

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Akron Historic District

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: Roughly both sides of Rochester Street between Marcus Street to the west and State Road 14 North to the east and both sides of Mishawaka Street between North Street to the north and Rochester Street to the south.

City or town: Akron State: Indiana County: Fulton

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

<p>_____ Signature of certifying official/Title: <u>Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<hr/>	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
<hr/>	
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ___ entered in the National Register
- ___ determined eligible for the National Register
- ___ determined not eligible for the National Register
- ___ removed from the National Register
- ___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
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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

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Structure
Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>92</u>	<u>14</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>93</u>	<u>14</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
COMMERCE/TRADE: financial institution
COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store
COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant
SOCIAL: meeting hall
EDUCATION: library
RELIGION: religious facility
GOVERNMENT: city hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store
COMMERCE/TRADE: restaurant
EDUCATION: library
RELIGION: religious facility

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN: Gothic

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial Revival

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Mission/Spanish Revival

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS:

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: BRICK

walls: BRICK

WOOD: Weatherboard

roof: ASPHALT

other: STONE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Akron Historic District is composed of several blocks lining two main routes, in an L-shaped plan, which intersect in the town's historic core. The district has just over one hundred buildings which include the old city hall, two churches, a Carnegie Library, and a several commercial buildings. The bulk of the buildings are residences constructed in late 19th and early 20th century styles including Italianate, Queen Anne, and Bungalow/Craftsman. This latter style is most prevalent in the district and gives the residential neighborhoods their character, featuring excellent stone masonry and brick construction. One of Akron's most important historical notes is that it was founded on July 4, 1836, at the crossing of two Native American trails by Dr. Joseph Sippy in company with a group of settlers from Ohio.

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Narrative Description

Akron, named for Akron, Ohio in 1855, was established on July 4, 1836 at the crossing of the Miami and Pottawatomie Indian trails, now Mishawaka and Rochester Streets, in the historic commercial core of town. The trails extended generally north/south and east/west, though Mishawaka Street (also called Gilead or Mentone for towns south and north of Akron) takes a slight southeasterly jog as it leaves the historic commercial area and Rochester Street (once named Main Street) is slightly angled northwest/southeast through the district. The district features these two primary streets with eight blocks lining Rochester Street and about four blocks lining Mishawaka Street, generally in an L-shaped area. A few buildings are also located on blocks northeast of the intersection of these streets along Walnut, Water, Center, and Maple Streets. The commercial area features sidewalks and streetlights with buildings tightly constructed together fronting the sidewalks. The residential areas feature tree lawns and sidewalks, mature shade trees, and ample lawn between the homes and streets.

There are less than a dozen commercial buildings located on the four corners of the intersection of Mishawaka and Rochester Streets. These include two grand bank buildings on opposite corners (northwest and southeast, photos 01 and 15) and the large Akron News Building on the north edge of the commercial area. The district also includes the former city hall (right side of photo 02) and Carnegie Library (photo 14) on the east edge of the commercial area and two churches in the Gothic Revival style. The railroad depot was relocated onto the southwest corner of the main intersection in 2022 (photo 27); the building was built in 1883 and is an example of the Stick Style. The remainder of the buildings are residences dating between 1854 and 1945. Styles of these residences include Italianate, Queen Anne, and Craftsman/Bungalow examples, primarily, but also include Mission Revival, Prairie, and Colonial Revival. The Craftsman/Bungalow style probably most characterizes the residential areas of the district and is represented by excellent stone masonry and brick craftsmanship.

The resource count includes only primary buildings in the count; no secondary or support buildings, such as garages, are part of the resource count. There are relatively few non-contributing resources in the district. Very few houses have been substantially remodeled to the extent that the building's original design is not fully discernable. Most changes include window replacements or the introduction of vinyl or aluminum siding over clapboards. An example of the minimum threshold for a contributing resource is the house located at 204 Rochester Street. The home features modern siding, windows, and a metal roof, but fenestration locations remain essentially as originally designed and the general shape of the T-plan house is retained. Many of the non-contributing resources are rendered such due to an accumulation of changes like replacement windows and siding compiled with alteration of fenestration locations and enclosure of porches to make them no longer read as porches, but as living space. Such is the case at 501 Rochester Street which introduced metal siding and new windows and has a fully enclosed porch. Next door, at 413 Rochester Street, the introduction of new materials, large addition, and loss of its original porch causes the original design to be indiscernible and renders the house non-contributing. While the house form is retained, the accumulative effect is to render the house non-contributing.

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A full list of resources follows:

Beginning on the north side of East Rochester Street at Mishawaka Street, going east.

100 Rochester. Webb Pharmacy, c. 2000. Non-contributing

106 Rochester. Commercial Building, c. 1907. Classical Revival. Contributing
Storefront: G. L. Mesker & Company, Evansville.

108 Rochester. Commercial Building, c. 1925. Contributing
Second from right side of photo 02.

112 Rochester. Former City Hall, 1928/1938. Contributing
Milo Cutshall, builder. Right side of photo 02

The one-story, brick building was constructed in two parts in the early 20th century. The east half features slightly darker brick, concrete base, and two metal doors with metal awnings. The east door features a window. A wide former garage bay is centered between the doors. The opening has a lintel composed of soldier brick; it has been filled in with metal and a window. A building stone carved with CITY HALL is centered near the top of the wall which features limestone coping on its parapet. The west half of the building features a steel door in its east end and a wide, former garage bay. The bay has been covered with metal and is topped with a lintel of soldier brick. The west half of the building has a parapet with coping stone as a continuation from the east half.

The first municipal building constructed by the town was completed by 1920 when the fire department, established in 1917, co-located with the city's water works department near the intersection of Mishawaka and Orchard Street (no longer extant). The town was incorporated in 1909 and by 1912 had located the town offices and jail in the lower level of the opera house where they remained until the brick city hall and fire station at 112 E. Rochester Street was constructed in 1928. A new town hall and fire department building was constructed for the village just west of the district in 1988. The following is a newspaper account of the town bid for a new facility in 1928:

MILO CUTSHALL IS LOW BIDDER FOR AKRON JOB

The Akron town board in a special session Thursday received five bids for the construction of a new combined rest room, town hall and engine house. It was found when the proposals were opened that Milo Cutshall contractor of Akron had submitted the lowest complete bid by \$621.00. The bidders were Frank Swihart whose bid, the only not complete, was \$4,950 not including the plumbing and electrical contract; Milo Cutshall, \$5,379.00; W. O. Carry and Son of Huntington, \$6,000 and R. O. Sharp of Camden \$6,673. The Akron Exchange State Bank was the only bidder for the bonds which were for \$4,500.00. They were bought for par plus accrued interest, subject to the approval of the State Board of Accounts. The contract was let to Milo Cutshall and work on the construction of the new building will begin as soon as the State Board of Accounts place their O. K. on everything. The new building will be erected on the Frank Madeford lot just across the ally from the Case and Moyer Furniture Store. It will be a brick

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structure and will house the Fire Truck and provide for a meeting place for the Town Board on the ground floor. In the basement will be placed comfort stations for both men and women.¹

116 Rochester. Viking Foods Grocery, c. 1975. Non-contributing

204 Rochester. House, T-plan, c. 1890. Contributing

208 Rochester. C. F. & Mary Hoover House, Italianate, c. 1880/1912. Contributing

300 Rochester. Daniel & Angeline Leininger House, Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing
The one-and-a-half story brick house features 3/1 Craftsman style wood windows with stone sills. The home's hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house has large, gabled dormers centered on the front and west facades. The dormers are covered with wood shingles and feature pairs of Craftsman windows with simple cornices. The dormer roofs have exposed rafter tails.

The front façade features a full-width incised porch with brick walls and square corner columns. The columns, walls, and piers flanking the steps centered on the façade are capped with stone. The back wall of the porch features a wood entry door with side-lites. The door features a full window divided into multiple panes. Wide windows with transoms divided into eight panes flank the entry.

The Leininger Family were long-standing proprietors in the town of Akron. Daniel Leininger, along with his siblings, were Pennsylvania natives brought to Indiana by their mother and step-father after the father died in Pennsylvania. Three brothers established a small trade of general merchandise in Beaver Dam, a few miles from Akron. In 1882, Daniel and his brother Moses established a general store in Akron. In 1897, Daniel bought out his brother's interest in the store and in 1902 constructed a large, two-story brick building on the southwest corner of the main intersection downtown. The store, which was named Leininger & Sons, remained in business for over 80 years and offered a variety of general merchandise. It expanded into the east part of the building to the west, the Day Hardware, and expanded with a men's clothing store. Daniel's four sons each oversaw a department of the store. Willis had overall supervision, Lew oversaw the men's clothing section, Earl oversaw the shoe department, and Roy oversaw the grocery. Later a third generation of Leiningers worked at the store before its closure. The store was a favorite gathering place for farmers on evening concert nights in the village. Daniel Leininger, born in 1854, died in 1928. His wife, Angeline, was born in the same year and died in 1913.

302 Rochester. Gabled-ell, c. 1910. Non-contributing

306 Rochester. Free Classic, c. 1900. Contributing

308 Rochester. A. A. Gast House, side-gabled, c. 1860. Non-contributing

¹ *The News-Sentinel, Rochester, Indiana, Saturday, September 15, 1928*

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310 Rochester. Dutch Colonial Revival, c. 1915. Contributing

400 Rochester. Free Classic/Pyramid-Roof Cottage, c. 1905. Contributing
Left side of photo 03

404 Rochester. House, c. 1945. Contributing
Middle of photo 03

408 Rochester. Frank Haldeman House, T-plan/Free Classic, c. 1890. Contributing
Right side of photo 03

412 Rochester. Shafer House, gable-front, c. 1875. Contributing

502 Rochester. Gable-front, c. 1900. Contributing

506 Rochester. Patterson House, American Foursquare, c. 1915. Contributing
Far left side of photo 04

510 Rochester. Stoner House, Queen Anne, c. 1900. Contributing
Second from left side of photo 04

514 Rochester. Frank & Lillie Haldeman House, Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing
Second from right side of photo 04

The one-story, front-gabled bungalow has walls composed of paver brick and 1/1 wood windows with stone sills. The roof is covered with metal. The front façade features a full-width porch with a gabled roof centered over the west half of the porch and a shed roof of lower pitch superimposed over the east half of the porch. Possibly this east pitch is a modification of the original design. The porch walls and square columns are also composed of paver brick and capped with stone. The columns are topped with heavy timber purlins to carry the gabled roof. The porch's gable is covered with vinyl siding and features large wood braces under the eaves. The steps are centered on the façade and lead to a wood door with full window centered in the back wall of the porch. A wide wood window with transom is west of the entry. A bay composed of a wide window flanked by narrow windows and topped with a transom is east of the entry.

Frank and Lillie (Stoner) Haldeman married in 1891 and were the parents of three children. Frank Haldeman was born in nearby Kosciusko County in 1869 and Lillie was the daughter of Fletcher and Maryetta (Black) Stoner. Fletcher Stoner established a grain elevator in Akron under the name of F. Stoner & Company in 1896, into which his son-in-law, Frank Haldeman became associated. In 1916, Haldeman took over the business under the name Frank Haldeman & Company and then by the 1920s, Haldeman consolidated with another elevator in town under the name of Haldeman & Baum. Fletcher Stoner and William Patterson established the Akron Exchange Bank and Frank Haldeman became a director of the bank. Haldeman died in 1934 and Lillie died in 1968.

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518 Rochester. Bungalow, c. 1920. Contributing
Right side of photo 04

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602 Rochester. Craftsman, c. 1915. Contributing
Left side of photo 05

606 Rochester. Morris House, Craftsman Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing
Middle of photo 05

The one-and-a-half story, side-gabled bungalow features a cut-stone foundation and porch and brick walls. The house has 1/1 wood windows with stone sills and the gables are covered with stucco. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The front façade features a full-width porch with a shed roof continuation from the main roof with flared eaves. The porch has intricately cut/dressed fieldstone attributed to William Foker, a stone mason of some note in the region. The porch features tapered corner piers, stone, capped with a flat stone. The stone walls and short piers that flank center entry steps are also capped with stone. The entry is centered in the back wall of the porch and features a wood door and sidelites with windows divided into multiple panes. Wide wood windows with transoms divided into 12 panes flank the entry. A wide dormer with gabled roof and flared eaves is centered on the front façade. It features a row of four short windows with simple trim boards that compose a hood. The dormer features wood braces and sawn bargeboards.

610 Rochester. Babcock House, Craftsman, c. 1915. Contributing
Akron Home Builders Association. Right side of photo 05

The one-and-a-half story brick house features lighter-brown colored soldier brick at the bottom of the first story and forming lintels over the home's 8/1 wood windows. The windows have stone sills. The roof is covered with metal. The front façade features an enclosed porch with pent roof on the east half of the façade and a gabled through-cornice wall dormer in the west half. The porch features square corner columns of brick with lighter-brown brick forming a capital-like feature. The porch is enclosed with rows of simple windows with screens. The porch entry is in the west end of the porch and is flanked by short brick piers. The west half of the façade has a row of three 12/1 wood windows in the first story and a pair of 12/1 wood windows in the wall dormer. The dormer's gabled roof is supported by wood brackets.

614 Rochester. Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing
Akron Home Builders Association. Left side of photo 06

700 Rochester. Colonial Revival, 1913. Contributing
Akron Home Builders Association. Right side of photo 06

The two-story, side-gabled brick house features 6/6 wood windows with brick sills and jack arches. Cornice returns are located on the side gables and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. One-story sunporches are located on each side of the house and a half-round window is located in each gable. The front façade features three bays of 6/6 windows; the entry is located in the first story of the west bay. The entry features a wide surround with Doric pilasters that flank

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the door and support an architrave carved with the house number and a flat roof. The six-panel wood entry door is topped with a transom divided into four panes.

710 Rochester. Gable-front, c. 1880. Contributing

800 Rochester. A. A. Gast House, Prairie Style, 1920. Contributing

Left side of photo 07

The two story house has walls covered with stucco, rows of casement windows divided into eight panes, and a low-pitched hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. The house, generally, has a two-story cube with a one-story porch (east half) and sun porch (west half) in front. A two-story section is stepped back from the cube and features a garage with sleeping porch above. The entry porch has steps in its east side and wood entry door in its west wall. A group of windows with a wide 8/1 window flanked by 4/1 Craftsman windows is in the back wall of the porch. A row of five casement windows divided into ten panes is centered in the front wall of the sunporch. The second story features two pairs of casements divided into eight panes. The garage bay features a door divided into three hinged leaves, each with two panels and a window composed of ten panes. The sleeping porch has a row of four casement windows divided into eight panes. A short section of roof, covered with metal, shelters the garage door.

The impressive home was built by and for Andrew Almondo Gast who was born in Akron in 1855 to parents who were natives of Bavaria and Switzerland. Gast was instrumental in the development of Akron, including the establishment of the electric plant and telephone system and in advocating for the town's incorporation in 1909. He was probably best-known as a builder and he established a brick and tile plant east of Akron. The plant had a spur that allowed for shipment of product, but it also produced brick for many of the town's streets and buildings. The buildings Gast constructed include the Akron Methodist Church (1903) and Akron Opera House (1900). He served as postmaster and was elected to two terms as Fulton County Sheriff. Gast married Laura Ball, who died in 1883, and then to Flora Bitters. A few of his sons remained in the contracting or power utility business. A. A. Gast died in 1957 at the age of 101.

804 Rochester. Earl Leininger House, Craftsman Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing

Right side of photo 07

The one-and-a-half story side-gabled bungalow features brick walls and stucco on its gable walls. The house has 6/1 wood windows with stone sills. The roof, covered with metal, has wide-overhanging eaves which are supported by large brackets. The front façade is dominated by the full-width porch sheltered with an extension of the main roof. The porch has dressed fieldstone corner columns, tapered, and stone walls capped with stone. Steps to the porch are located in the west half of the façade. The porch's back wall features a wood door, west of center, and a 6/1 window west of the door. A large group of windows is in the east half; it features a wide 12/1 window flanked by 6/1 windows. A wide dormer with a shed roof is centered on the façade. Its walls are covered with stucco and it features a row of three 6/1 windows.

Earl Leininger was one of five sons to Daniel and Angeline Leininger, and one of four who was part of the Akron general store known as Leininger & Sons, located on the southwest corner of the main intersection. Earl was born in 1881 and was married to Nellie Stevenson. They had two

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children. Earl Leininger oversaw the shoe department at the store. He died in 1956 and Nellie died in 1983.

808 Rochester. Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing

812 Rochester. Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing
Far left side of photo 08

816 Rochester. Colonial Revival, c. 1915. Contributing
Second from left side of photo 08

820 Rochester. Craftsman, c. 1915. Contributing
Second from right side of photo 08

824 Rochester. Bungalow, c. 1920. Contributing
Right side of photo 08

828 Rochester. House, T-plan, c. 1900. Contributing

South side of East Rochester Street, going west from State Road 14 North

827 Rochester. Bungalow, c. 1920/1940. Contributing
Left side of photo 09

823 Rochester. Bungalow, c. 1920. Contributing
Middle of photo 09

819 Rochester. Bungalow, c. 1920. Non-contributing
Right side of photo 09

815 Rochester. House, T-plan, c. 1875/1920. Contributing

811 Rochester. Earl-Love Funeral Home, c. 2000. Non-contributing

713 Rochester. Gabled-ell, c. 1900. Contributing

709 Rochester. Stinson House, American Foursquare, c. 1915. Contributing

705 Rochester. Gable-front, c. 1875. Contributing

701 Rochester. T-plan, c. 1890. Contributing

609 Rochester. Hoffman House, Italianate, c. 1885. Contributing
Left side of photo 10

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The one-and-a-half story house features a stone foundation and brick walls. The homes 1/1 wood windows have stone sills and segmental arches filled with a wood block or blind arch in the top. A simple cornice board tops the walls and forms slight "returns" on the gable walls but without roof extensions. The roof is steeply-pitched and covered with metal.

The house generally has a T-shaped plan with tall gables and cross gables on each side of the front leg of the T. A porch with hipped roof (c. 1920) is in the northwest corner of the front façade. It has a molded concrete block foundation, concrete floor, and slightly tapered square wood columns. The entry door is in the back wall (north-facing) of the porch. The front façade (north wall of the T) features a wide wood window with transom centered in the wall and a 1/1 window centered in the gable. The cross gables also feature 1/1 windows centered in their walls. The west-facing leg of the T features a shallow three-sided brick bay with a pair of segmental-arched windows in a single, wide arched opening. The bay features a short section of mansard roof, also covered with metal.

605 Rochester. Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing
Middle of photo 10

601 Rochester. Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing
Right side of photo 10

517 Rochester. T-plan, c. 1900. Contributing

509 Rochester. T-plan, c. 1890. Contributing

505 Rochester. Gabled-ell, c. 1910. Contributing

501 Rochester. Daniels House, gabled-ell, c. 1880. Non-contributing

413 Rochester. Gable-front, c. 1890. Non-contributing

409 Rochester. E. O. & Gertrude Strong House, Bungalow, c. 1920. Contributing
Akron Home Builders Association. Left side of photo 11

The one-and-a-half story, gable-front bungalow has walls composed of light brown-colored brick and 6/6 wood windows with stone sills. The front façade features an enclosed porch offset to the west with square corner columns that support a hipped roof. The porch is enclosed with 1/1 wood windows. The entry is in the west wall of the porch. A row of three 6/6 windows is east of the porch on the first story. A row of three 6/6 windows is centered in the front gable. The roof, covered with asphalt shingles, has wide-overhanging eaves supported by wood brackets on the front gable.

The house was constructed by the Akron Home Builders Association for Everett Osgood and Gertrude (Downey) Strong c. 1920. Everett had been born in 1875 and married Gertrude by 1900. E. O. Strong was active in community affairs including serving for a time on the Akron Town Board, leader of the Akron Band, and president of the Communitarians which was a group

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of Akron businessmen who met during the lunch hour. E. O. Strong operated Strong's Department Store in the downtown until 1937. The store originated with his father, Andrew Strong, who came to Akron and established a blacksmith shop by 1853. Andrew Strong began a mercantile in town in 1876, which became Strong's Department Store. Everett died in 1943 and Gertrude died in 1956.

405 Rochester. T-plan, c. 1885. Contributing
Middle of photo 11

401 Rochester. Queen Anne/Italianate, c. 1885. Contributing
A. A. Gast, builder. Right side of photo 11

The one-and-a-half story house features a dressed fieldstone foundation capped with limestone and brick walls. The house has 1/1 wood windows with stone sills and segmental arches composed of two courses of brick. A wood frieze of sawtooth planks is at the top of the first story walls. Vinyl siding covers the gables. The house has a steeply-pitch gabled roof covered with asphalt shingles that features several cross gables.

The house has, generally, a gabled-ell plan with a porch in its northwest corner (west half of the front façade). The porch features rows of delicate turned posts, spindlework railings, sawn brackets, and sawn friezes that compose arch-like features between the posts. Wood entry doors, with window, are in the west-facing porch wall and east half of the porch's back wall. They feature segmental-arched transoms. A 1/1 window is west of the entry. A gabled wall dormer is above the porch in the ell and features a 1/1 window. The east half of the façade, east of the porch, features a pair of tall, narrow 1/1 windows in the first story and one 1/1 window in the front gable.

The house is very similar to a number of houses constructed in the district in T-plans with steeply-pitched roofs and all likely were built by Gast. Gast was an accomplished and prolific builder in the village during the 1800s-early 1900s.

309 Rochester. T-plan, c. 1895. Contributing
Left side of photo 12

307 Rochester. Lewis Leininger House, Craftsman Bungalow, 1912. Contributing
Middle of photo 12

The one-and-a-half story house has walls composed of brick pavers, 6/1 wood windows with stone sills, and a hipped roof with exposed rafter tails covered with asphalt shingles. Wide dormers with gabled roofs and patterned shingle work are centered on each façade. The dormers also feature exposed rafter tails and sawn bargeboards.

The front façade features a full-width, incised brick porch with wide segmental-arched openings and walls capped with stone. Three arches are in the front façade (the center features steps) and one arch is in the west and east walls. The entry is centered in the back wall of the porch and is flanked by wide windows with transoms divided into multiple panes. The entry features a wood

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door and Craftsman style side-lites. The front dormer features a row of three wood casement windows, each divided into twelve panes.

Lewis Leininger was one of five sons of Daniel and Angeline Leininger, a leading merchant in Akron's early history. Lewis was born in 1878 and married Clara Wachter and had three children together. Lewis Leininger became co-owner of Leininger & Sons about 1900 and continued with the store until his death in 1959. Lewis was in charge of the men's clothing department which occupied the east portion of the Day Hardware Building immediately west of the Leininger Building.

303 Rochester. Willis Leininger House, American Foursquare, c. 1915. Contributing
Right side of photo 12

The two-story house features walls composed of dark-red colored brick capped with a stone cornice that forms a sill course for the second story windows. The second story walls are covered with stucco and feature wide trim boards for a half-timber appearance. The house has 9/9 wood windows. The low-pitched hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has wide-overhanging eaves. A dormer with hipped roof is centered on the front façade. It also features stucco walls and wide trim boards around its two short windows. The front façade features a full-width porch, enclosed with screens in its eastern two-thirds, with square corner columns of brick that support a hipped roof. The wood entry door with side-lites is in the back wall of the porch in its west end (not enclosed). The second story features two pairs of 9/9 windows.

Willis Leininger was one of the four sons to Daniel and Angeline Leininger who took part in operating Leininger & Sons, a general merchandise store on the southwest corner of the main intersection in Akron's commercial core. Willis, the oldest son, was born in 1875 and married Anna King. The couple had two sons, Walter and Ralph. Willis Leininger graduated from Valparaiso University before returning to Akron to work at the family store. Willis was made general supervisor for the store which closed in 1963 after 81 years in business. Willis and Anna died three days apart in 1964.

301 Rochester. Queen Anne/Free Classic, c. 1890. Contributing
John Z. Haldeman, builder. Photo 13

The one-and-a-half story house is essentially constructed in a T-plan with the front leg of the T off-set to the east on the front façade. The back portion of the house has substantially wider side gables intersected by the front-facing gable. A porch wraps around from the northwest corner to the north end of the west façade. The house has a foundation of molded concrete block and clapboards on the walls. Thin pilasters are on each corner and the house has 1/1 wood windows with simple cornice hoods. A trim board extends around the top of the walls and is supported by the corner pilasters. The gables have wide, arch-shaped bulkheads-eaves with the built-out section at the top of the gable covered in wood patterned shingle work. A four-sided tower with a steeply-pitched hipped roof extends up above the west side of the front façade from the back wall of the porch. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The wrap-around porch is located on the west half of the front façade. It has a wood floor and rows of Ionic columns that support a front-gabled roof. Classically-inspired wood moldings in

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bas relief form designs in the gable wall of the porch. The entry door is in the back (north-facing) wall of the porch and features a wood door with full window. The tower rises above this on the second story and features a pair of casement windows in its front wall. A large metal finial caps the tower. The east half of the front façade features the north-facing leg of the T-plan and has a row of three windows with transoms centered in the first story. The middle window is much wider than the flanking windows. The windows are separated by thin pilasters and moldings below the transoms. The second story features a pair of 1/1 wood windows centered in the gable wall.

The house is associated with one of Akron's early carpenters, John Z. Haldeman, who built the home c. 1890. The house is similar to a few others in the district, likely all built by Haldeman. Haldeman, a veteran of the Civil War, was born in Pennsylvania in 1840 and married Sarah Kock and had two daughters. The family arrived in Akron in about 1880 at which time Haldeman began home building. Sarah died in 1885 and Haldeman remarried to Jennie Gibbs. John Z. Haldeman died in 1911 and Jennie died in 1930.

205 Rochester. Akron Carnegie Library, Neoclassical Revival, 1914/1915. Contributing Griffith, Fair, & Goodrich (Ft. Wayne), architects. Milo Cutshall, builder.

Left side of photo 14

The building is one story on a raised base of dark-colored brick, topped with a stone beltcourse, and first story walls of auburn-colored brick. Brick pilasters of the Doric order are on the corners and divide facades into bays. The pilasters feature stone bases and capitals which support a tall entablature at the top of the first story walls. The window openings have been filled in with glass block but feature stone sills, brick jack arches with keystones, and surrounds of brick with stone quoins. The roof, covered with red Spanish tile, features a wood and metal cornice on the eaves. A large, modern addition was made to the back of the building at roughly the same time an exterior, enclosed stairwell was added to the east side of the building.

The front façade is symmetrically arranged and features a portico of brick pilasters and long set of stone steps centered on the façade. The entry is recessed in the portico and is composed of a pair of wood doors with full windows and side-lites. Wood transoms divided into multiple panes in a Roman star (or clathris) configuration of mullions are above the doors and side-lites. The architrave of the portico is carved with CARNEGIE LIBRARY. The tympanum of the portico's pediment is brick with a round date stone carved with 1914. Anthemions are on the corners of the pediment and one rises at the top with a shell in bas relief. Large window openings flank the portico and are centered in the west and east walls. These are also filled with glass block. A building stone is in the northwest corner of the raised basement of the front façade.

The effort to establish a permanent library began in 1912. The library board, with bylaws, was established after a meeting was called by Reverend Krause, pastor of the Akron Methodist Church. The meeting occurred on August 12, 1912, and it was decided that use of the library would be free to Akron residents and extended to Henry Township residents, assuming a tax levy would be put in place. By August 19, 1912, the library opened with 260 books on its shelves. It was located on the second story of the southernmost bay of the Akron News Building. In early 1913, Krause began corresponding with the Carnegie Foundation for a grant to construct a

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building from which a gift of \$12,000 was granted. The land was purchased for \$1500. The board accepted plans drawn by architects Griffith, Fair, & Goodrich and the contract was let to local builder, Milo Cutshall on September 22, 1914. The building was completed, the book collection, which had grown to 1,306 was moved, and the library opened on October 21, 1915.

203 Rochester. Smith House, Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing
Right side of photo 14

123 Rochester. House, c. 1900. Non-contributing

101/105 Rochester. Akron Exchange Bank, Classical Revival, 1900/1919. Contributing
Photo 15

The two-story corner brick building features a cutaway corner entry facing the main intersection of town and two storefront bays east of the corner. Two additional smaller storefront entry doors are south of the corner and flank stairway doors. The building features stone sills and tall lintels over the first floor openings. The second story has 1/1 wood windows with stone sills and jack arches of brick. A beltcourse of brick in a basket weave pattern is at the top of the second story. Two additional belt courses of a single course of brick is located just below the parapet which features rows of tall corbels. The parapet is capped with stone.

The corner entry has a stone surround composed of Doric pilasters supporting an entablature. The word BANK is carved into the frieze of the entablature. The entry features a wood door with full window and short transom. A second transom is at the top of the surround and is divided into six lites. Display windows divided into two large panes with transoms flank the corner entry. They have stone sills and lintels and a metal cornice at the top of the lintel. The two storefront bays east of the corner entry feature deeply recessed entry doors centered between steel display windows. Wood panels are below the display windows and transoms composed of prism glass block top the display windows. The west storefront also has the words DRUGS and SODA in the transoms. The second story features eight 1/1 windows on the north façade and eleven 1/1 windows on the west façade. A wide 1/1 window is in the cutaway corner's second story above the entry.

The Akron Exchange Bank was established on July 6, 1891 in a frame building on the west side of downtown. The bank was founded by Fletcher Stoner, William Patterson, Norman Stoner, and Martin Patterson with an initial capital stock of \$10,000. Norman Stoner was elected Fulton County Treasurer in 1897 and was replaced as bank cashier by his brother, Hubbard, who retired as president of the bank in 1954. The bank constructed this large corner business block in 1900 which included a hardware and drugstore in its Rochester Street-facing shops and several offices in its Mishawaka Street-facing spaces. The bank consolidated with Citizens Bank in 1911 and the capital was increased to \$25,000. The building was remodeled with new storefronts in 1919. In 1922, the bank obtained a state charter and changed its name to the Akron Exchange State Bank. In 1945, the bank purchased the assets of the State Bank on the northwest corner of the main intersection and moved into that building.

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101 West Rochester. Akron Chicago & Erie Railroad Depot, Stick Style, 1883. Contributing
Photo 27

The one-story, side-gabled depot features board-and-batten siding and large brackets that support the building's wide-overhanging eaves. The windows are 2/2, wood, with simple trim boards. The roof is covered with metal. The building's northwest-facing wall has no windows. The northeast facing wall features the station manager's projecting bay near the south end of the façade. The three-sided bay features one 2/2 window in each side wall and two 2/2 windows in the front wall. A baggage door with transom is north of the bay and a door with transom and 2/2 window is south of the bay.

The Chicago and Atlantic Railroad, later called the Chicago and Erie Railroad, was constructed along the south edge of Akron in 1882, however, the push to have a railroad service the community began in earnest by 1870. The railroad constructed a wood passenger and baggage depot in 1883 near its intersection with Mishawaka Street a few blocks south of its current location. Train service ended in 1979, though the depot was maintained by a long-standing Akron business, Pike Lumber Company. Relocation in 2022 of the depot ensured its preservation.

109 West Rochester. Day Hardware, c. 1885. Contributing
Photo 16

The one-story brick building features two storefronts divided by a brick pilaster. The east storefront is wider than the west storefront and features a deeply-recessed entry in its east end and three display windows. The display windows are divided by slender cast iron columns and feature short stone walls below the window and a transom divided into two large panes above the window. The west storefront has a recessed entry east of center and one display window to the east and two display windows to the west of the entry. The west storefront is covered with corrugated metal. Galvanized metal, painted, covers the lintels over the storefronts and has ghost lettering from a previous store. The words DAY HARDWARE are painted on the brick wall above the storefronts. The brick parapet is composed of rows of dentils, rows of sawtooth brick, and small recessed square panels. The building is the oldest commercial building in downtown Akron and has housed a hardware for most of its existence. The west half remained a hardware from the 1880s until at least the 1920s. The east portion had a dry goods and notions shop in the 1890s, then general store in the early 1900s. By the 1920s, it was used by Leininger & Son's for an expansion of their store to provide men's clothing and carpets.

111 West Rochester. Commercial Building, c. 1925. Contributing
Right side of photo 16

113 West Rochester. Commercial Building, c. 1890/2010. Non-contributing
Far right side of photo 16

117 West Rochester. Arter-W. C. Miller Building, 1912. Contributing

The one-story brick building features modern metal and glass display windows and entry doors. The main entrance is centered on the building and features a pair of doors with side-lites and transoms. A display window composed of three large lites is west of the entry and a display

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window with two large lites is east of the entry. A door with transom is east of the east window. The wall beneath the display windows has been filled in with brick. A building stone carved with "19 * W C MILLER * 12" is centered in the wall above the main entrance. Small diamond-shaped stones flank the building stone. The parapet features brick piers on the corners with corbel table between. The parapet is capped with stone.

The building was constructed as a blacksmith shop and agricultural implements store in 1912. John Arter, born in 1866, came to the Akron area with his family as a young boy. He continued in the blacksmith trade for 56 years. William C. Miller was a hardware merchant for 42 years, beginning in 1894 and utilizing this business house in the early part of the 20th century.

East Walnut Street, north side, beginning at Mishawaka Street, going east

106 Walnut. Bungalow, c. 1920. Contributing
Left side of photo 23

110 Walnut. Bungalow, c. 1920. Contributing
Right side of photo 23

East Walnut Street, south side, beginning at Maple Street, going west

301 Walnut. Craftsman Bungalow, c. 1920. Contributing

225 Walnut. Gable-front, c. 1905. Contributing
Left side of photo 25

219 Walnut. Gable-front, c. 1905. Contributing
Right side of photo 25

213 Walnut. Gable-front, c. 1905. Non-contributing

207 Walnut. Colonial Revival, c. 1915. Contributing

201 Walnut. Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing

111 Walnut. Queen Anne Cottage, c. 1895. Contributing

East Water Street, north side, beginning at Mishawaka Street, heading east

102 Water. Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing
This house is on the northeast corner of Mishawaka and Water Streets

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108 Water. Craftsman, c. 1925. Contributing

This house is on the northwest corner of Water and Center Streets

Photo 26

The small one-and-half story, side-gabled brick house has a raised basement with belt courses of brick at the bottom and top of the raised basement. The house has 6/1 wood windows with brick sills. The roof, covered in metal, features exposed rafter tails and the eaves are supported by wood brackets. The front (south) façade features a full-round arched wood door with small roundel off-centered to the west. It has a raised brick and concrete stoop with metal railings and an arched roof covered in metal and supported by wood brackets. A 6/1 window is west of the entry and a group of three windows, 6/1 windows that flank a wide 8/1 window, is east of the entry. The second story features a wall dormer with brick walls and gabled roof. A pair of 6/1 windows are in the dormer. The dormer roof also features exposed rafter tails and brackets. Metal awnings, c. 1950, are above the windows on the front façade.

East Water Street, south side

107 Water. Gable-front, c. 1900. Non-contributing

East Orchard Street

400 East Orchard. Colonial Revival Cottage, c. 1925. Contributing

This house is located on the northeast corner of Orchard and South Maple Street

West side of North Mishawaka Street, beginning at Rochester Street, going north.

102 Mishawaka. State Bank Building, Classical Revival, 1919. Contributing

Milo Cutshall, builder. Photo 01

The two-story brick building is situated on the corner, facing southeast, of the main intersection in Akron. The building has a raised stone base and brick walls with stone trim. Two-story Doric pilasters with stone capitals and bases divide the facades into bays. The building has modern metal storefront display windows, transoms (filled with panels), and doors. The storefronts feature stone cornices. The second story features pairs of modern 1/1 metal windows with transoms (filled with panels) with stone sills. Enframed panels of brick are below the second story windows. A stone molding forms a belt course atop the pilasters at the top of the second story, or the bottom of the entablature. The architrave is brick and is topped with a brick frieze and a stone cornice with modillions. A brick parapet rises above the entablature and is capped with stone.

The corner of the building is semicircular, rounded with the intersection. It features two-story Doric columns, stone, on stone bases that flank the corner entry. The corner entry features a metal and glass door with a stone surround which is topped with a cornice and stone clock. The words STATE BANK are in low relief in the top of the surround. A curved wood window with transom is in the second story above the entry. The Doric columns support a tall stone

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entablature, also rounded, and carved with STATE BANK in low relief on the corner. The building's east façade is divided into four bays of display windows and pairs of windows in the second story. The bay second from the south features an entry door and transom flanked by narrow display windows. The south façade is divided into three bays each with a storefront entry and display window and two pairs of windows in the second story. The easternmost bay is narrower and features three 1/1 windows in the second story.

A historical marker/plaque is seen right of the entry on the building in photo 01

A beautifully cast bronze marker is located on the State Bank Building. It tells the story of Akron's founding at the crossing of two Native American trails on July 4, 1836 and is attested by the sole survivor of the original colony, Daniel Whittenberger, in 1918.

The State Bank Building was constructed in 1919 for the bank that was organized in 1912. The organizers were H. B. Brown, president; R. R. Carr, secretary and treasurer; and John McCullough, cashier. The bank had a capital stock of \$45,000 in 1936, but sold out to the Akron Exchange State Bank in 1945, after which time the Exchange Bank relocated to this site. The building housed the Akron Post Office when the building was finished in 1919. It also housed a variety store and barbershop in its westernmost business room. The second story was used by the Warsaw Overall Factory, which was renamed the Akron Overall Factory, from 1919 until 1929 when the company relocated to Niles, Michigan. The second floor was then used by the Akron Social Club.

104/106/108/110/112 Mishawaka. Akron News Building, 1909. Contributing
Right side of photo 01; left side of photo 17

The two-story brick building is divided into four bays. The bay second from the south is much wider and slightly taller than the other three bays. The building has four storefronts, most of which have been modified and/or covered in metal. A metal cornice is at the top of the storefronts and extends the full-width of the building and is the only extant, visible, historic portion of the storefronts other than their general composition. The wider bay's second story is divided into three parts by brick pilasters; the middle is wider and features two 1/1 windows while the narrower sections feature pairs of 1/1 windows. These windows feature stone sills and pressed metal lintels. Each of the other three bays is divided into two parts on the second story, with brick pilasters, and feature one 1/1 in each part. The windows have stone sills and lintels. All of the windows are modern, metal, or covered with metal but likely were originally 1/1 wood with transoms. The building's tall parapet features wide recessed panels of brick divided by narrow pilasters. Rows of corbels top the wall and carry stone coping.

Akron had a few short-lived newspaper publications during the middle part of the 19th century including the *Akron Globe* (1860s-1870s) and the *Akron Signal* (early 1880s). By the mid-1880s, the *Akron Echo* was published, which then was renamed to the *Akron Eagle* in 1887, and then finally to the *Akron News* in 1890 when S. N. Shesler purchased the paper. The paper was published through 1968. In 1909, the Akron News Building was constructed, becoming one of the largest business blocks in Akron. Shortly after it was constructed, the building included several businesses including a bank (likely the State Bank) and meat market on the first floor. The second story (far south bay) was the first and temporary home to the Akron Library (1912-

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1915). By 1920, the Winona Interurban line had established its office in the far north business room. A harness shop, grocer, and meat market were in the other rooms. The second floor was used as a meeting hall.

116/120 Mishawaka. Stone wall, c. 1916. Contributing (structure)

Seen in photo 17

116 Mishawaka. Dr. S. S. Terry House, T-plan/Craftsman, 1854/1916. Contributing

Middle of photo 17

120 Mishawaka. Mission Style, c. 1916. Contributing

Right side of photo 17

The brick house has an asymmetrical massing of several parts, generally one-story, with a two-story corner tower and hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. The building has a dressed fieldstone foundation and porch, capped with limestone, matching the long retaining wall of the front part of the block. The house features some 1/1 modern windows and wood Craftsman windows with stone sills and lintels. The front façade will be described in three parts: the middle, enclosed porch; tower (north), and section stepped back from the porch on the façade's south end.

The porch has fieldstone walls and corner piers, capped with stone, from which square corner columns of brick extend to carry a balcony-like roof fronted with a segmental-arched parapet of brick. The parapet is stepped at the corners and is capped with stone. The porch is enclosed with rows of modern 1/1 windows covered with metal awnings. The porch entry is centered on the front wall at the top of stone steps. The tower, stepped back from the porch, features a shallow three-sided bay with cutaway corners in the first story. The bay features 3/1 Craftsman windows, wood, in the flanking walls of the wide front wall which features a 4/1 Craftsman window. The bay has a hipped roof. The second story of the tower features a row of four modern 1/1 windows in each wall. The tower is capped with a hipped roof with flared eaves. The south section of the front façade steps back from the porch and features an opening composed of three modern windows topped with a transom composed of art glass.

202 Mishawaka. William A. Patterson House, Queen Anne, c. 1886. Contributing

Photo 18

The two-story gabled-ell house has a dressed fieldstone foundation and clapboards on its walls. The house has 1/1 wood windows with simple cornice hoods. The gables feature cornice returns and are covered with round-butt patterned shingle work. The gables are trimmed with dentils along the rake and small corbels across the bottom. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A wood porch wraps around the southeast corner of the house from the east façade to the south façade, then continues across the front of a one-story ell with hipped roof on the southwest corner of the house. The porch features rows of turned posts and frieze panels of jigsaw work and spindles.

The entry to the porch faces southeast and features a gabled roof with carved tympanum. The house has four wood entry doors with full windows and transoms off the porch. The southeast

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corner of the house is cutaway and features a large wood window on the first story and 1/1 window on the second story with a valance of spindlework continuing out under the eaves. A second story porch is tucked into the corner of the ell and faces east. It is sheltered with a pent roof and features turned posts and spindlework balustrades. A door and 1/1 window are in the back wall of the balcony. The front wall of the east-facing gabled section features a large window centered on the first story and two 1/1 windows in the second story. A small full-round arched attic window with carved surround is centered in the front and south-facing gables.

The house was constructed for prominent Akron businessman, William A. Patterson, c. 1886. Patterson was born in 1851 in Henry County, Indiana, then moved north with his father to Wabash County before arriving in Akron in 1886. He married Rose Loder in 1879 and after her death, married Anna Cennrad. Patterson had five children; two sons were drowned on December 31, 1904. Patterson was one of the founders of the Akron Exchange Bank in 1891 and was the president of the bank at his death in 1928.

208 Mishawaka. Gable-front/Craftsman, c. 1915. Contributing

214 Mishawaka. Craftsman, c. 1915/1950. Contributing

220 Mishawaka. Side-gabled, c. 1860/1900. Contributing

304 Mishawaka. Queen Anne Cottage, c. 1890. Non-contributing

310 Mishawaka. Craftsman Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing

316 Mishawaka. Craftsman, c. 1915. Contributing

Left side of photo 19

324 Mishawaka. Italianate/Victorian Gothic, c. 1880. Contributing

Right side of photo 19

404 Mishawaka. Gabled-ell, c. 1890. Contributing

Left side of photo 20

410 Mishawaka. Pyramid-Roof Cottage, c. 1906. Contributing

Middle of photo 20

418 Mishawaka. Daniel Whittenberger House, Classical Revival, c. 1860/1915. Contributing

Right side of photo 20

The large two-story cube features pressed shingle siding and a wood frieze of recessed panels under the eaves. The house has 6/6 wood windows with shutters and a hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof has a large, square flat section at its center. The house faces north and features a two-story entry bay and portico centered on the façade. The portico has pairs of two-story, fluted Tuscan columns that support the gabled pediment overhead. Fluted pilasters are located on the back corners of the portico on the corners of the entry bay. A wood door with

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side-lites and a fan-lite like pediment is centered in the entry bay's first story. A pair of 6/6 windows are centered in the bay's second story. Pairs of 6/6 windows flank the bay on the first and second stories.

The house was constructed by Daniel Whittenberger, c. 1860, who was one of the original pioneer settlers of Akron with his father, William Whittenberger, in 1836. Daniel was born in 1825 in Pennsylvania and became one of the largest farmers in Henry Township, owning land in and around the north side of Akron during the 1860s-1910s. Several subdivisions and additions to the town carry the Whittenberger name. He married Fanny Cloud in 1851; she died in 1907 and Daniel died in 1919. Whittenberger was also a contractor and constructed several early buildings in Akron. He was also the oldest resident and sole survivor of the original colonists who came to Akron in 1836, and attested to such on the bronze plaque telling the story of the town's founding at the intersection of two Native American trails at the main intersection downtown.

East side of North Mishawaka Street, heading south

311 Mishawaka. Colonial Revival, c. 1920. Contributing

219 Mishawaka. Queen Anne, c. 1900. Contributing
Left side of photo 21

213 Mishawaka. Queen Anne/Craftsman, c. 1900. Contributing
Middle of photo 21

207 Mishawaka. Bungalow, c. 1925. Contributing
Right side of photo 21

201 Mishawaka. Queen Anne, c. 1900. Contributing

121 Mishawaka. Akron United Methodist Church, Gothic Revival, 1903. Contributing
Grindle & Gast, contractors. A. D. Mohler, architect. Photo 22

The brick corner building features a rock-faced granite ashlar raised basement with tapered corners. The building has a cruciform plan with a tall northwest corner entry tower and shorter southwest corner tower. The building has large lancet windows, wood, with Gothic arches and stone sills in each of the gabled sections of the cruciform plan. The building has a steeply-pitched gable roof with thin cornice returns; the roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The front (west) façade features a tall corner entry tower on its north end. The deeply recessed entry is centered in the tower's first story and features a pair of metal doors with tall, Gothic-arched transom of art glass. Two Gothic-arched windows of art glass are in the second story of the tower and the belfry features a pair of louvered openings, also with Gothic-arches. A brick corbel table is at the top of the tower's walls. The steeple roof has flared eaves and is topped with a metal finial. The south tower has a similar composition with first and second story but no

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belfry. The large gabled wall section between the towers features a large Gothic-arched window of art glass divided into three sections by lancets. All windows have tinted storm windows over the art glass. A narrow attic louver with Gothic arched top is centered in the top of the gable. A building cornerstone is located in the outside corner of the north tower.

The congregation traces its origins to the first religious organization in Akron. As part of the Rochester Mission, a congregation of the Methodist Episcopal Church was established in the settlement in 1836. In about 1847, a frame building for the congregation was constructed on this site, which was donated to the church by Dr. Sippy, founder of the town. A large new frame building was constructed in its place in 1863 and cost \$1400. William Whittenberger and ten of his sons covered half the cost of the building. Both this building, constructed by Jonathan Weaver, and the first frame building were relocated from the site and used for a blacksmith shop and furniture store. The existing brick building was constructed in 1903 and dedicated in 1904. In 1936, the membership exceeded three hundred. The parsonage was once located immediately east of the building but was moved to provide the education wing.

North Center Street

208 Center. Upright-and-Wing, c. 1880. Contributing

This house is on the southwest corner of Center and Walnut Streets

North Maple Street, west side, between Rochester and Walnut Street, going north

106 Maple. Bungalow, c. 1915. Contributing

Left side of photo 24

108 Maple. First Church of God, Gothic Revival, c. 1895. Contributing

Right side of photo 24

The gable-front brick church features a foundation of dressed fieldstone and rows of Gothic-arched windows, wood 4/4 with stone sills, in its north and south walls. The church has rows of corbels below its eaves. The gabled roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The front (east) façade features a projecting entry bay/entry tower centered on the façade. The bay has a tall, Gothic-arched opening with a wood door with full window; the remaining part of the opening is filled in with wood. A roundel with quatrefoil design is near the top of the tower. Corbels are just below a hipped roof with flat section on top. This extended up to a wood belfry but was removed.

The Church of God at Akron was organized by the late 1890s and constructed this building by about 1903. Fletcher Stoner, local businessman and livestock trader, helped establish the church by financing the construction and bringing its first pastor, Herbert M. Riggle, to the community during the 1910s.

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South Cherry Street

102 South Cherry Street, Gable-front, c. 1870. Non-contributing

This house is on the southwest corner of Cherry and Rochester Streets, facing Rochester Street

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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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE
EDUCATION
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period of Significance

1854-c. 1945

Significant Dates

Significant Person (last name, first name)

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder (last name, first name)

Mohler, A. D.
Grindle & Gast
Cutshall, Milo
Griffith, Fair, & Goodrich
Gast, A. A.
Haldeman, John Z.
Akron Home Builders Association

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Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the estimated date of construction of the oldest building in the district, the Terry House, constructed in 1854. It is located at 116 N. Mishawaka Street. It is a simple, brick T-plan house that was built less than 20 years after the town's founding. The period ends c. 1945 with the estimated construction date of a simple, one-story house at 404 Rochester Street. A few modifications to homes and buildings also date to about this period. Coincidentally, 1946 marked the end of the interurban passenger service to Akron. Though state routes continued to funnel motorists through town, substantial growth ceased.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Akron Historic District is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places using criterion A under three areas of significance. The district qualifies under commerce, politics/government, and education due to the presence of the small town's historic commercial core at the main intersection of the two primary streets in the district. At the east edge of this core are located the town's former city hall and Carnegie Library, both built in the early 1900s. These underscore the role politics/government and education played in the district.

The district also qualifies using criterion C with architecture as the area of significance. Most of the town's finest examples of architectural styles are located in the district. These include Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, and Gothic Revival styles represented by bank buildings, the library, and two churches, respectively. The district also has a few excellent examples of late 19th century styles including Italianate and Queen Anne. Craftsman/Bungalow architecture maybe most distinguishes the character of the district in its residential areas. Exceptional Bungalows and Craftsman style homes, though modest in scale, line the residential streets and feature impressive stone and brick masonry work.

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Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

ARCHITECTURE

The Akron Historic District has just a handful of early 19th century architectural style examples, mostly Italianate, dating to the post-Civil War and railroad period of expansion in town. By the late 19th and early 20th century, the district's commercial core took its current appearance with the replacement of many early frame buildings with brick structures. A similar trend in residential construction also occurred during the 1910s-1920s when a vast number of the district's homes were built, mostly in the Craftsman/Bungalow style. Many of these are attributed to the same builder utilizing brick and tile from a local mill. The Akron Home Builders Association, active between 1921 and 1936, was responsible for building a number of these homes. As a committee born out of the Akron Chamber of Commerce, the association was organized by Earl Leininger and W. C. Miller. The association built seven homes in its first year, 1921. It was dissolved in 1936.

There are two or three patterns of homes that repeat themselves in the district, again, likely all attributed to common builders. One pattern is slightly earlier, from the 1880s-1890s, and follows a general T-shaped plan (though the orientation may adjust according to the lot). The one-and-a-half story house features steeply-pitched gables with cross gables. The homes are both frame and brick and carry carpenter applied Italianate or Queen Anne features. Examples of these are located on Rochester Street at 401, 405 (side-by-side and seen in photo 11), 408 (photo 10), and 609 (photo 03) and 324 Mishawaka Street (photo 19). The other house pattern has variations on bungalow design with variations in exterior materials and type of dormer roof (gabled or shed). These are almost all side-gabled bungalows with full-width porches and carry sufficient sophistication in the design to consider them in the Craftsman vein of early 20th century styles. The character of the district's residential streets is largely defined by these homes, many of which were constructed by the Akron Home Builders Association. See photos 05, 08, and 23. There are a handful of other house patterns that are repeated but with far less frequency, such as the homes seen in photo 25.

It should also be noted that the Akron Stone Company began operations in 1906. The company fabricated molded concrete block and was located in the northeast corner of town. Many of the district's residences feature porches with foundations and lattice-like walls and columns composed of molded concrete block. Some of these date to remodel campaigns on older homes (photo 03), others were part of the original construction of the homes (photos 24 and 25). Only one house in the district has walls fully-composed of molded concrete block. The Pyramid-Roof Cottage is located at 410 Mishawaka Street, just a few blocks west of where the Akron Stone Company was located. It is seen in the middle of photo 20. The other notable masonry work in the district is the use of dressed fieldstone with distinctive coursing and mortar pattern that dates to the late 1900s through early 1920s. This is mostly executed in porch walls on homes in the district. See photos 07 and 17. This stonework was regionally popular and emanated from Argos,

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Indiana, where master stone mason William Foker among others worked throughout Marshall, Fulton, and southwestern Kosciusko Counties. Not only is the workmanship distinctive, but the granite was gathered locally. It is a product of glaciation.

The following narratives highlight the district's most prominent styles:

Italianate Style

The district grew substantially in the second half of the 19th century as the Italianate style emerged in building design. The district boasts three examples of the style. The Italianate style was popular between 1850 and 1880, particularly in Midwestern towns where the expansion of railroads brought wealth to communities and created a building boom during the period. The style traces its roots to England as part of the Picturesque Movement; the movement rejected formal classical ideas of art and architecture that were popular for 200 years. The Picturesque Movement emphasized age and informal designs of the past. Rambling informal Italian farmhouses of the 16th and 17th centuries were one such potential model, but as the style entered the United States it was often modified and embellished into a truly Americanized style. The first Italianate house was constructed in the United States in the late 1830s. The style was popularized by house pattern books by Andrew Jackson Downing during the middle part of the 1800s, but its popularity began to wane as it began to be replaced by the Queen Anne Style in the last decades of the 19th century. Few if any buildings in the district are purely Italianate. However, several have Italianate elements. The house at 609 Rochester has arched windows, 401 Rochester has arched windows and a porch which has Italianate and Queen Anne characteristics.

Gothic Revival Style

The Gothic Revival style had been popularized in house design books in the middle part of the 1800s and became popular in Midwestern towns by the 1850s. The pattern books gave hints for other building types. A.J. Davis' *Rural Residences* (1837) included a design for a Gothic Revival "Village Church" as well as Gothic Revival houses. Andrew Jackson Downing's book *Victorian Cottage Residences* (1842 with later reprints) also included a design for a "Rural Church". A religious revival in Britain in the early 19th century renewed interest in church construction. In religious architecture, Gothic Revival reached full expression in the United States as is represented well in the district. The district has two important examples of the style, both being churches. The Akron Church of God dates to c. 1895 and has a simple gable-front design and rows of pointed-arch windows (right side of photo 24). The Akron Methodist Church is an example of the Late Gothic Revival style, built in 1903, and features corner towers and expansive Gothic-arched windows composed of lancets and art glass (photo 22).

Queen Anne Style

The district has nine examples of the Queen Anne style. The Queen Anne style was popular between 1880 and 1910; it was named and popularized by a group of 19th century English architects led by Richard Norman Shaw. The historical precedents used had little to do with the Renaissance style popular during Queen Anne's reign; rather they borrowed from late medieval examples of the preceding Elizabethan and Jacobean eras. Spindlework popularly used with the style and free classic subtypes are American interpretations and became the most dominant form of the style in the United States. Changes in taste and a rise in popularity of Colonial Revival led

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builders to simplify the Queen Anne style after the turn of the century. The district's examples of Queen Anne and Free Classic architecture, of which there are four of the latter interpretation, date from c. 1885 to c. 1905.

Two fine examples, both frame construction, are located at 301 Rochester Street and 202 Mishawaka Street. The house at 301 Rochester has a nicely-detailed porch with turned spindles and posts that support a gabled roof in which are moldings in bas relief (photo 13). The house features a simple tower and its gables are enclosed at the top with patterned shingle work, forming a large arched opening in which windows are located below. The house at 202 Mishawaka Street is a gabled-ell home with an extensive wrap-around porch of turned posts and jigsawed and spindlework friezes (photo 18). The house also features patterned shingle work in its gables.

Classical Revival/Neoclassical Revival

The district has a few important examples of the Classical Revival style. Oftentimes, the style found its largest use in commercial and civic design, as is the case in the district. This style emerged at the turn of the new century and continued into the 1930's in American cities. Several events and trends fed the movement toward Classicism. Planners of the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 embraced classicism for most of the fair's major buildings. The Federal government adopted classicism for its expanding number of courthouses and post offices, beginning in the 1890's. While Americans had often chosen variants of classical-inspired architecture for civic projects, the new classicism was usually grander in scale. For the new classicism, architects often used detail that was "archaeologically" correct, meaning they most-closely followed precedents of ancient Greece that were being discovered in greater regularity in the 1800s. The style coincided with America's political and economic rise, as well as the coming of age of American cities. By the late 1910's and into the 1920's, as a robust American economy permitted, the style was being executed with greater attention to classical styling. However, in residential design, the popularity was more-or-less short-lived. Its popularity fell off by the 1920s.

The district's two large commercial buildings, both banks, located at the main intersection in town are examples of the Classical Revival style. The bank located on the southeast corner (1900) is a simple example of the style, but has features such as a carved stone surround with entablature on its corner entry and jack arches of brick over its windows (photo 15). The State Bank on the opposite (northwest) corner, 1919, is an impressive example with two-story brick pilasters with stone capitals and a rounded corner entry flanked by two-story stone Doric columns (photo 01). Though smaller than the two banks, the Akron Carnegie Library at 205 Rochester (photo 14) is perhaps more refined in its classicism. A notable, single, residential example is located at the north end of the district and was a renovation to what was likely an Italianate cube house (right side of photo 20). The house, located at 418 Mishawaka, features a two-story entry portico with Tuscan style fluted columns that support an enclosed pediment. A carved wood frieze with recessed panels tops the second story walls, but may be a remnant of its earlier design.

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Craftsman/Bungalow

A style that has a significant presence in the district is representative of the trend in residential design away from American or European precedents during the early 1900s. Craftsman-Bungalow architecture broke from revival styles, those the cottage versions of these followed Bungalow construction in the district. The Craftsman style was inspired in part by the work of brothers Charles and Henry Greene in California. Their work spanned from 1893 to 1914; in 1903 they began applying Arts & Crafts details to simple bungalows that quickly became popularized by several home magazines of the period, including Gustav Stickley's The Craftsman. The term bungalow originates in India where it refers to a low house surrounded by porches. The American form of the bungalow was publicized in California. The Craftsman style spread quickly through the country as an acceptable and desirable style for the growing middle class in quickly developing suburbs. These homes were further popularized in pattern books and other home magazines, as well as in local newspapers. The bungalow form and Craftsman style were popular from about 1905-1935.

There are more examples of the Bungalow and/or Craftsman style than any other style in the district. There are twenty examples of Bungalow design and another five Bungalows that are clearly elevated to the Craftsman style based on their features. Another eight houses are classified under the Craftsman style. Combined, that's more than thirty of the district's houses, or a full third of the district's contributing buildings. Several of these have impressive dressed fieldstone porches or other features, impressive full-width porches, or interesting paver-like brick-composed walls. A number of the side-gabled bungalows, hipped-roof bungalows, and Craftsman homes have building patterns repeated in the district with minor alterations.

Some notable examples of Craftsman or Craftsman/Bungalow houses include a side-gabled Bungalow at 606 Rochester Street which features impressive skilled stone masonry work on its full-width porch and chimney (middle of photo 05). Another excellent example of a Craftsman/Bungalow House is located at 307 Rochester Street (middle of photo 12). It features walls composed of heavier paver-like brick, a full-width porch with arched openings, and a hipped roof with large dormers covered in patterned shingle work. Examples of Craftsman style homes include a simple side-gabled house with brick walls located at 108 Water Street (photo 26). It features exposed rafter tails and brackets under the eaves and a full-round arched wood door and curved porch roof. The district also includes an intact and well-executed American Foursquare (see other styles).

Colonial Revival Style

The Colonial Revival style gained popularity after the Bicentennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876 where it was heralded as an expression of the American identity. Planners of the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago also called for pavilions that emulated American colonial architecture. The style became increasingly popular in the early 1900's and remained a desired style through the first half of the twentieth century. This early 20th century revival of the style borrowed directly from Colonial America's buildings in form and ornamentation. A few subcategories of the style emerged including Dutch Colonial Revival with gambrel roofs (a single example of this category is located at 310 Rochester), Cape Cod, and simple Colonial

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Revival cottages. A good example of the cottage style is located at 400 Orchard Street. Combined there are seven examples of the style in the district. An example of the style that is more common to suburban development is the two-story, side-gabled brick house at 700 Rochester Street (right side of photo 06). The house features 6/6 wood windows, an impressive entry surround with wood door and side-lites, and fan-lites in the gables.

Other Styles

Three other styles should be mentioned and are representatives of early 20th century American movements. While there are four examples of the American Foursquare, the best example is located at 303 Rochester Street (right side of photo 12). It features the typical two-story cube configuration with a hipped roof and front dormer. The home's brick veneer extends to the bottom of the second story windows and stucco covers the wall above. A nice example of Prairie Style architecture is located at 800 Rochester Street (left side of photo 07). The home's walls are covered in stucco and it has rows of casement windows and low-pitched hipped roofs. A good example of Mission style architecture is located at 120 Mishawaka Street (right side of photo 17). The brick house, mostly one-story, features asymmetrical massing with an enclosed front porch with stepped, arched parapet that forms a balcony for a two-story corner tower with hipped roof.

Of noteworthy presence is the former Chicago and Atlantic (later Erie) Railroad Depot built in 1883 (photo 27). An effort to preserve the depot caused the building to be relocated from a few blocks south of downtown to the southwest corner of the downtown intersection of Rochester and Mishawaka Streets. The railroad was routed along the south edge of Akron in 1882 and the depot building was constructed the following year in a standard form for small towns, a combined freight and passenger service building. The side-gabled building has simple features related to the Stick Style, with boards and narrow, chamfered battens on its walls and large sawn brackets under its eaves. The building retains its 2/2 wood windows and simple casings (now covered by plywood). The roof is covered with modern metal. The passenger end, serviced by doors on either side, is in one end of the building and is divided from the freight area by the station manager's office, which features the typical, three-side projecting bay. The larger freight area has wide doors composed of beaded boards. The interior is also well-preserved with wood floors, fluted casings and corner blocks with bullseye design, beaded board wainscot, ticket window and four-panel wood doors. The railroad built an identical depot in Monterey, and one in Ora. Only the Monterey depot is extant. The depot constructed in Rochester was similar, but more substantial with higher refinements likely because of the larger population. Its freight house was also an extension to the building rather incorporated into the primary structure. This building is also extant.

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COMMERCE

Aside from residential use in the district, commerce played the largest role in the development of the district. The small node of commercial establishments grew at the main intersection where two Native American routes crossed. These were ultimately used as connections between other villages including Mentone and Gilead (later Mishawaka Street) and Rochester and Laketon and North Manchester (later Rochester Street). It was at this crossing that the town's founder, Doctor Joseph Sippy, established the community in 1836 and the original plat of "New Ark" or Newark extended out from the intersection in a few blocks each way. A caravan composed of Sippy and several families traveled from Ohio to Indiana in search of place to establish a new colony. A bronze plaque commemorates this event on the State Bank Building on the northwest corner (photo 01). Growth was slow at first and included only a trading post, cabinet maker and undertaker's shop, post office, and blacksmith shop in the first few decades.

Much of the town's growth came when the Chicago and Atlantic (later Erie) Railroad was routed along its south edge in 1882. Train service ended in 1979; recently, an effort to preserve the old depot (1883) caused the building to be relocated from the south edge to the southwest corner of the downtown intersection (photo 27). Few extant commercial buildings date to the 1800s, though. Day Hardware (photo 16), a one-story brick building at 109 W. Rochester Street, is the oldest commercial building in the district and dates to c. 1885. The building was occupied by a hardware and dry goods store from that time into the 1920s. Other establishments in the late 1800s included two hotels (Hoover's Hotel and the Commercial House north of the hardware), as well as a billiards hall, boots & shoe shop, two groceries, a meat shop, jewelry store, a bakery, and a bank. Most of these were housed in frame buildings, except for a large, two-story brick building on the northeast corner of the main intersection. This building, was demolished in the last 25 years. The Leininger Building (1902), a large two-story brick commercial block, stood on the southwest corner of Rochester and Mishawaka Street until 2017. The Akron Opera House, sometimes referred to as Gast Opera House (1903), was a three-and-a-half story building which sat immediately south of the Leininger Building, was also demolished during this time. The opera house served several functions including town offices and jail in the lower level between about 1912-1928 and meeting halls and even the school gym in the late 1920s.

During the first two decades of the 20th century, the commercial area greatly expanded with business blocks, many of which remain today. The two-story Exchange State Bank Building (photo 15), located on the southeast corner of the main intersection, was built in 1900 and featured the corner bank, drug store, and hardware facing north, and several offices facing west (Mishawaka Street). The bank had organized in 1891 and built this testament to security by 1900. It evolved into a state bank by 1922 and continued as a bank through the Great Depression into the late 1930s. Both the hardware and drug store also remained in operation into the 1920s. The Akron News Building (right side of photo 01 and left side of photo 17) was the next major commercial development in the district, constructed in 1909. The large, two-story brick building had five storefronts that housed the *Akron News*, a bank, meat shop, office, and a boots & shoe store. The second story included offices, a meeting hall, and for a brief time, the town library.

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The last major historic commercial development in the district occurred in 1919 when the grand State Bank was constructed on the northwest corner of the main intersection (photo 01). The new bank also reflected an impressive state of security for its customers, locating opposite the Exchange Bank. The two-story building included two business rooms facing Rochester Street that housed a variety store and the post office, which had been established in Akron in 1838. An overall factory was located on the second story of the bank building. Other smaller commercial buildings constructed in the 1900s through the 1920s include a narrow brick building at 106 E. Rochester Street constructed as a harness and barber shop c. 1907, and the Arter-Miller Building at 117 W. Rochester, built in 1912 as an agricultural implements store and hardware.

Between 1910 and 1911, the Winona Interurban line was completed through town, connecting Akron to several large cities across northern Indiana, then southward through Peru, Kokomo, and Indianapolis. With it came additional growth in the commercial core. The interurban ran down the middle of Mishawaka Street. The interurban station was first located in the Akron Hotel on the east side of Mishawaka Street, north of Rochester Street. By 1920, the interurban office had moved into the far north bay of the Akron News Building on the west side of Mishawaka Street. Several restaurants, including the “Winona Café” and lodging accommodations followed. The last passenger train ran the interurban line in 1946 and freight service ended in 1955. The public’s embrace of the automobile aided to the demise of the line, and state highway infrastructure, which improved the two main thoroughfares into Highways 19 (Mishawaka) and 14 (Rochester) had occurred by 1932. These two routes had been paved with brick in 1912 and “Main Street” had been renamed Rochester Street in 1924.

A few middle-to-late 20th century commercial developments have occurred in the district, specifically a pharmacy (2000) and grocery (c. 1975) located at 100 and 116 E. Rochester Street, respectively. Other late 20th century commercial development including a gas station (1989) and bank, in combination with the post office (1976), have extended west on Highway 14 from the west edge of the historic district into an area previously composed of mostly residences. The small commercial area of Akron continues to serve the eastern region of Fulton County and, due to its position at the junction of four counties, rural parts of Miami, Wabash, and Kosciusko Counties.

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT & EDUCATION

Two buildings in the district represent the community of Akron’s interest in self-governing and public education. The town’s public library was constructed with a grant from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation at 205 E. Rochester Street in 1914-1915 (left side of photo 14). The large, brick Neoclassical Revival building was constructed at the west end of the residential neighborhood lining Rochester Street, just east of the historic commercial area. In 1928, the town constructed its city hall at 112 E. Rochester Street (right side of photo 02). The simple, single-story brick building is situated at the east end of the historic commercial area.

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The city hall building at 112 E. Rochester Street, which featured garage bays for the fire department, wasn't the first municipal building constructed in the district. During the 1890s, the fire department was located in a former undertaker's building. By 1901, a small frame "hose house" located further east on the north side of Rochester Street at its intersection with West Street was in use by the fire department. The city's use of that building had discontinued by 1920 (and is no longer extant), when the fire department co-located in a building with the city's water works department near the intersection of Mishawaka and Orchard Street (no longer extant). While the town was established in 1836, and named Newark in 1838, the name was changed to Akron in 1855. The town was incorporated in 1909 and began use of the lower level of the opera house for town offices and jail in 1912. The first fire department was formed in 1917, prior to which the department was a volunteer operation. The combination city hall-fire department at 112 E. Rochester Street was constructed in 1928 with a slightly newer addition made to the west by the late 1930s. A new town hall and fire department building was constructed for the village just west of the district in 1988.

In 1912, the effort to establish a permanent library began in Akron. Prior to this time, in the mid-1800s, a few collections of books were kept by the township trustee, but no formal library or building had existed. The 1912 Sanborn Map of Akron shows that a library was kept on the second story of the southernmost bay of the Akron News Building, but this was probably a recent creation given the founding of the library also dates to this time. The library board, with bylaws, was established after a meeting was called by Reverend Krause, pastor of the Akron Methodist Church. The meeting occurred on August 12, 1912, and it was decided that use of the library would be free to Akron residents and extended to Henry Township residents, assuming a tax levy would be put in place. By August 19, 1912, the library opened with 260 books on its shelves.

By early 1913, Krause began corresponding with the Carnegie Foundation for a grant to construct a library building. A gift of \$12,000 was granted, and land purchased for \$1500. The board accepted plans drawn by architects Griffith, Fair, & Goodrich and the contract was let to local builder, Milo Cutshall on September 22, 1914. The building was completed, the book collection, which had grown to 1,306, was moved, and the library opened on October 21, 1915. With an addition to the original building, the library continues to serve its singular historic role for Akron and the township.

Developmental History/Additional historic context information

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 049-004-26001-26081, 27007-27011, 27021-27025; 27031

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Approximately 31 acres

Use the UTM system

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 16 | Easting: 581629 | Northing: 4544023 |
| 2. Zone: 16 | Easting: 582499 | Northing: 4543485 |
| 3. Zone: 16 | Easting: 5822521 | Northing: 4543323 |
| 4. Zone: 16 | Easting: 581543 | Northing: 4543473 |

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning on the south side of Highway 14/114 (East Rochester Street) at the intersection of Highway 14 North, on the east property line of 827 East Rochester, face south and continue in a line with the east property line to the south property line of 827 East Rochester. Turn west and follow the south property line of 827 to 811 East Rochester Street to the east side of Pine Street. Turn north and follow the east side of Pine Street to a line extended east from the north side of a partially improved east/west alley south of East Rochester Street. Turn west, crossing Pine Street, and follow the north side of the alley, crossing Cherry Street, to the east side of a north/south unimproved alley south of Orchard Street. Turn north and follow the east side of the alley to the north side of Orchard Street, then turn west and follow the north side of Orchard Street, crossing Virgil and Slaybaugh Streets, to the east side of Maple Street.

At Maple Street, turn north and follow a line with the east side of the street to a line extended east from the south property line of 309 East Rochester Street. Turn west and follow a line, crossing Maple Street, to the west property line of 307 East Rochester Street; turn north and follow the lot line of 307 E. Rochester north and follow to the rear lot lines of 303 and 301 E. Rochester. Turn west and follow, crossing to the west curb of West Street. Turn south to the rear lot line of 205 East Rochester Street; turn north and follow the west property line to the south property line of 205 East Rochester Street. Turn west and follow a line to the west property line of 123 East Rochester Street, then turn north to the south property line of 101/105 East Rochester Street. Turn west, crossing Mishawaka Street, to the west property line of 117 West Rochester Street. Turn north and follow the west property line to the south side of West Rochester Street.

On the south side of West Rochester Street, face slightly southeast and follow a line to a line extended south from the east side of Federal Drive. Turn north and follow the east side of Federal Drive, crossing West Rochester Street, to the north side of West Walnut Street at which point the drive becomes an unimproved north/south alley. Continue north in a line with the east side of the unimproved alley to the south property line of 316 North Mishawaka Street. Turn west and follow the south property line to the west property line of 316 North Mishawaka Street, then turn north and follow the west property lines of 316-410 North Mishawaka Street to the south property line of 418 North Mishawaka Street. Turn west and follow the south property line to the east side of Adams Street/west property line of 418 North Mishawaka Street. Turn north and follow the west property line of 418 North Mishawaka Street to its north property line, then turn east and follow the north property line to the west side of North Mishawaka Street.

On the west side of North Mishawaka Street, face south and follow a line to a line extended west from the north property line of 311 North Mishawaka Street, then face east and crossing Mishawaka Street, continue in a line to the west side of the north/south alley east of

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Mishawaka Street. Turn south and follow the west side of the alley to a line extended west from the north property line of 108 Water Street, then turn east and crossing the alley, follow the north property line to the west side of Center Street. Turn south and follow the west side of Center Street, crossing Water and Walnut Streets, to the south side of Walnut Street, then turn slightly southeast and follow the south side of Walnut Street to the west side of Maple Street.

On the west side of Maple Street, face south and follow a line to a line extended west from the south side of an unimproved east/west alley north of Rochester Street, then, crossing Maple Street, continue in a line with the south side of the alley to the east side of Slaybaugh Street. Turn north and follow a line with the east side of Slaybaugh Street to the south side of East Walnut Street, then turn southeast and follow the south side of East Walnut Street to the east property line of 502 East Rochester Street. Turn south and follow the east property line of 502 East Rochester Street to the north property line of 506 East Rochester Street. Turn southeast and follow the north property lines of 506-700 East Rochester Street, crossing Virgil and Cherry Streets, to the west property line of 710 East Rochester. Turn north and follow the east property line to the south side of East Walnut Street, then turn southeast and follow the south side of East Walnut Street to the east property line of 710 East Rochester Street. Turn south and follow the east property line to the north property line of 800 East Rochester Street. Turn southeast and follow the north property lines 800-808 East Rochester Street to the west property line of 812 East Rochester Street. Turn north and follow the west property line to the south side of East Walnut Street; turn east and follow the south side of East Walnut Street to the east property line of 812 East Rochester Street. Turn south and follow the property line to the north property line of 816 East Rochester Street. Turn southeast to the east property line of 824 East Rochester Street; turn south to the north property line of 828 East Rochester Street. Turn east and follow the north property line to the west side of State Road 14, then turn south and follow the west side of State Road 14, crossing East Rochester Street, to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries selected essentially line each side of the two main routes through Akron, intersecting at the historic commercial core, and extending north on Mishawaka Street and east on Rochester Street, to incorporate the most densely-concentrated examples of excellent architecture and areas of significance during the period of significance. The area of Akron north of Walnut and east of Adams and Mishawaka is characterized by later housing and less density of resources. Older housing in the excluded area has been altered to a greater degree.

Akron Historic District
Name of Property

Fulton County, IN
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kurt West Garner
organization: Town of Akron & Akron Chamber of Commerce
street & number: 12954 6th Road
city or town: Plymouth state: IN zip code: 46563
e-mail: kwgarner@kwgarner.com
telephone: 574-780-1423
date: February 4, 2022

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Akron Historic District

City or Vicinity: Akron

County: Fulton State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Akron Historic District
Name of Property

Fulton County, IN
County and State

Date Photographed: December 14, 2021

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at the intersection of Rochester and Mishawaka Streets

1 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest along the north side of Rochester Street on the east edge of the commercial core

2 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at the 400 block of West Rochester Street

3 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at the intersection of Virgil and Rochester Streets

4 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at the intersection of Virgil and Rochester Streets

5 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest along Rochester Street from just east of Cherry Street

6 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking north at 800 and 804 E. Rochester Street

7 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest along Rochester Street from the east end of the district

Akron Historic District
Name of Property
8 of 27.

Fulton County, IN
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest along East Rochester Street from the east end of the district

9 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the 600 block of East Rochester Street

10 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the 400 block of East Rochester Street

11 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the 300 block of East Rochester Street

12 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking south at 301 E. Rochester Street

13 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the Akron Carnegie Library, Rochester Street

14 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast at the intersection of Rochester and Mishawaka Streets

15 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the Day Hardware Building, Rochester Street

16 of 27.

Akron Historic District
Name of Property

Fulton County, IN
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the intersection of Walnut and Mishawaka Streets

17 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at 202 N. Mishawaka Street

18 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the 300 block of North Mishawaka Street

19 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at the 400 block of North Mishawaka Street

20 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at the 200 block of North Mishawaka Street

21 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east at Akron Methodist Episcopal Church, Mishawaka Street

22 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at the 100 block of East Walnut Street

23 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at the 100 block of North Maple Street

24 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at 225 and 219 East Walnut Street

Akron Historic District
Name of Property

Fulton County, IN
County and State

25 of 27.

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at 108 E. Water Street

26 of 27.

Date taken: October 4, 2023

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest at depot building

27 of 27.

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

AKRON HISTORIC DISTRICT NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

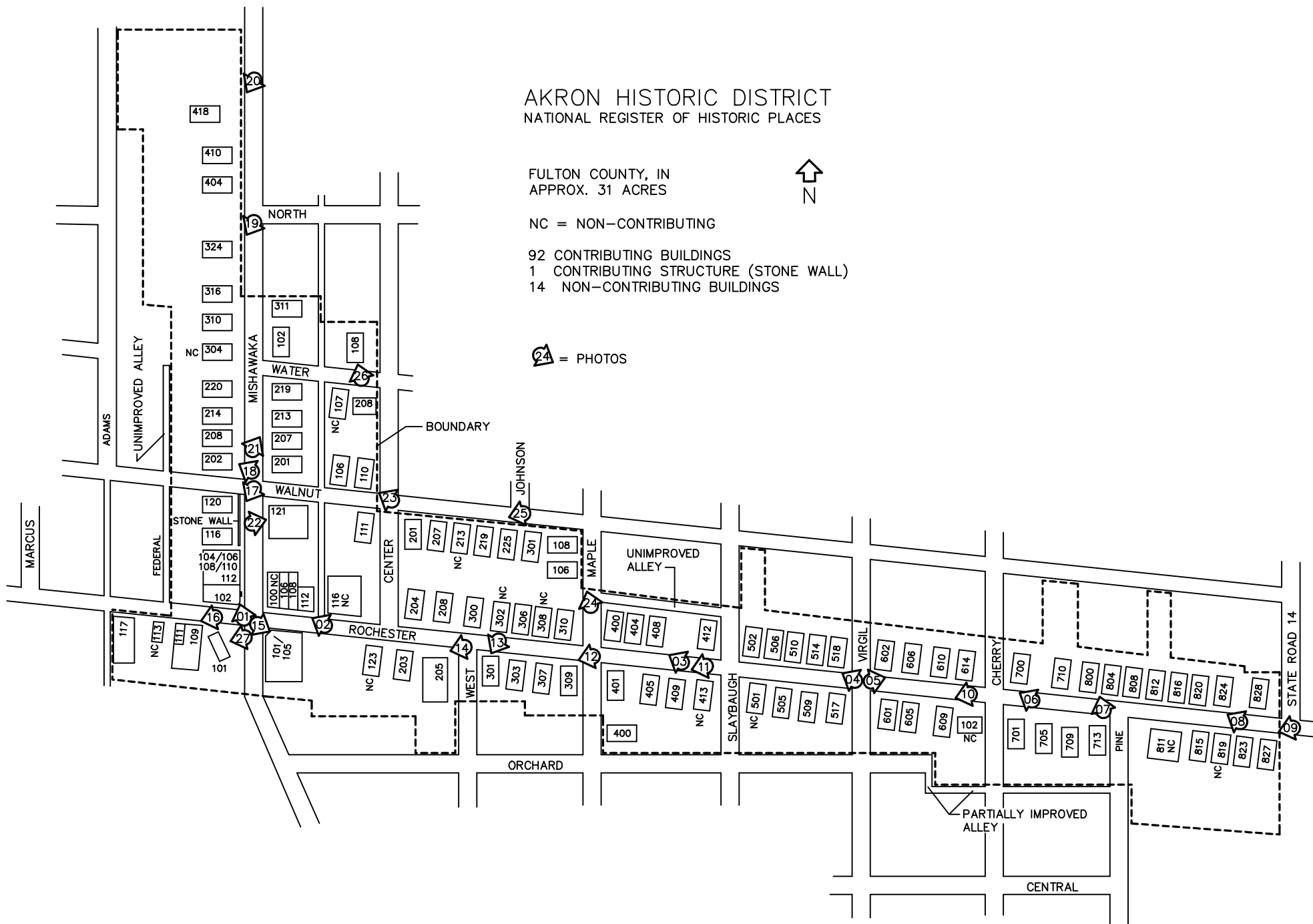
FULTON COUNTY, IN
APPROX. 31 ACRES

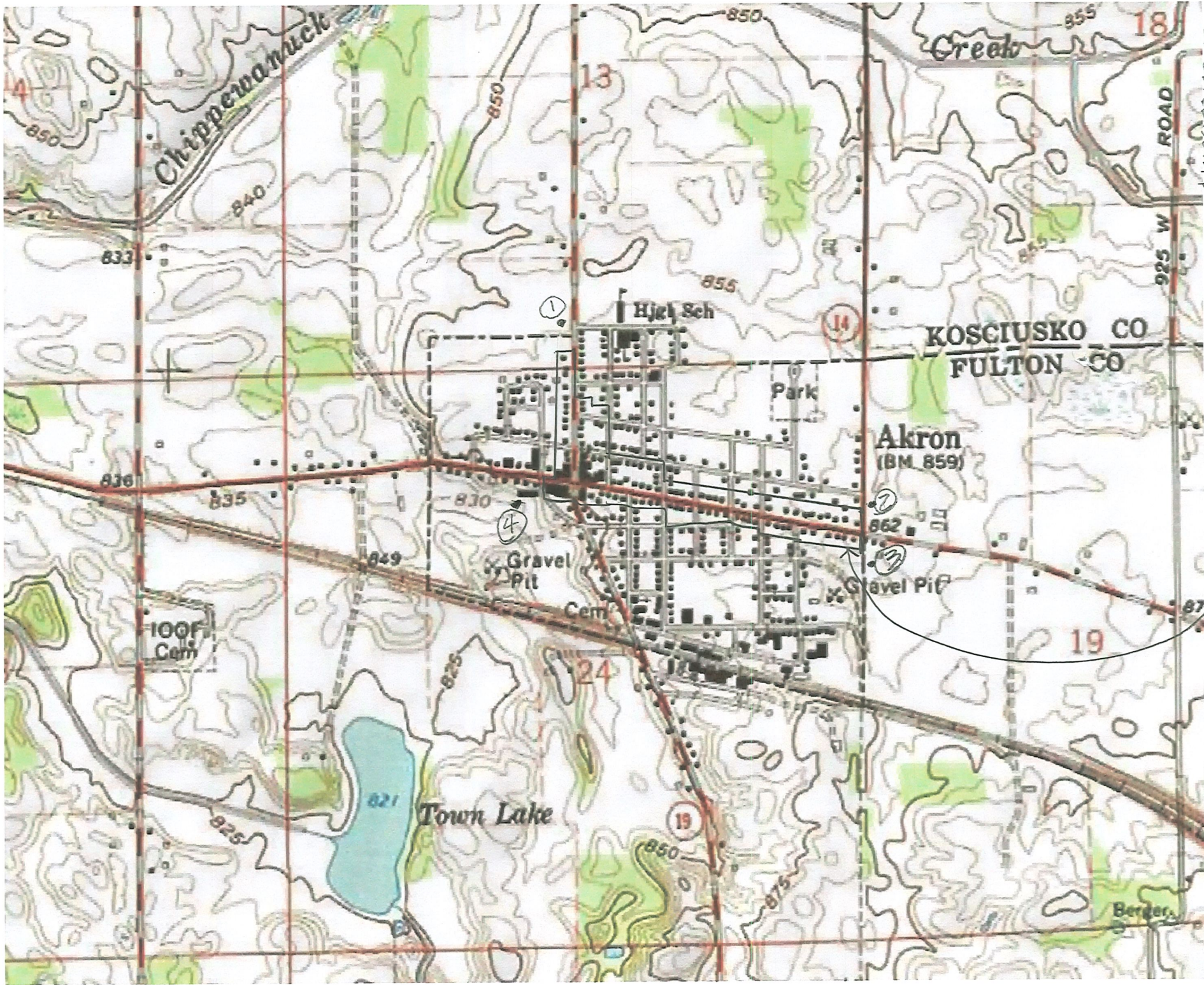


NC = NON-CONTRIBUTING

- 92 CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS
- 1 CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE (STONE WALL)
- 14 NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDINGS

= PHOTOS





#KOSCIUSKO CO,
 AKRON HISTORIC DISTRICT - FULTON CO, IN
 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 NAD 83 VTH's
 ① 16 581629 4544023 ② 16 582499 4543485
 ③ 16 582521 4543323 ④ 16 581543 4543473



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0001



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0002



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0004



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0005



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0007



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0010



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0011



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0013



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0014



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0015



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IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0020



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0021



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0024



IN_FultonCounty_AkronHistoricDistrict_0027

