**1. NAME**

**COMMON:**
Historical Society of Porter County Old Jail Museum

**AND/OR HISTORIC:**
Porter County Jail and sheriff's Home

**2. LOCATION**

**STREET AND NUMBER:**
153 Franklin Street, attached sheriff's home 101 Indiana

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Valparaiso

**STATE:**
Indiana

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY (Check One)</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>x Building</td>
<td>X Public</td>
<td>Public Acquisition:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>In Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td></td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Being Considered</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate):**

- X Transportation
- Other (Specify)
- x Remodeling
- x Restoration

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

**OWNER’S NAME:**
Porter County, administered by Board of Commissioners

**STREET AND NUMBER:**
Porter County Courthouse, Courthouse Square

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Valparaiso

**STATE:**
Indiana

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:**
Porter County Courthouse

**STREET AND NUMBER:**
Porter County Courthouse, Courthouse Square

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Valparaiso

**STATE:**
Indiana

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

**TITLE OF SURVEY:**
None

**DATE OF SURVEY:**

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**

**STREET AND NUMBER:**

**CITY OR TOWN:**

**STATE:**
7. DESCRIPTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONDITION</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>X Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Deteriorated</th>
<th>Ruins</th>
<th>Unexposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Sheriff's Home- 2 story red brick Italianate Brocketed Style. The double round arched windows have Joliet Stone voissers and Keystone rusticated at vertical third points. Rusticated Joliet Stone is also used in the quoins and basement. The brackets and eave moldings are of pressed tin. Roof is a shallow hipped style covered with asphalt shingles. The four large chimneys have been removed, original heat was stoves except lst floorrooms with small round arched white marble fireplaces each room.

Jail- 2 story structure of Joliet stone built in style of English Castle "Keep". Has 2 maschioted square towers, form connecting units with sheriff's home. There are 2 maschioted round towers for visual effect (there being no access to the interior) on the south end. Walls are of stone outside - brick with plaster inside. Thickness of walls is 19 inches.


The rooms and woodwork of the sheriff's home interior are unchanged except for installation of modern bathrooms and steam heat. There are four rooms with an open stairway leading to the second floor from the main hallway. The balustrade is of walnut. There are four large rooms on the second floor directly over the rooms on the first floor. A closed stairway leads from the large hall on the second floor to a large attic (this is directly over the open stairway). Interior doors have segmented arch tops. The basement has a furnace and laundry area (with small fruit cellar), a large coal bin room and two rooms that had been paneled and carpeted for use of deputies for relaxation and office areas.

These two attached buildings are on the same one fourth block as the Memorial Hall (known now as the Memorial Opera House) built by members of the G.A.R. as a memorial to the Civil War veterans in 1893. This building is also owned by Porter County, administered by the Board of County Commissioners and is used by the theater guild for local talent.
### Session: Significance

**Period** (Check One or More as Appropriate)
- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 16th Century
- [x] 19th Century
- [ ] 20th Century

**Specific Dates** (If Applicable and Known)
- [ ] March 16, 1871 for Jail

**Areas of Significance** (Check One or More as Appropriate)
- [ ] Aboriginal
- [ ] Archaeology
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [ ] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [ ] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape Architecture
- [ ] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [ ] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other (Specify)

**Statement of Significance**

**Jail**
Architectural style responds to the contemporary concept of criminal treatment and justice.

**Sheriff's Home**
The Halianate Brocheted style of the Sheriff's Home is typical of grand houses of the 1860-1870 period. The stone jail building is built or "tied into" this home.

**Jail**- built at county expense through the board of county commissioners holding office in 1871. The names of board members are listed in the weathered cornerstone. The building was needed for the protection of society or citizens from non-law abiding culprits.
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 □

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register