

FINAL

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
MICHIGAN ROAD TOLL HOUSE

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
4702 Michigan Road, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN:
Indianapolis 46208

STATE Indiana	CODE 18	COUNTY: Marion	CODE 97
------------------	------------	-------------------	------------

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
The Harrell Foundation

STREET AND NUMBER:
902 West Washington Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Indianapolis	STATE: Indiana	CODE 46204	CODE 97
-------------------------------	-------------------	---------------	------------

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Washington Township Assessor's Office Room 1241 City-County Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
200 East Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN: Indianapolis	STATE: Indiana	CODE 46204	CODE 97
-------------------------------	-------------------	---------------	------------

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Indiana Historic Preservation Program and Survey 1972 Page 138

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Indiana Department of Natural Resources

STREET AND NUMBER:
608 State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Indianapolis	STATE: Indiana	CODE 46204	CODE 97
-------------------------------	-------------------	---------------	------------

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(Check One)		(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Michigan Road Toll House at 4702 Michigan Road N.W., Indianapolis, Indiana 46208, is a small white frame house. The easterly portion facing the road is two stories in height, with a partial basement. The westerly portion to the rear is one story high with no basement. The foundation is brick and stone. The exterior walls are clapboard siding and th roof is now covered with composition shingles covering the original wood shingles. The interior floors are common wood, probably native timber. The walls and ceilings are plastered. The first floor consists of a parlor, a dining room a kitchen and a more recent addition, a bath. The second floor is occupied by two bedrooms.

The original house, built about 1850, was of one story and had a storeroom extending toward Michigan Road, with a toll pole out in front which, when lowered, extended as a barrier across the road. About 1882 the roof was raised to permit the addition of a second floor above the main part of the house, to accomodate a growing family. A small narrow stairway ascending from the living room provides access to two upstairs bedrooms. An interesting architectural feature of the house is the extension of the two perpendicular casings on each side of the windows and doorways to a height of several inches above the horizontal lintel atop each opening. This same architectural feature is seen in early photographs which show the stofroom extending toward the road.

(Insert at "insert" above) The toll pole was the first part of the original structure to be removed. When the road was widened it was necessary to remove the east portion of the house which contained the store and the porch, in order to make room for progress.

A roadside marker in front of the house, placed there in 1961 by the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Indiana, commemorating the "Toll House" as "Operated by the Augusta Gravel Road Company circa 1866-1892" and "Michigan Road" as the "first major state road, built in the 1830's from the Ohio River to Lake Michigan."

A bronze marker beside the front door bears this inscription:
 "Toll House. Furnished by the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Indiana." The two downstairs rooms sponsored by the Society contain furniture of the latter part of the last century, including a corner cupboard, cherry table, two Victorian arm chairs, a love seat, four plain straight chairs, oil lamps, an old school-master's desk, daguerrotypes and steel engravings. These furnishings and the showing of the Toll House are supervised by a committee of the Colonial Dames.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Built about 1850

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Michigan Road Toll House is significant for several reasons. It was built midway between the Ohio River and Lake Michigan on the first road to traverse the length of the State.

The Michigan Road had its origin in the Treaty of 1826, which was signed by sixty-one Potawatamie Indian Warriors and Chiefs and by three United States Commissioners. By this treaty the Indians ceded land to the United States Government for the purpose of cutting a roadway through the wilderness to connect these two major natural waterways, Lake Michigan on the north and the Ohio River on the south.

After the signing of this Treaty, the cutting of the road began, with no stump over one foot high being allowed to stand in the roadway. Swampy areas were covered by logs laid transversely, this being called corduroy. By 1834 the Michigan Road was declared passable over its entire length, though this passage was in some areas extremely difficult.

About 1850 the one-story farm house was built which later became used as a place for the collection of toll. In the vicinity of this Toll House numerous arrow heads and other Indian artefacts have been found, indicating that Indian encampments and hunting grounds must have been in this area, near the north bank of the White River.

In 1866 the Augusta Gravel Road Company covered with gravel the part of the Michigan Road north of Indianapolis and had the occupant of the Toll House collect tolls at this location until 1892. During the twenty five years that tolls were collected here, Samuel Howard and his wife lived in this house, acting as collectors of toll, grocers and Postmaster and Notary Public.

Horses, mules, cattle, hogs, sheep and various forms of poultry were driven past the Toll House to be sold in Indianapolis. The average toll for a horse and buggy was a nickel, while a man on horseback paid three cents. There was no charge for persons going to church or attending funerals. Farmers who used the road regularly paid as much as \$25.00 on an annual basis.

The significance of the Toll House lies in its having been an integral part of the transportation and communication systems of the nine-

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Continuation of 8 SIGNIFICANCE

teenth Century before the advent of modern equipment such as the telephone, ~~the~~ railroad, ~~and~~ automobiles and aircraft. Although the basic function was as a location where tolls were collected, to refund the cost of road construction and maintenance, the Toll House also served as a family dwelling so that the Toll-Keeper could always be present. In addition it served also as Post Office, Notary Public's Office and ~~as a~~ Country Store.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The original Treaty of 1826 in the archives, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis.
 The Deed to the Michigan Road Toll House, Westfield Br. Indiana National Bank,
 in safe deposit box of the Harrell Foundation.
 "Recollections of Old Toll Gates in the Vicinity of Indianapolis"
 The Indianapolis Journal, Sunday, April 10, 1904.
 "Toll House Likely to Remain for Another Hundred Years"
 The Indianapolis Star, Sunday, October 16, 1966.

The Indiana Historical Bureau, the Indiana Tourist Department, the Greater Indianapolis Information, Inc. (Affiliate of the Chamber of Commerce) Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana have all recognized this historic landmark.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE			LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"
NE	0	'	"	39	50	29
SE	0	'	"	86	11	16
SW	0	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Not applicable		Not applicable	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Mrs Mary Evans Harrell Ochsner, Chairman, Toll House Committee, National Society
 ORGANIZATION of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Indiana.

STREET AND NUMBER:
 5850 Sunset Lane

CITY OR TOWN:
 Indianapolis,

STATE
 Indiana 46208
 CODE
 18

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST: _____

Keeper of The National Register

SEE INSTRUCTIONS