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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

HISTORIC	Henry W.	Smith House			
AND/OR COM	MON			i.	
	George Eh	rman House			
LOCAT	ION				
STREET & NUN	и ^{век} R.R. 1, В	av 315			
CITY, TOWN	N.N. 1, D	00 010		NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTRI	ICT
	Kokomo		VICINITY OF	5th	
STATE	Indiana	(CODE D18	COUNTY Howard	667
CLASS	IFICATIO	A STREET, SALES AND A STREET, S		nomur d	
			STATUS	PRESI	ENTUSE
	PUBL	NERSHIP	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING	V		UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTUR			WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENC
SITE	PUI	BLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PR	OCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	REIN	G CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
	DLIN				
			NO	MILITARY	OTHER
OWNE		PERTY	NO	MILITARY	OTHER
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Form No. 10.300a Hev. 10-74

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 2

Agnes L. Smith 814 West Mulberry Street Kokomo, Indiana

George and Eva Ehrman R.R. 1, Box 315 Kokomo, Indiana 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE	
EXCELLENT Ygood FAIR	DETERIORATED RUINS UNEXPOSED	UNALTERED X_ALTERED	XORIGINAL SITE MOVED DATE	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Henry Smith House is located in the countryside five miles west of Kokomo, Indiana. It is a modest red brick structure on a fieldstone foundation, whose original roof was probably of slate or wood shingles. Although its style can be denoted as Italianate, the building incorporates features which are survivals of other architectural modes. The house is a rectangular mass five bays long and three deep, with a crossed pitched roof which forms prominent gables on all four elevations. This gable treatment and the roof pitch used are similar to those of contemporaneous Gothic Revival examples; however, the use of a bracketed cornice rather than bargeboards under the eaves mandates the Italianate designation. An earlier classical vocabulary is recalled in the orderly placement of the windows, whose six over six double-hung sash are set into shallow reveals with simple flat limestone lintels and sills, as in the Federal style of at least two decades before. Elements of more recent fashion are seen as well; the entrance, centrally located in the main (south) facade, if a wide opening with pilasters and sidelights flanking a solid leaf, with a rectangular transom above. A similar scheme is used for a second floor doorway directly above, which opens onto the porch roof. These doorways open from central halls connected by the prime interior feature, a wooden spiral staircase. These plan and entrance features are elements lately used in the Greek Revival style, though they have much older classical precedents. In one last principal feature, the porch, with its stylized square Tuscan columns, bracketed cornice, and picketed balustrade (this last is now missing), the full measure of the transition to the picturesque era of mid-century can be seen. The juxtaposition of symmetrical rectangular arrangement of classical elements beneath a prominent gable and projecting porch produces pictorial interest without the loss of classical allusions.

There are a few features of the house that are not original, but they are minor. These include the porch balustrade which replaced the pickets mentioned above, the concrete steps at the entry, and the asphalt shingles of the roof. None of these items are serious, and all are easily correctible. The original outbuildings, a smokehouse and a milkhouse, are intact. The house is in good physical condition and is of local and state significance.

1 11

1966 - 1997 K

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- -PREHISTORIC ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC __1400-1499 ___ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC __1500-1599 __AGRICULTURE __1600-1699 ARCHITECTURE __1700-1799 __ART _X1800-1899 __COMMERCE _1900-
 - ___COMMUNICATIONS
- __EDUCATION ENGINEERING X_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT __PHILOSOPHY _INDUSTRY __INVENTION

__COMMUNITY PLANNING

__CONSERVATION

__ECONOMICS

__LITERATURE __MILITARY __MUSIC

__LAW

- __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

- __RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- __SCULPTURE
- __SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- ___THEATER
- __TRANSPORTATION
- __OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1859

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Henry W. Smith

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The architectural significance of the Henry Smith House lies in what it exemplifies both the enduring appeal of classical elements and the ingenuity used in combining them in new ways to create pictorial interest. The design serves to illustrate the transition from an era of classical restraint to one of romantic imagery. The ability to express either while using familiar classical vocabulary explains the appeal of the Italianate style.

Besides its architectural significance, as an interesting transition between styles, the house has local significance for its associations with Henry Smith. The builder, Henry W. Smith, was a transplanted Virginian who achieved some local prominance as a Democratic politican and promoter of roads. Smith was born in Madison County, Virginia, in 1817 and was descended from early settlers who had owned large plantations. His father died when Henry was 12 years old. Henry Smith studied in subscription schools and lived with his mother until he reached the age of 20. In 1837 he left for Kentucky, where he worked on an uncle's farm. In 1840 he married began farming for himself by renting and later buying a farm where he stayed until 1853. He sold that farm and bought 160 acres from Joel Grantham in Howard County, Indiana. Of the land purchased from Grantham, only 30 acres were cleared. By 1898, Smith had acquired over 600 acres, despite the fact that he had given over 300 to his children. Over 200 acres had been cleared, ditched, and tiled.

In Indiana Smith became active in local politics. His father had been an active Democrat, and his wife's slaveholding connections may have reinforced his predisposition to that party. In any case, after voting for William Henry Harrison in 1840, he became a regular Democrat and served as township trustee and pike commissioner. He was one of seven men mentioned as active promoters of the Kokomo and Pete's Run gravel road--the second gravel road completed in the county. The road organized in 1869, was completed in 1871 at a cost of \$33,000, ran 11 miles toward Burlington and Delphi, and became a free road after a prosperous period as a toll road.

Smith's sons followed in his footsteps. The son born in 1857, attended the state university and Butler College, successfully launched a general store at Burlington, returned to run his father's farm until 1898 when he reentered business, and was active in the Prohibition party. An older son, born in 1841, attended Kokomo Normal for one term, bought land in 1864, and was active in local politics.

Another son, Newton B. Smith, became a Kokomo attorney, and three more became farmers.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blanchard, Charles, ed. <u>Counties of Howard and Tipton, History and Biography</u>. Chicago: Battery & Co., 1883

Biographical and Genealogical History of Cass, Miami, Howard and Tipton Counties. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co. 1898.

Morrow, Jackson A. <u>History of Howard County, Indiana</u>. 2 vols; Indianapolis: Bower & Co., 1910.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE

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Verbal Boundary continued:

house for 400 feet from the northeast corner. The line then runs south 400 feet, east 400 feet, and north 400 feet to the northeast corner.