

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Jersey Park Farm

and or common Same

2. Location

street & number Off Cunningham Sarles Road, (Off Borden Road, between
Galena and Borden) N/A not for publication

city, town Galena vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Floyd code 043

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Ms. Margaret Tower

street & number Box 498, R. 1

city, town Borden N/A vicinity of state Indiana 47106

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Floyd County Courthouse

street & number W. First and Spring Streets

city, town New Albany state Indiana 47150

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1978 federal state county local

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Jersey Park Farm is a modest sized farm in northern Floyd County, Indiana, consisting of a brick farmhouse, a barn and icehouse, as well as the ruins of a smokehouse.

Located at the crest of a small hill (Photo 1), the farmhouse is the most distinctive of structures. Utilizing a combination of rectangular and round construction, the house is characterized by the blending of curves and contrasting straight lines. The structure comprises a rectangular section, and two perfectly round sections: a two-story round section which is 20 feet in diameter, and a one-story round section which is 17 feet in diameter, and located to the north of the larger round (Photo 2). The more traditional Federal style, rectangular wing is to the west of the rounds (Photo 5).

Each round section features a distinctive curved eaveline, thus creating additional, unusual lines in the structure. The two-story round has a gable roof with rounded eaves to accommodate the curve of the building. This roof intersects at the east end of the Federal style wing, with the two ridges running the same direction. The one-story round has a similar roof that extends perpendicularly to the north, wrapping around the two-story round and forming a porch. This porch visually unites the two separate rounds into a single structure (Photo 3).

The gable roofed Federal section measures 20 feet by 36 feet and is attached to the brick chimney on the west elevation of the two story round section. The straight lines of this addition are in sharp contrast with the curves of the rounds. All the brickwork in the building is laid in variations of common bond with eighth or tenth row headers, and foundations are limestone.

The two-story round has a double-door entrance on the east, located directly below the gable peak and sheltered by the porch roof. Windows flank the doorway, with identical second story windows directly above. The windows have limestone lintels and sills, slightly shaped to follow the curve of the structure (Photos 6 and 8). The attic of this round contains a dovecote. Two sets of three small semi-circular arched openings are located above the windows in the narrowing of the gable end of the building. A stone ledge beneath the openings provides a perch for the birds. A single oculus with a cast-iron grill is located just below the gable peak.

The smaller round also has an entrance opening onto the porch. A window is located between the door and the intersection of the two rounds. Another window is just outside of the porch area.

The two-story Federal wing is three bays with a central doorway; all have limestone lintels and sills. The first-story windows flanking the doorway are paired windows, while the second-story windows are single. Interior end chimneys pierce the original slate roof.

The two-story round was constructed over a spring, and a spring room occupies the cellar (Plan 1). The floor of the room is bricked-over dirt. Two small iron pipes located low on the south wall direct the flow of the spring into the cellar. A natural rock outcropping carries the flow around the perimeter to a small canal on the north wall (Photo 10). A six inch clay pipe carries the water from the canal into the adjoining cellar beneath the smaller round section. A third water source on the west wall spills into two dressed round stone basins, now enclosed by a three foot high brick wall (Photo 11). Beyond this is a smooth marble slab, three feet long and two inches thick. Used in the making of butter, it fit into a slot 2½ feet above the floor and was supported by a central stone. The slab has been removed from the wall and now rests on

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
prehistoric	archeology-prehistoric	community planning	landscape architecture	religion
1400-1499	archeology-historic	conservation	law	science
1500-1599	agriculture	economics	literature	sculpture
1600-1699	X architecture	education	military	social
1700-1799	art	engineering	music	humanitarian
X 1800-1899	commerce	exploration settlement	philosophy	theater
1900-	communications	industry	politics government	transportation
		invention		other (specify)

Specific dates 1875-1884

Builder Architect John Spear Coffman

Statement of Significance (~~in one paragraph~~)

Jersey Park Farm is significant, architecturally, as an unusual group of agricultural buildings. The original owner, John Spear Coffman, designed and built the structures. He blended the buildings with the terrain by constructing the house and barn into the hillside, utilizing the hills as part of the actual structure. He also used a distinctive circular construction form in the house and the icehouse. Because Coffman designed the buildings to his own tastes and needs they are truly unique.

The house, with its two round and one rectangular sections, is the most distinctive structure on the property. Built over a spring, the house had an interior water source, an unusual amenity for a rural home of 1874. The dwelling is constructed into the actual hillside with the earth forming a portion of the cellar walls.

Coffman also constructed the barn into the hillside. Because of this, the ground level access at the front of the building is the first story, and at the rear ground level is the second story. An exact date for the construction of the barn is not known, but Coffman first refers to it in his journal in 1885 when he notes "sleighting the barn roof."

Coffman was an enterprising and successful farmer, at one time owning 740 acres of land. A keeper of journals, he daily recorded weather conditions, temperature, and a detailed accounting of each day's activities. He kept very careful records concerning his livestock, especially his herd of registered Jerseys for which his farm, "Jersey Park," is named. Products he sold, such as berries, hay and dairy products, were recorded. He relates in his journal of producing as much as 150 lbs. of butter a week for sale in Louisville. In his later years he was known among his contemporaries as eccentric, but a county history of 1882 noted that he was well known "...for the quality and quantity of butter he produces".

9. Major Bibliographical References

Coffman, John Spear, "Journals and Account Books.
History of the Falls Cities and their Counties. (2 volumes). Cleveland: L. A. Williams
and Company, 1882.
Interview with Margaret Tower.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 4 acres

Quadrangle name Borden, Indiana

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	5	9	0	7	6	0	4	2	4	8	0	0	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

B

Zone		Easting						Northing					

C

Zone		Easting						Northing					

D

Zone		Easting						Northing					

E

Zone		Easting						Northing					

F

Zone		Easting						Northing					

G

Zone		Easting						Northing					

H

Zone		Easting						Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please see continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wenonah S. Chamberlin, Designer; Jasper D. Ward, Architect

organization date October 16, 1975

street & number 721 W. Main St. telephone (502) 584-5279

city or town Louisville state Kentucky 40202

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

J. M. Pedlar

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

date January 24, 1984

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

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Continuation sheet Jersey Park Farm Item number 7 Page 1

The first floor of the two-story round section served as the kitchen (Plan 2). A fireplace is located on the west wall (Photo 12), and low on the north wall there is a dressed stone basin (Photo 13). A new stairway has recently replaced the original central stair. The new stair curves to the wall of the round (Photo 14). The steep, original stairway is now stored in the barn. The floor in this room is new.

The second floor of the larger section is a single room, with original pine floors. A one-foot wide, pull-down stairway provides access to the attic above (Photo 15). The attic ceiling is 5'3" high at the gable peak, sloping sharply to the outside wall. This room contains a wooden wheel 3'9" in diameter, with a tapered shaft beneath (Photo 17). The wheel acted as a pulley to haul feed for the doves from the cellar to the attic dovecote (Photo 11). Ropes passed over the wheel and through trap doors in each floor.

The one-story round consists of a cellar and first floor room (Plan 1). The cellar contains a canal 2' wide which is fed by pipes from the spring room. A corridor, 4' wide, connects the two cellar rooms to the outside. The corridor ceiling is constructed of stone slabs. The first floor room has a door opening onto the east porch (Plan 2). Four windows grace the curving walls, while a second door is located in the west wall. There are no first-floor interior doors connecting the two round sections.

The two-story Federal style wing has a central hall plan. A stairway at the south end of the hall leads to the second floor. The west half of the first floor is a single room. A fireplace originally located on the west wall has been closed. Originally, the east half of the house was divided into two rooms of equal size; this partition has been removed and the entire area serves as a kitchen. A bath has been installed in the north-west corner of the first floor. The second story of the house contains three bedrooms.

There are three outbuildings on the property. The two-story brick barn is built into the hillside utilizing the earth as one wall (Photo 18). It is 150' x 30'. The stone foundation slopes slightly with the grade, making the first floor of the barn slope slightly to the rear. The barn has stone lintels of a similar style to the Federal wing of the house. The first floor of the barn contained stalls for the livestock; and a silo, 12' in diameter, is located just inside the door. The second story of the barn is entered from the grade at the back of the structure. Covering approximately half of the length of the barn, it was used as a hayloft and equipment storage area.

The round icehouse, also constructed of brick, is 16' in diameter (Photo 19). A corbelled cornice three bricks wide is the only exterior ornamentation. The roof is divided into seven sections with one extending over the entrance to form a canopy over the double doorway. The interior walls and the shallow dome ceiling are plaster and a large pit is centered in the floor. An 8" opening in the roof provides ventilation.

The red brick smokehouse, 10'8" x 12', has collapsed (Photo 20).

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Continuation sheet Jersey Park Farm

Item number 10

Page 2

Farm buildings and house on Jersey Park Farm Road off south side of Cunningham Sarles Road. Beginning at the southeast corner of rectangular portion of house (Building 3 on map); thence (A) 132 feet to the place of beginning. Thence south (B) 244 feet; thence west (C) 466 feet; thence north (D) 376 feet; thence east (E) 466 feet, thence south (F) 132 feet to the place of beginning.