional storefront with its cornice, pilasters and quoins executed in wood.

The Miantonomah Tribe No. 162 of the Improved Order of Red Men occupied the second floor of the rubble stone commercial building (#18) on the north side of the canal. The lodge was organized in 1893 and the building was built circa 1870.

The Odd Fellows were historically associated with two buildings at Main and Banes Streets. The Protection Lodge No. 63 was organized in 1849 and first met in the second floor of the wood-frame Gordon Hall Building (#14), built in 1848 by Jonathan Banes. The first floor of this building housed the Gordon General Store from 1857 to the turn of the century. William N. Gordon founded the Farmers Bank of Metamora (#13) here, which moved to its own building circa 1923. Gordon Hall also housed the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic by 1884⁴⁸. Immediately west of an abutting Gordon Hall is the Odd Fellows Building. This three-story brick building (#12) had commercial uses on the first floor with two lodge halls above. The Masons first met here in 1854⁴⁹. The Odd Fellows bought the second floor in 1889 and later purchased the entire building. The Knights of Pythias lodge was organized in 1896 and owned its third floor hall⁵⁰. The Sons of Temperance also met here in the 1850s.

The Gordon family had long associations with several buildings. The family operated numerous enterprises in both the Gordon Hall Building and the Odd Fellows Building. William N. Gordon was president of the bank, formed in 1910⁵¹. Both Gordon Hall and the Odd Fellows Buildings were depicted in the 1882 atlas, described as the "General Store and Property of M.B. Gordon"⁵². Milton B. Gordon (1816-1892) and his brother built their double residence (#1) at Banes and Mount Street sometime between 1856 and 1866. This double residence was also depicted in the atlas⁵³. Probably circa 1910 the double was remodeled from Greek Revival-Italianate to Free Classic. Milton B. Gordon was involved with several milling businesses. He was an Odd Fellow, a Methodist and one of the largest land owners in the county⁵⁴. The 1860-61 gazetteer records Gordon's activities as meat packer, general

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merchant and resident farmer⁵⁵. Jonathan Banes (1817-1906) arrived in Franklin County in 1837 as a superintendent of carpentry for the construction of the canal below Brookville. In 1841 Banes married Maria Mount the daughter of Metamora's founder. In 1845 he erected the Metamora Cotton Mill (#6) at Lock 25⁵⁶. It was rebuilt as the present Metamora Grist Mill in 1900. Banes became a merchant with his brother in 1848 in Gordon Hall Building (#14). He was also a charter member of the Odd Fellows⁵⁷. His 1845 house (#8) remains an important landmark residence in the town.

Metamora has retained its historical picturesque qualities, as the water still slowly flows in the canal on Main Street through the stone walls of Lock 25 past the houses and commercial buildings and through the Aqueduct. The town's picturesque qualities attracted the attention of celebrated Hoosier painters, J. Ottis Adams and T.C. Steele. They came in the summers of 1896 and 1897. Interested primarily in landscape views, the town with its canal and old world charm did inspire two streetscape paintings by Adams: a view of Wynn Street, "A Quiet Neighborhood, Metamora," and a view of Main Street, "A village Street."⁵⁸ The canal continues to attract visitors. In the 1940s the mill, canal and aqueduct became a part of the Whitewater Canal State Memorial. This designation resulted in the preservation of canal and the restoration of the aqueduct, mill and other improvements.

By the late 1960s tourism began to play a major role in the economy of the village. The growth of commercial tourism has brought both negative and positive results to the village and its historic buildings. Most of the buildings experienced reinvestment in the form of either restoration or extremely insensitive remodeling (#11 & 10). Efforts to promote the values of historic preservation within the town have resulted in the creation of a local preservation commission empowered to shape the design of new construction and restoration and renovation. National Register status will aid these efforts to preserve the district's historical environment. The Metamora Historic District contains a collection of largely nineteenth century buildings, structures and objects that were shaped by the historical economic and developmental forces that reigned in Indiana before the Civil War.

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10. Geographical Data: Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point at the southeast corner of Mount Alley and U.S. Highway 52 (at the northwest corner of Lot 72 of John McWhorter's Fourth Addition) the boundary follows the southern right-or-way of said highway eastward to the northeast corner of Lot 64; then turning south along said lot's east edge to Wynn Street, crossing it to the north edge of Lot 53 of John McWhorter's First Addition, then east to the northwest corner of said lot, turning south there along the west edge of Columbia Street Crossing Clayborn and Columbia Streets, the line crosses Columbia Street and follows the northern edges of Lots 7 through 14 of Mount & Holland's original town plat. At the northeast corner of Lot 14 the line turns south to the northern edge of Main Street (on the north side of the Whitewater Canal). The line follows this edge to its terminus on the banks of Duck Creek, and includes the entire aqueduct and its abutments and the railroad bridge and its abutments. Following the south edge of said bridge the line proceeds westward to the west bank of Duck Creek and turns south to the southern edge of Main Street (south side of the canal), then westward following the northern edge of Lot 42 of Mount & Holland's plat to the eastern edge of Lot 41 of said plat. The line turns southward here to the southern edge of said lot, following it westward to the east edge of lot 12 of David Mount's Addition, there the line turns south to the northern edge of Mount Street. The line proceeds along Mount Street to the western edge of Lot 1 of said addition, then southward crossing the street and continuing approximately 90 feet from westward approximately 60 feet, turning northward 90 feet, then eastward to the west side of Banes Street. There the line turns northward approximately 60 feet, then approximately 60 feet westward, then northward to the southern edge of Main Street. The line roughly follows this edge for approximately 480 feet when the line turns northward crossing Main Street, the railroad, and the canal, following the western edge of Lot 62 of John McWhorter's First Addition to the southern edge of Clayborn Street. The line follows this edge to the western edge of Lot 49 where it turns northward crossing Clayborn Street and follows the western edge of Lot 46 of William Holland's First Addition. The line turns eastward along said lot's northern line to the western edge of Lot 61 of John McWhorter's second addition, roughly following it northward to the northern line of said lot, where it turns eastward along the southern edge of Wynn Street. After crossing Mount Alley the line turns northward crossing Wynn Street and following the western edge of Lot 72 of John McWhorter's Fourth Addition. The line proceeds to the southern right-or-way of U.S. Highway 52, then eastward to the point of origin.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

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10. Geographical Data: Boundary Justification

The northern boundary of the Metamora Historic District is the southern right-of-way of U.S. Highway 52 which forms an effective and definite boundary with its slightly raised roadbed. The eastern edge of the district is fairly regular encompassing most of the lots platted in the 1850s, 1840s and the original town plat of 1838. Lot 63 at Wynn and Columbia Streets was omitted because it holds a mobile home. Lots 15 and 16 on the east side of Columbia Street at Clayborn contain historic houses that have been remodeled so extremely that they are no longer contributing. The above three lots lie on the perimeter of the town. The boundary follows the rear lot lines of original plat lots on the north side of the canal, east of Clayborn. Lot 14 of this series is the eastern extent of these lots, most of which contain historic buildings. East of Lot 14, the boundary follows the north side of the canal and includes the aqueduct and the railroad bridge. On the southern edge the boundary excludes Lot 42 which is vacant, but includes the series of occupied lots on the south side of the canal. The line omits Lot 13 at Basin Street as it contains a non-contributing intrusion. Other than Lot 13, the boundary includes all of lots facing Mount Street, which serves as the district's southern line. The boundary crosses Mount Street to include a house of Banes Street. The boundary includes the historic Banes House at Main and Banes Streets. The boundary hugs the south edge of Main Street at the west end of the town. It does not include the 1973 addition with its collection of relocated and reconstructed log buildings.

The western edge of the district follows the western edge of Lot 63 which historically was the western most platted lot of the town. The boundary follows the historic western edge of the town at the foot of the hill as the boundary's irregular western edge meets up with the northern edge district south of U.S. Highway 52. Except for the remodeled houses at Columbia and Clayborn and the reconstructed log buildings southwest of the district, the entire perceived old town of Metamora is included in the district.

PHOTOGRAPH INFORMATION

The following information is identical for all photographs:

Metamora Historic District

Metamora, Indiana

William L. Selm

Historic Metamora, Ind., Box 76, Metamora, IN 47030

- #1 Gordon Double, Mount & Banes Streets; May 1989; Camera pointing northeast.
- #2 Mount Street, north side; May 1989; Camera pointing west.
- #3 Sarah B. Cupp Cottage, Mount Street; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing north.
- #4 Barn, Tyner Alley; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing west.
- #5 Metamora Mill, May 1989; Camera pointing east.
- #6 Lock #25; May 1989; Camera pointing southwest.
- #7 Main Street; May 1989; Camera pointing east.
- #8 Jonathan Banes House, Main & Banes Streets; May 1989; Camera pointing southwest.
- #9 Banes Street; May 1989; Camera pointing south.
- #10 Main Street; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing east.
- #11 Non-contributing house, Main Street; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing northeast.
- #12 Gordon Hall & IOOF Hall, Main Street; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing southwest.
- #13 Metamora Farmers Bank, Main Street; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing northwest.
- #14 Gordon Hall Building, Main Street; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing southwest.
- #15 Main Street and Canal at Columbia Street; May 7, 1991 Camera pointing northeast.
- #16 Main and Bridge Streets; May 1989; Camera pointing southeast.
- #18 Redmen Hall Building, Main & Columbia Streets; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing north.

- #19 Flagstone sidewalk, Columbia Street; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing north.
- #20 Metamora Masonic Hall, Main & Bridge Streets; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing southwest.
- #21 Martindale House, Main Street; May 1989; Camera pointing south.
- #22 Columbia Street at Main Street; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing northwest.
- #23 Main Street (north side) May 7, 1991; Camera pointing northwest.
- #24 Metamora Christian Church, Main Street/Canal; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing northeast.
- #25 Canal and Railroad; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing east.
- #26 Pond House, Main Street/Canal; May 1989; Camera pointing southwest.
- #28 Aqueduct; May 1989; Camera pointing south.
- #29 Aqueduct and Railroad; May 1989; Camera pointing west.
- #30 Dr. Thomas H. Conner House, Clayborn Street; May 1989; Camera pointing southwest.
- #31 Monroe Allison Cottage, Clayborn Street; May 1989; Camera pointing southwest.
- #32 Walker Brothers Warehouse, Clayborn Street; May 1989; Camera pointing northeast.
- #33 Public Picnic Grounds; May 1989; Camera pointing southwest.
- #34 Walker Double Residence, Clayborn Street; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing north.
- #35 Thorpe's Blacksmith Shop, Columbia and Clayborn Streets; May 1989; Camera pointing southwest.
- #36 Clayborn Street at Columbia Street; May 1989; Camera pointing northwest.
- #37 Outbuildings on Mount Alley; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing west.
- #38 Metamora Methodist Episcopal Church (rear), Wynn Street & Holland Alley; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing north.

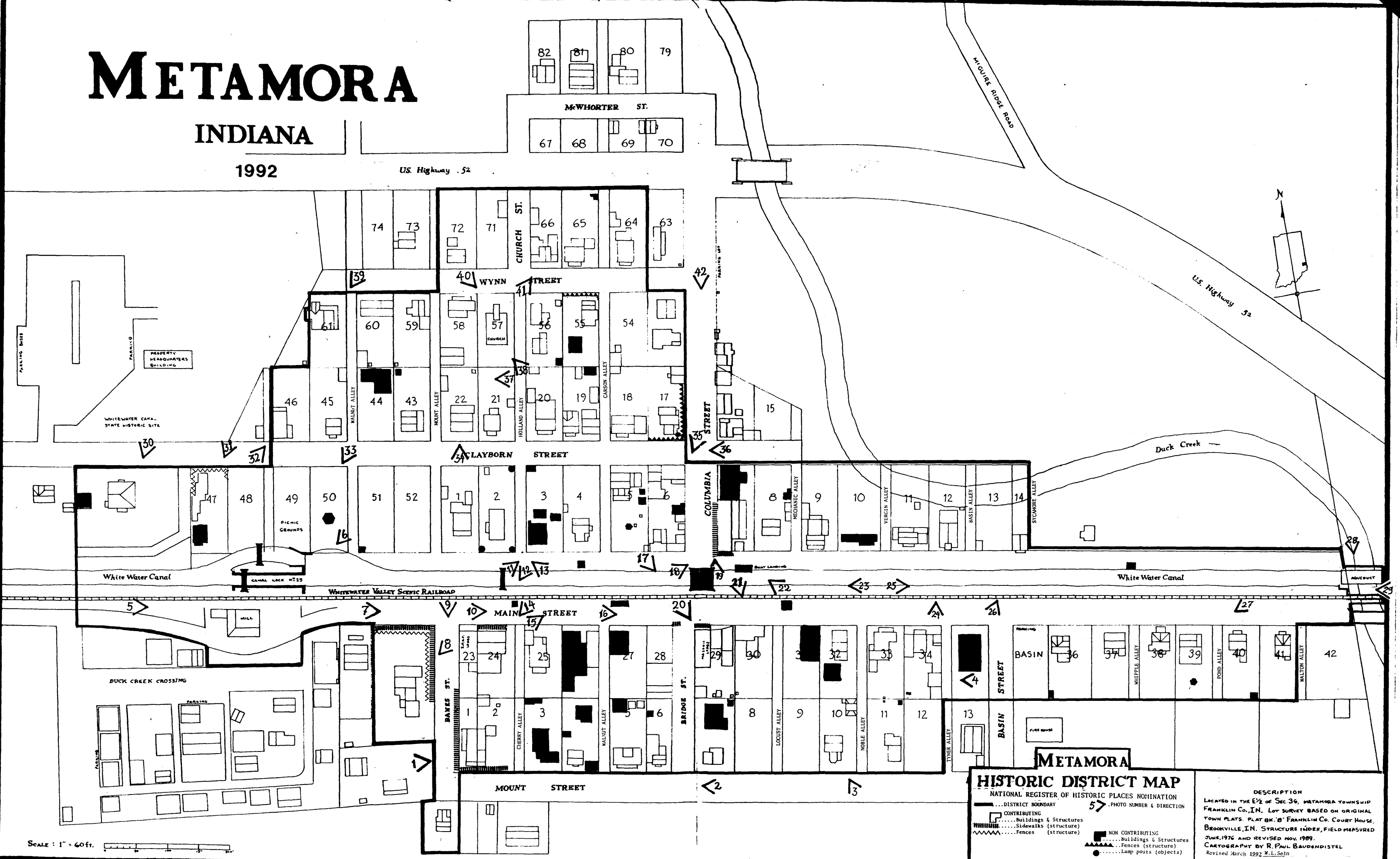
- #39 Peter B. Francis Cottage, Walnut Alley & Wynn Street; May 1989; Camera pointing southwest.
- #40 Metamora Methodist Episcopal Church, Wynn Street; May 1989; Camera pointing southeast.
- #41 William G. Blacklidge House, Wynn Street; May 7, 1991; Camera pointing north.
- #42 Columbia Street at Wynn Street; May, 1989; Camera facing southwest.

METAMORA

INDIANA

1992

U.S. Highway 52



Scale: 1" = 60 ft.

METAMORA
HISTORIC DISTRICT MAP
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NOMINATION

--- DISTRICT BOUNDARY
--- CONTRIBUTING Buildings & Structures
--- Sidewalks (structure)
--- Fences (structure)
--- NON CONTRIBUTING Buildings & Structures
--- Fences (structure)
--- Lamp posts (objects)

57 PHOTO NUMBER & DIRECTION

DESCRIPTION
LOCATED IN THE E 1/2 OF SEC. 36, METAMORA TOWNSHIP
FRANKLIN CO., IN. LOT SURVEY BASED ON ORIGINAL
TOWN PLATS. PLAT BK. 'B' FRANKLIN CO. COURT HOUSE,
BROOKVILLE, IN. STRUCTURE INDEX, FIELD MEASURED
JUNE, 1976 AND REVISED NOV. 1989.
CARTOGRAPHY BY R. PAUL BAUDENDISTEL
Revised March 1992 M.L.Sejn

3/1/93

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

Metamora Historic District Franklin County, Indiana

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION APPROVAL

Alfred Byers 3/18/93

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

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**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION
METAMORA HISTORIC DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY, INDIANA**

This additional documentation for the Metamora Historic District will not change any substantive data already submitted. These pages will provide further historical data about the district which clarify the information already approved.

Each paragraph or statement pertains to a particular section and page within the approved nomination. Proceeding each statement is the section number and page number relating to the information provided.

7.4 In describing the Jonathan Banes House, the mill Banes built is mentioned. The mill was built in 1845 as a wood frame structure. In 1856-7, the grist mill was converted to a flour mill. In 1900, the mill burned and was replaced by a brick mill. The existing brick mill, shown in photo 5, was then remodeled to its present appearance in the 1930s. Attached is a view of the frame mill in 1882.

8.3 The third paragraph discusses the Brookville Road (U.S. 52). It should be noted that Brookville Road was also a state route according to information found in the Acts of the General Assembly. There was a toll road from Brookville to Metamora by about 1854, according to Franklin County Commissioner's records. Later, a toll road from Metamora to Andersonville was built. This tended to isolate Metamora, allowing for its continued prosperity after the Civil War.

8.5 The third paragraph mentions the canal's use as a hydraulic power source for industry. There were two hydraulic power utilities, one managed the canal from Laurel to Metamora, the other from Metamora to Brookville. Further information may be found in the Franklin County Recorder's Miscellaneous Records. Other mills which fed off of the canal's power in Metamora include the Rubotton Mill, which stood on lot 49, and the Gordon Mill, which stood on lot 50. Both mills burned in 1856, the Gordon Mill was rebuilt, converted to handle making plant in the 1880s and lastly a washing machine plant. The washing machine company was active into the 20th century. The Indiana State Archives has the articles of incorporation for this firm.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

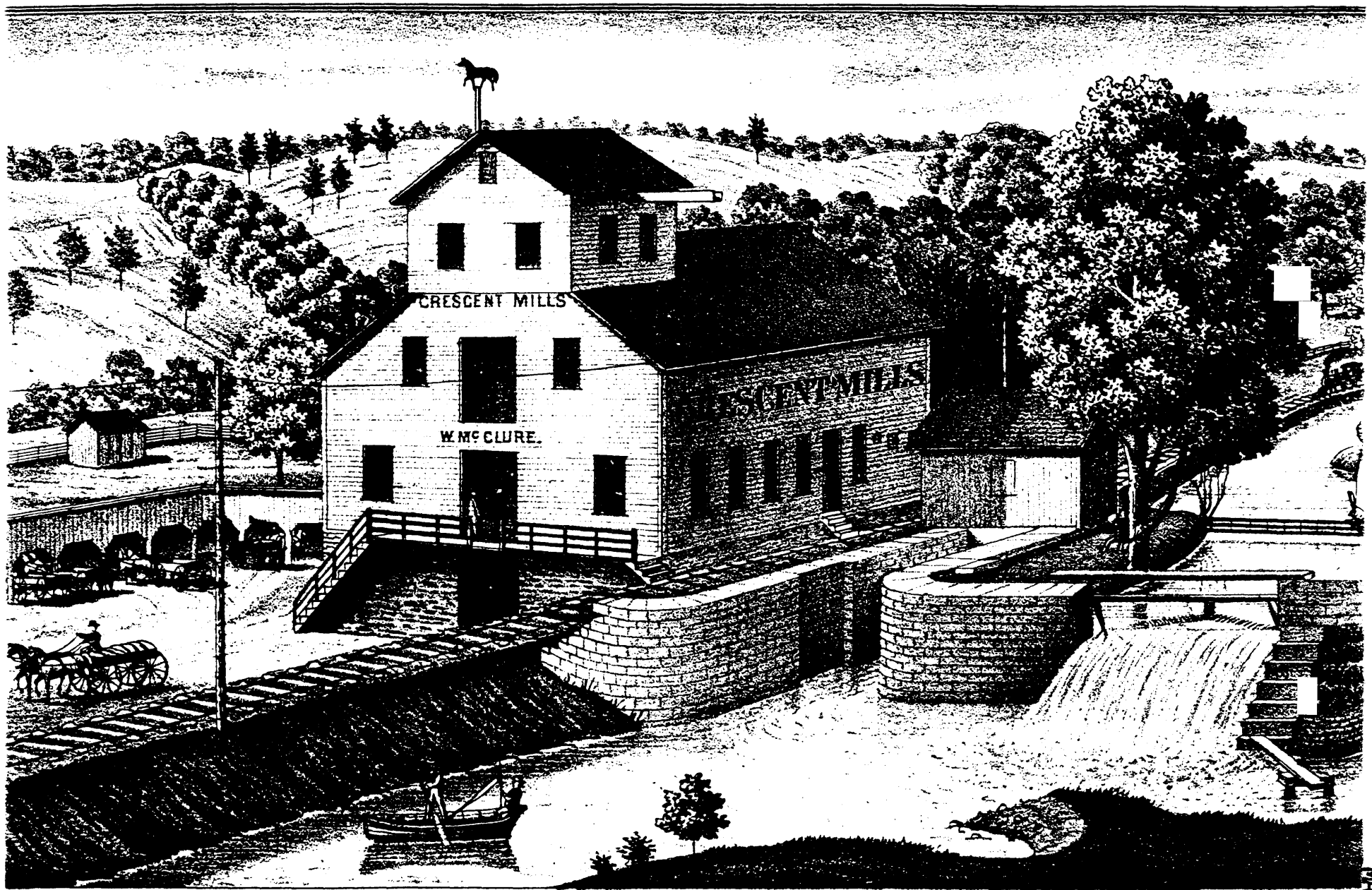
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ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION
METAMORA HISTORIC DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY, INDIANA

8.6 The first paragraph describes the waterwheel of the Metamora Mill building. The present waterwheel is not an exact reconstruction, but is a general recreation of what experts at the Department of Natural Resources felt to be correct for an Indiana mill of the 1800s. When the Banes Mill became Crescent Mill in 1877, an entirely different waterwheel system, made in Dayton, Ohio, was in place. Parts of the system are still in use in the present mill building.

8.7 The fifth paragraph discusses the Metamora Mill. Again, it should be clarified that the present mill is brick, but the first mill was wood frame.



CRESCENT MILLS, METAMORA FRANKLIN CO. IND. W. MCCLURE, PROPRIETOR.

ATLAS, FRANKLIN COUNTY, IN p82

1882