United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received date entered

For HCRS use only

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

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one		×
excellent good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	unaltered altered	original site moved date	c. 1874	calific als

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Williams-Warren-Zimmerman House is located at 900-904 South Fourth Street, in an older residential area just south of downtown Terre Haute. It is one block east of another, newer commercial strip. The well-proportioned house was built in the Greek Revival style sometime between 1849 and 1854. It is one of a very few antebellum houses in Terre Haute.

A stuccoed brick foundation supports the one-and-a-half story structure and its one-story wing. The wood frame cottage has yellow poplar clapboard siding and a gabled roof, with three segmentally arched dormers centered over each of the three bays on the main (west) facade. A wide fascia board appears on the long sides of the house, just under the eaves.

The main classical feature of the Williams-Warren-Zimmerman House is the one-story front porch which extends across the west facade. The flat porch roof and simple entablature are supported by four, fluted Doric columns. Sheltered by the porch is a typical Greek Revival entrance, with sidelights and transom. On either side of the entrance is an eight over twelve doublehung window. The facade openings, which stand ten feet high, are of a large scale in proportion to the rest of the small house.

A pair of box columns support a small portico on the north elevation. This side entrance has a transom above the door. There is also a small concrete porch to the rear of the main house. A new ornamental iron post has replaced an earlier crude wood cornerpost. Additional open porch space on the one-story portion of the house was enclosed c. 1942.

Most windows of the house are six over six, doublehung, and of a smaller scale than those on the facade. Many are not original. The dormer windows feature sixteen lights each.

Five linden trees were planted on the grounds in 1894, and well after the house was moved to this site. Because of the planting and development of these trees, the present owner calls it the "Cottage-among-the Lindens." A long, low brick retaining wall has been added to keep the topsoil from washing across the sidewalk.

The interior of the house retains much of its original appearance, even though it has been converted into apartment units. Much of the original woodwork remains, including two of the plain fireplace mantels. The long, central hallway remains with a double parlor to the north of the hall. A casing arch similar to the original in size and location has been reconstructed in the partition between the parlors. The old fashioned, eight-paneled doors of yellow poplar were acquired from the 1846 Theodore Hulman House, which was demolished.

The antebellum Greek Revival cottage still retains much of its original exterior appearance and character.

8. Significance

prehistoric 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 X1800-1899	archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration settlement	music philosophy politics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
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Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Williams-Warren-Zimmerman House is architecturally significant as one of few antebellum houses surviving in Terre Haute and as a well-preserved example of the Greek Revival style. Although the exact date of its construction is unknown, the house was certainly built by 1854, the year in which it appeared on a map of Terre Haute. The house was moved to its present location in 1874. The house is also significant for its connections with several families who made modest but solid contributions to the growth and prosperity of Terre Haute during the 19th century. The house was built for Henry D. Williams, a native of Connecticut, who arrived in Terre Haute in 1838 and founded the largest pork-packing firm in Terre Haute. Williams bought land at Sixth and Deming Streets, where this house was originally located. William B. Warren (1817-1884), who bought the house in October, 1859, also prospered in the pork-packing business. Warren also dealt in drygoods, and became president of the Terre Haute Opera House Company and of the Terre Haute Gas Light Company. His wife was a niece of Gov. James Whitcomb. In 1874 the Warrens decided to build a brick and stone mansion on the lot where the older house stood, so they had the house moved. George and Salome Zimmerman moved into the house in May, 1889. George Zimmerman, born in Prussia in 1851, came to Terre Haute and organized a stove and tinware business, after learning the trade working for F. Foster Smith. Zimmerman became the leading merchant of tinware in Terre Haute and was also a trustee and elder of the German Lutheran Church.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached Continuation Sheet

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10. Geog	raphical	Data					
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11. Form	Prepared	By					
	avid N. Lewis						
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12. State	Historic	Prese	rvation	Offic	er Cei	rtifica	ation
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Williams-Warren-

Continuation sheet Zimmerman House

Item number

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NEWSPAPERS:

Bradsby, H.D. <u>History of Vigo County</u>, <u>Indiana with Biographical Selections</u> (Chicago: S. B. Nelson & Co., 1891), p. 1008.

Schwarz & Company's Terre Haute Directory, 1876 (Indianapolis: Sentinel Co., Printers, 1876), p. 242

Terre Haute Express, December 18, 1884

Terre Haute Gazette, March 20, 1874

Leaves of Thyme, Vigo County Historical Society, Terre Haute, January, February, 1976

Wabash Courier, September 13, 1856; October 4, 1856; January 29, 1853

Interview:

With Mrs. Etta Zimmerman Kirk, August 5, 1970

BOOKS:

Governors of Indiana - Oval, Charles J., Oval and Koster, Publishers, Indianapolis, 1916

Greater Terre Haute and Vigo County - Oakey, C. C., Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, New York, 1908

History of Vigo and Parke Counties, Beckwith, H.W., H.H. Hill, and N. Iddings, Publishers, Chicago, 1880

Terre Haute City Directory, McEvoy, Henry, R. H. Simpson & Co., Terre Haute, 1858

The Elements of Interior Design and Decoration - Whiton, Sherrill, J. B. Lippincott Co., Chicago, Philadelphia, New York, 1951

