

FINAL

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

1. Name

historic Thomas R. Marshall House

and/or common Whitley County Historical Museum

2. Location

street & number 108 West Jefferson Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Columbia City

N/A vicinity of

~~Congressional district~~

state Indiana

code 018

county Whitley

code 183

3. Classification

Category

☐ district
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership

☒ public
☐ private
☐ both
Public Acquisition
☐ in process
☐ being considered
N/A

Status

☒ occupied
☐ unoccupied
☐ work in progress
Accessible
☒ yes: restricted
☐ yes: unrestricted
☐ no

Present Use

☐ agriculture
☐ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military

☒ museum
☐ park
☒ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Whitley County Commissioners

street & number Whitley County Courthouse

city, town Columbia City

N/A vicinity of

state Indiana 46725

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Recorder

street & number Whitley County Courthouse

city, town Columbia City

state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? yes ☒ no

date

federal

state

county

local

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input 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 N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Thomas R. Marshall House is a two story frame structure located on a tree-lined street in a residential neighborhood north of the business district of Columbia City. The home, which has an ell-shaped design, features a pargetted brick foundation and an irregular roofline. The roof, itself, is covered with slate and is punctuated near the center by a single multi-flued, corbelled brick chimney. Constructed in 1874, the house has been re-modeled a number of times, most notably in 1895, when Marshall brought his new bride to the home. Recently, it was returned to nearly its 1895 appearance by the County Historical Society, based on Marshall's original blueprints. The Historical Society currently operates the house as a museum.

The symmetrical main (south) facade of the house is three bays wide. On the ground floor, the center bay contains the main entrance, consisting of paired entry doors surmounted by a leaded glass transom. All other bays on both levels of this facade contain tall, rectangular, double-hung windows with entablature hoods and louvered wooden exterior shutters. The ground floor of this facade is protected by a large porch with a wooden balustrade. The porch's flat roof, which features a wide plain frieze and a box cornice, is supported by Doric columns positioned atop paneled wooden piers.

The east facade features a two-story polygonal bay and a secondary entrance protected by a smaller porch. The projecting bay, located near the building's southeast corner, features large, two-over-two, double-hung windows with shutters similar to those on the main facade. Recessed wooden panels fill the area below the window on both the first and the second story of this bay. A frieze and cornice is used to separate the ground floor of this bay from the second floor level. The entry porch, located near the center of this facade, is similar to the large porch on the main facade in its use of Doric columns atop wooden piers supporting the flat porch roof. North of the porch area, each floor of this facade contains a pair of rectangular windows identical to those on the main facade.

The interior of the house still retains many of its original architectural features. The main hallway features parquet floors, and pocket doors leading to the parlor and dining room. This hall and the library retain their original fireplaces and mantelpieces, and the balustraded main stairway also remains intact.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1874, 1895

Builder/Architect Unknown

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

The Thomas R. Marshall House is significant as the home of a well-known Indiana politician who rose to national prominence in the early 20th century. Thomas R. Marshall, who served four years as Governor of Indiana, is best remembered as Vice-President under Woodrow Wilson from 1912 to 1920. This home, his home for over 30 years, is now maintained as a museum by the Whitley County Historical Society.

Thomas Marshall was born in North Manchester, Indiana, in 1854, and came to Columbia City after completing college in 1873. He studied law with a local legal firm and by 1875 was admitted to the bar, establishing his own law practice two years later. Long an energetic campaign worker for the Democratic party, he was a candidate for District Attorney in 1880 but lost by a small margin. In 1908, when the Democratic State Convention became deadlocked in its efforts to choose a gubernatorial candidate, Marshall won the nomination as a compromise candidate. He easily won election to the Governorship that fall, and during the course of his term, championed Progressive causes, although most were defeated by a Republican legislature. In 1912 he campaigned for the Presidential nomination; although he lost to Woodrow Wilson, he was selected as Wilson's running mate. Known for his outspokenness, Marshall is considered by some historians to be perhaps the most popular Vice-President that the country ever had, and is credited with helping to expand the power and prestige of that office. His hopes to succeed Wilson, however, were frustrated when the Democratic party, instead, sought out and nominated a candidate not connected with the Wilson administration. Marshall returned to Indiana after leaving office, and passed away in 1925.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Columbia City

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	6	6	2	6	7	8	0	4	5	5	7	3	3	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 8, Block 6 of the first addition to the town, now city, of Columbia City.

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title George R. Adams, Managing Editor
Ralph Christian, Assistant Editor

organization American Association for
State and Local History

date December, 1975

street & number 1400 Eighth Avenue, South

telephone 615/242-5583

city or town Nashville

state Tennessee 37203

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

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

date June 6, 1983

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet Thomas Marshall House

Item number 9

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Dorman, Michael, The Second Man: The Changing Role of the Vice Presidency. New York: Dell Publishing Co., Inc., 1968.

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