

111 WEST FIFTH STREET (COMMERCIAL BUILDING)  
English  
Crawford County  
Indiana

HABS No. IN-236

HABS  
IND  
13-ENG,  
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
National Park Service  
Northeast Region  
U.S. Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106

HABS  
IND  
13-ENG  
2-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

111 WEST FIFTH STREET (COMMERCIAL BUILDING) HABS No. IN-236

**Location:** 111 West Fifth Street  
(northwest corner of Fifth and Main Streets)  
English, Crawford County, Indiana

U.S.G.S. Quad: English, Indiana  
UTM Coordinate: 16.546820.4243860

**Significance:** The building at 111 West Fifth Street is architecturally significant on the local level as a well-preserved, late-19th-century stone commercial building and is the only stone structure ever known to have been built in English. The building was constructed in 1896 by the Condra Brothers masons to house the medical office of locally prominent doctor and businessman Charles D. Lockett.

**Description:** The present building is a two-story, three-bay-wide, six-bay-long structure built of rusticated native sandstone blocks laid in regular courses. The flat roof descends slightly from south to north and the roofline of the east facade steps down in seven stages. A stone located two-thirds of the way up on the east facade is carved with the words "Condra Bros. Builders". The central, recessed entrance on the south facade is flanked by narrow iron pilasters that are decorated with a modified Greek anthemion design. On either side of the entrance are tall two-pane windows. There are additional entrances on the northeast corner, and on the first and second stories of the north facade. Windows and doors are trimmed with simple, flat architraves. Above the windows on the first story of the south facade are iron lintels, with corner blocks featuring a rose design. The interior has been heavily altered and retains little integrity. Because of frequent flooding over the years, the interior is also in poor condition. The first floor, now used as a library, contains two rooms and a stair leading to a single room on the second floor, now vacant.

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History:

The building at 111 West Fifth Street, presently the Crawford County Library, was built in 1896 by Condra Brothers masons for locally prominent doctor and businessman Charles D. Lockett. Lockett (born in 1861) was a leader in the successful effort to relocate the Crawford County seat from Leavenworth to English in 1893. His office building, then as now the only stone building in town, was one of a number of commercial structures erected along Fifth and Main Streets in English during the town's greatest period of prosperity between the 1880s and the early 1900s. This prosperity coincided with the arrival of the Louisville, Evansville, & St. Louis Airline Railroad in 1883, the town's incorporation in 1884, and the relocation of the county seat to English in 1893. The stone building originally contained Dr. Lockett's medical office and the town's first telephone switchboard exchange. It also briefly held the county's legal records while the new courthouse was being built in English. Since 1912 the building has functioned as a general store, hardware store, and since 1969, the home of the Crawford County Library.

Sources:

Crawford County Deed Records, English, Indiana

Weathers, John H., A History of Crawford County (1889, reprinted 1936 and 1970).

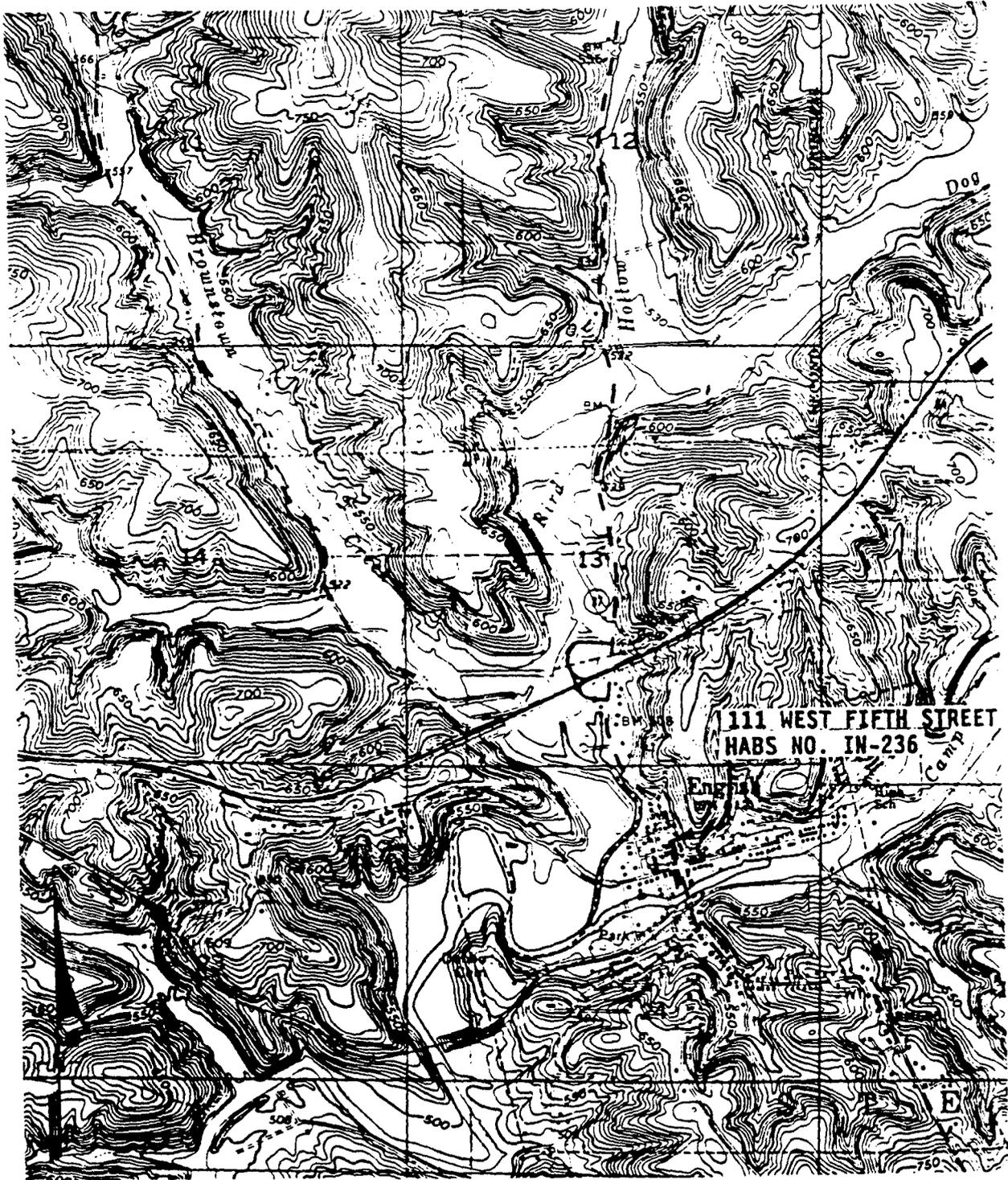
Pleasant, Hazen Hayes, A History of Crawford County, Indiana. (Greenfield, Indiana: Wm. Mitchell Co.), 1926.

Roberts, E.C., English, Indiana: Memories of Main Street. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press), 1991.

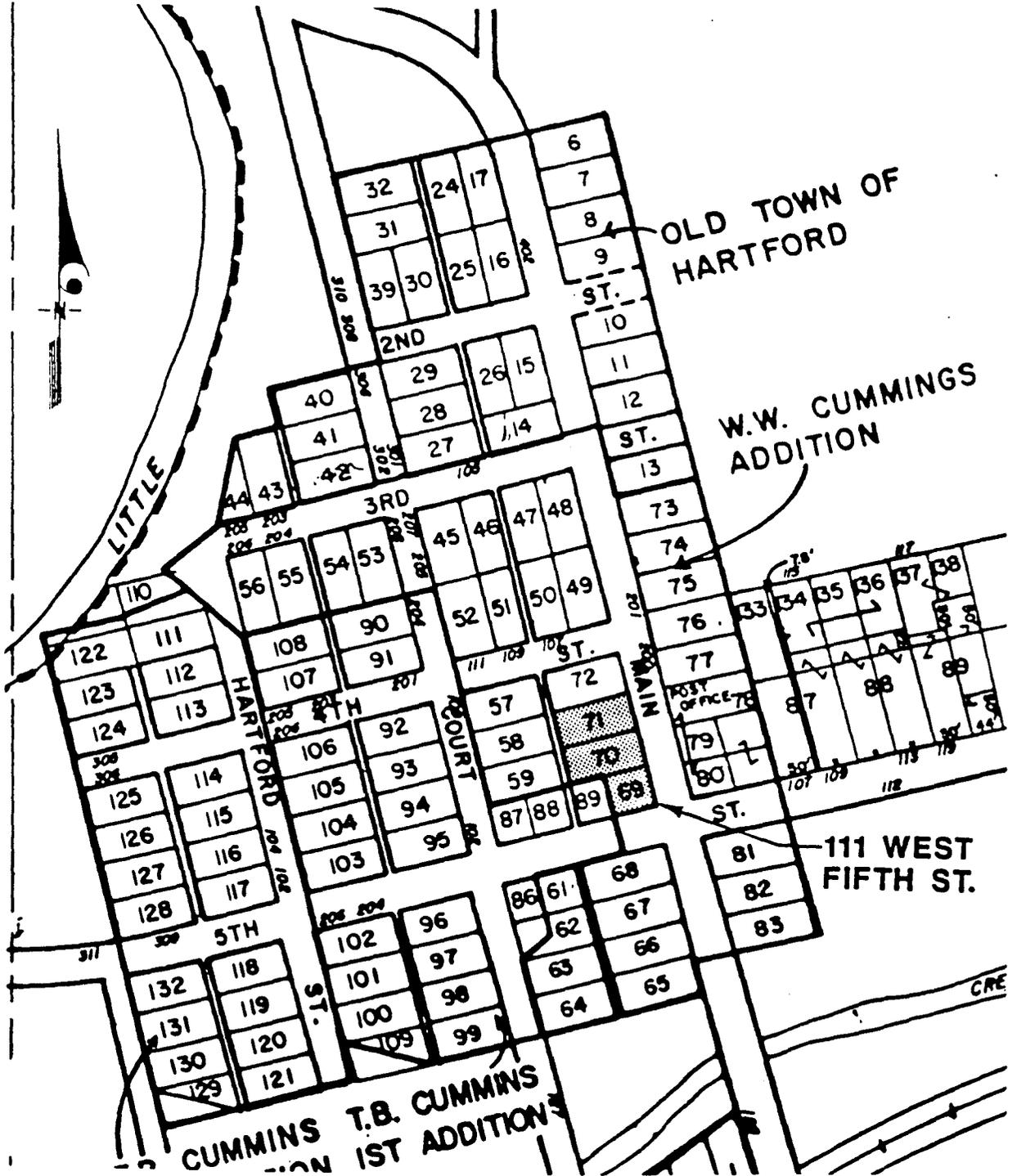
Historian:

Geoffrey B. Henry  
Historic Preservation Specialist  
Greenhorne & O'Mara, Inc.  
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770  
October 1992

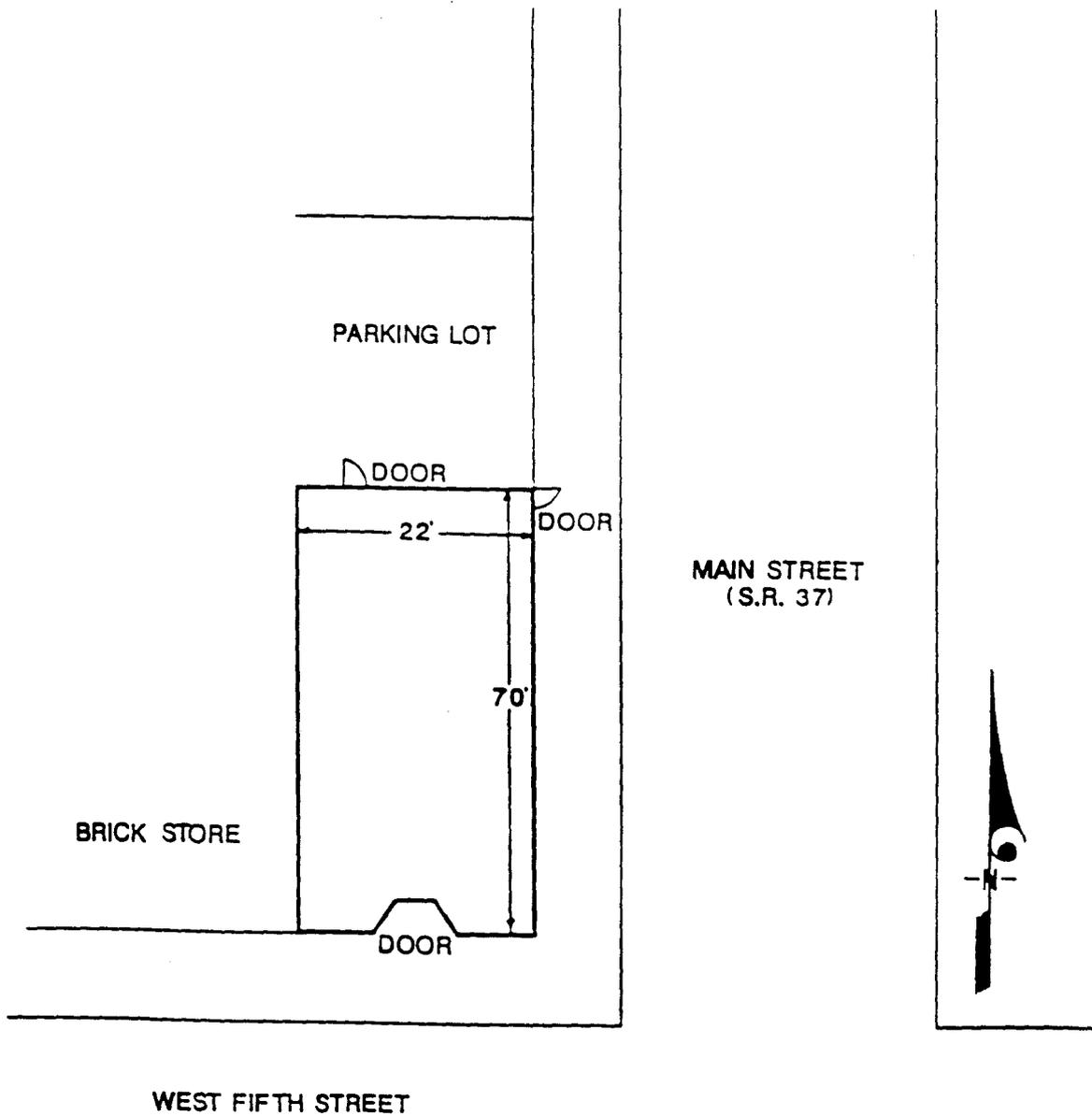
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Location of 111 West Fifth Street (Commercial Building)  
English, Indiana. U.S.G.S. English, Indiana Quad, 7.5  
minute series



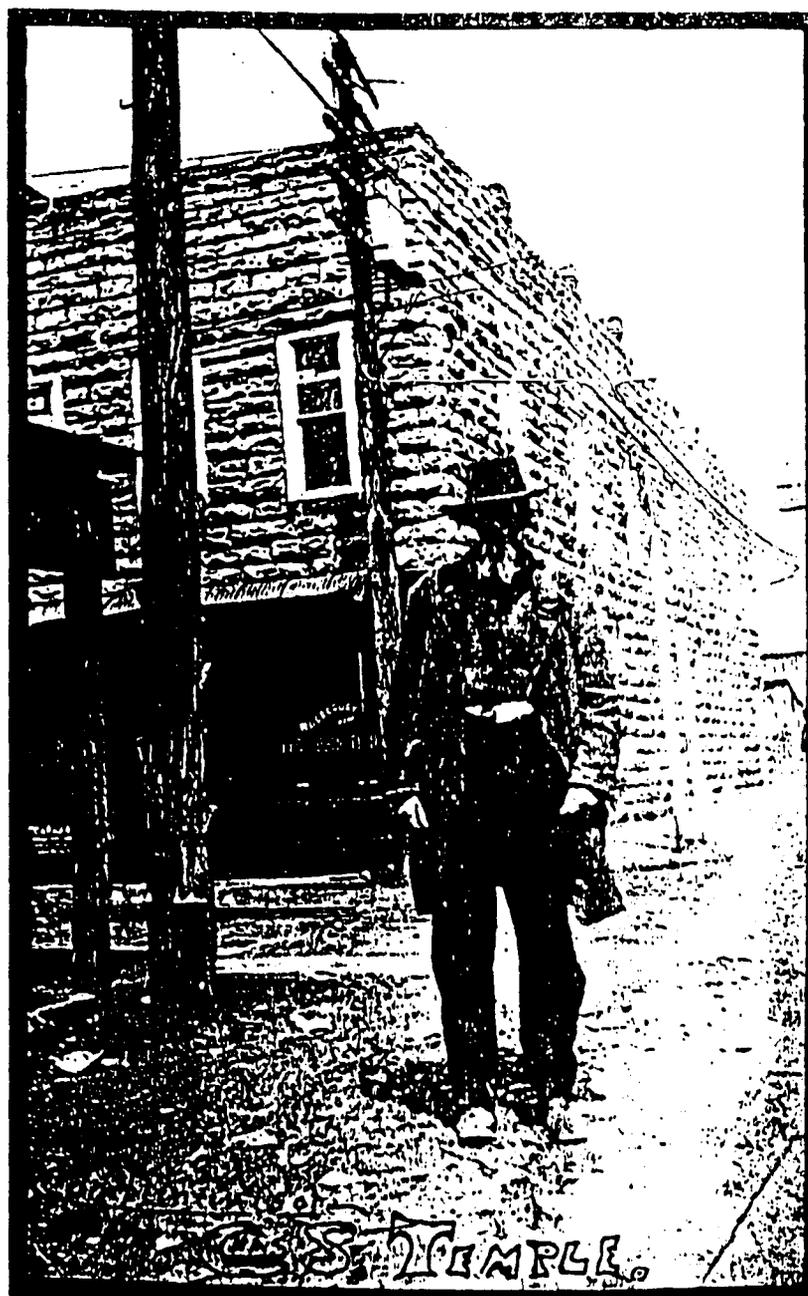
Tax map, showing location of lots 69, 70, and 71 (111 West Fifth Street), English, Indiana. Source: Crawford County Tax Assessor.



(NOT TO SCALE)  
G. HENRY 9/92

Sketch plan

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Photocopy of photograph taken circa 1910 of 111 West Fifth Street, English, Indiana. Source: Scrapbook of English photographs at Crawford County Library