## United States Department of the Interior

## Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form



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

## 1. Name

historic
Grant County Jail and Sheriff's Residence
and/or common

## 2. Location

street \& number 215 East Third Street
N/Anot for publication

| city, town | Marion | N/A vicinity of | congressional district | Fifth |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| state | Indiana | code | 018 | county | Grant | code |

## 3. Classification

| Category $\qquad$ district <br> X <br> building(s) structure site $\qquad$ object | Ownership $\qquad$ public private $\qquad$ both <br> Public Acquisition $\qquad$ in process $\qquad$ being considered N/A | Status $\qquad$ occupied <br> X unoccupied $\qquad$ work in progress <br> Accessible yes: restricted $\qquad$ yes: unrestricted $\qquad$ no | Present Use $\qquad$ agriculture $\qquad$ commercial $\qquad$ educational $\qquad$ entertainment $\qquad$ government $\qquad$ industrial $\qquad$ military | $\qquad$ museum park $\qquad$ private residence religious $\qquad$ scientific transportation <br> X other: vacant |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

## 4. Owner of Property

name Jasun Park Associates
street \& number Post Office Box 293
city, town Bluffton $\quad$ N/Avicinity of $\quad$ state Indiana $461 / 4$

## 5. Location of Legal Description



## 7. Description

\section*{Condition <br> | $X_{-}^{\text {excellent }}$ |
| :---: |
|  |  |

deteriorated
ruins
unexposed
Check one
unaltered
$X$ altered
Check one
$X$ original site moved date N/A

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Old Grant County Jail stands on the Northwest corner of Third and Branson Streets in downtown Marion, Indiana. The site is one block Northeast of the courthouse square, and it faces the backs of the buildings which line the East side of the square, as well as the new Marion city Hall, which stands to the southeast of the site (Photo 1). The jail consists of two distinct units, the sheriff's residence which faces Third street and the cell block, whose rectangular mass extends across the entire width of the site directly adjacent to mid-block alleys on the North and west; the two units are joined by a narrow wing which contains a connecting passage. The entire structure is built of red pressed brick laid in Flemish bond and trimmed with limestone quoining, stringcourses, and coping stones.

The sheriff's residence is a Queen Anne form with English Tudor details. The two story cubic mass stands on a raised basement and is capped with a bell-cast hipped roof. Projecting end bays on the Southwest and Northwest corners break the eave line and are crowned by parapet gables which are punctuated by fractables at the base and near the apex. The alcoves formed by the main mass and the projecting bays are filled by square one story porches which shelter the entrances to the residence and the jail (Photo 2). Each side of each porch has a single Tudor-arched opening; though the porches are gabled, the roof forms are concealed behind crenelated parapets; the front porch is enriched with diagonal buttresses at its front corners. The roofline of the residence features a parapet-gabled dormer on each elevation. Tall chimneys flank the East dormer and one side of the West dormer; the rectangular stacks are panelled to imitate paired flues above the roof, and are capped with projecting limestone copings (photo 3). The roof has simple projecting eaves which are supported by shaped modillions made to resemble exposed rafter ends. All openings in the walls of the residence are enframed by ashlar limestone quoining and lintels set flush with the surrounding brickwork. The smooth surfaces of these elements are adorned only by struck moldings on their exposed corners; the window and door openings have a simple cove, while the voussoirs of the Tudor arches have both a cove and ogee (Photo 4). The windows in the dormers and in the gables of the projecting end bays are rectangular casement sash set in pointed segmental-arched openings beneath projecting hood molds with label stops. All other sash are one over one double-hung sash whose meeting rails occur above the mid-point of the window height. Further decoration of the exterior is provided by the iron grillworks on the windows and door of the jailer's office (Photo 5) and the bevelled plate glass sidelights which flank the front door of the residence (Photo 6), all of which use patterns of fischblase tracery set in roundels.

Within the front door of the residence a hall is flanked on the west by a parlor and on the East by the dining room; pairs of one-panel pocket doors can be used to separate these rooms from the hall (Photo 7). The entrance hall is terminated by a cross hall which contains the main staircase and a side entrance from the west porch on one end, and a door into a passage vestibule on the East end. The passage vestibule includes the base of the kitchen stair and provides access to the kitchen, which is separated from the dining room by a walk-through pantry. The kitchen stair has a solid banister made of vertical reeded boards finished with plain square newels. The original pantry cupboards provide shelves behind glass doors set above base units with linen drawers.

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A corridor corresponding to the cross hall below bisects the second floor and contains the landing of the main stairway at its west end. The hall's length is bisected by a Tudor archway, and is terminated at the East end by the bathroom. A. suite of three rooms extends across the front of the house, and probably consisted of a morning room flanked on either side by chambers. One additional bedroom is located across the hall on the Northeast corner. A narrow back corridor parallels the main hall and is connected to it by a door on the East side of the archway in the main hall. At the west end of this back hall is a room (now used as a study) which has a door to the central corridor of the cell block; this room may have been intended as quarters for a turnkey or matron; it and each of the other bedchambers is provided with a coal-burning fireplace. The East end of the back hall turns North and extends to the landing of the kitchen stairway, thus providing a completely separate rear circulation system for use by servants.

Although the exterior of the residence uses a Tudor decorative vocabulary, the interior features are predominantly in the Colonial Revival style This is seen most clearly in the mantlepieces, which are the most elaborate interior features. The parlor has a hearth flanked by Tuscan columns which support a panelled architrave; the bevelled mirror on the overmantle is flanked by Tuscan colonettes beneath a plain cornice (Photo 8): the dining room mantle has fluted Tuscan pilasters beneath a mantle shelf supported by shaped modillions set on a panelled architrave; the overmantle has a threepart bevelled mirror (Photo 9). A much simpler mantle with Tuscan columns directly beneath a shelf faced with egg and dart molding is used on all of the upstairs fireplaces as well as the hearth in the jailer's office (photo 10). The enframements of the windows and doorways have wide casings with a flat ogee profile on the exposed corner, and a flat fillet bolection molding around the outsides of the casings (Photo 7); one-panel doors are used between the principal rooms, and doors with five horizontal panels are used otherwise. Only the corner shafts of the starting newel and the straight spindles seen on the main staircase could be called English in character, an these are Queen Anne references; the heavy gooseneck rail is a Colonial Revival feature (Photo ll). This apparent lack of stylistic continuity between the exterior and interior elements can be ascribed both to prevailing tastes and the stylistic character of the readily available manufactured finish materials which were used.

The second component of the building is the jail proper. The jailer's office is entered from the porch on the west side of the residence, and is contained in the projecting end bay at the Northwest corner of the house. A two story connecting passage is centered on the rear elevation of the residence and contains a passage into the second floor of the house as well as the main staircase used in the jail. The gabled rectangular mass of the cell block forms an architectural backdrop for the residence, and is a fortresslike counterpart to the manorial imagery of the residence.

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The cell block is given the appearance of a castle by the four engaged turrets set at its corners, and by the spare detailing of its elevations. Although the water course and eave line of the residence are continued on the cell block, its regular fenestration lacks the quoining used on the residence, and the sash consist of two over two double-hung panels set in shallow flat-topped openings and covered with panels of iron bars and wire screens. The apparent height of the cell block in relationship to the residence is increased by the fact that the site slopes downward towards the rear, and this allows the wing to contain four full stories (Photo l2). The plain boxed eaves are supported by shaped sheet metal modillions set directly upon the masonry; this gives them the appearance of machicolations, particularly where they are used to support the cantilevered tops of the turrets, which are crowned by crenellations with limestone copings.

Each level of the interior of the cell block is bisected by a central hall which extends from the stairwell. Two files of cells are placed back to back down the length of each floor, and are encircled by a perimeter corridor system; the turrets contain isolated cells at each corner, rather than the guard towers which their exterior appearance suggests (Photo 13). Aside from the iron bars of the cells and the steel plate of the ceilings, the exterior walls are clad in glazed brick in the cell block and brown tapestry brick in the central corridor; the floors are concrete in some cases covered by hexagonal quarry tile. The most significant interior feature of the cell block is the cast iron staircase, which has panelled newels and a rail of wrought iron tracery (Photo l4).

Neither part of the building has been significantly altered from its original appearance, either on the exterior or interior. Much of the oak woodwork in the residence has been painted, but is otherwise intact. None of the ceilings has been lowered or replaced. The building's modern additions include a garage constructed in the recess between the residence and cell block on the West side, paving of the site along the West side, and the addition of screen panels over the cell windows. Some of the turret windows have been covered with wood panels.

| eriod prehistoric |
| :---: |
| 1400-1499 |
| 1500-1599 |
| 1600-1699 |
| 1700-1799 |
| 1800-1899 |
| $\times 1900-$ |

Areas of Significance-Check and justify below archeology-prehistoric community planning

## archeology-historic

 agriculture$X$ architecture art
_-_ commerce
_ communications
conservation economics education engineering exploration settlement industry invention

| landscape architecture | religion |
| :--- | :--- |
| law | science |
| literature | sculpture |
| military | social |
| music | humanitarian |
| philosophy | theater |
| X politics government | transportation |
|  | other (specify) |

Specific dates 1904

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)
The Old Grant County Jail is the third such structure used by Grant County government. As such it has played a daily role in the conduct of local law enforcement, and is rich in historical associations with the public life of the local community. In August of 1902 the Grant County Commissioners had decided to replace their 1868 jail and sheriff's house, which stood on the present site. The Columbus, Ohio, architectural firm of clarence Richards, Joel McCarty, and George Bulford were retained to prepare plans for the new structure at that time, and the new building was completed by contractor Philip Patton in 1904 at a total cost of $\$ 107,848.00$. Richards, McCarty, and Bulford were active as a firm from 1899 to 1943 , and received many such commissions for the design of public buildings, including the U.S. Post Offic in Cołumbus, Ohio, courthouses at Kenton and Eaton, Ohio, and a State Penitentiary at London, Ohio, which was the largest institution of its kind in the country at that time. Their work ranged in style from the Richardsonian Romanesque to Beaux-Arts classicism to Art Deco streamlining. The firm did commissions in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Iowa, and Kansas, and the Grant Count Jail is exemplary of their ability to garner projects at some remove from the area of their immediate practice. The Old Grant County Jail is exemplary as a type used for jail construction, that of a residential structure appended to a castellated cell block, but such cell blocks were usually faced with rock-faced ashlar limestone to contrast with a brick residence, as is the case with the Porter County Jail at Valparaiso and the Hamilton County Jail at Noblesville. Only where the two units were treated as a continuous whole, largely to the exclusion of functional articulation, was the entire exterior faced with the same material; this was done for the sake of stylistic continuity in such examples as the Italianate Franklin County Jail at Brookville the French Second Empire style Johnson County Jail at Franklin and the Wells County Jail at Bluffton, and the Gothic Kosciusko County Jail at Warsaw and the Vanderburgh County Jail at Evansville. The Grant County Jail is also unusual in its use of the English Tudor style, which is explained by its late date of construction as compared with most other examples of victorian jail buildings in Indiana. There is also much architectural and social significanc in the internal arrangement of the second floor of the residence, whose provision for servants belies the prevailing belief that the sheriff and his family always provided for the operation of the jail themselves. The quality of the original design is evident in the lack of any functional alteration of the structure over the 76 years of its operation, and the architectural integrity and significance which it possesses as a result. Although the completion of a new Grant County Jail on a new site in 1980 has resulted in the building's removal from its original service, the soundness of its construction and its architectural merit have made it an attractive prospect for new use by its present owners.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Evelyn Brewer and Kathryn Merritt, "The Jail," in A Century of Development,
Grant County Junior Historical Society, 1937, Richard Simons, editor.
Robert E. Samuelson et al., Architecture Columbus, Foundation of the Columbus, Ohio, Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, 1976.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre
Quadrangle name Marion
Quadrangle scale 1:24,000
UMT References


## Verbal boundary description and justification

All of Lots 5 and 6 of Block 10 of the Original Plat of the City of Marion

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

| state | code $/ A$ | county | code |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| state | code | county | code |

## 11. Form Prepared By

| name/title | Craig Leonard |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| organization N/A | date November 1980 |  |
| street \& number R R 3 | telephone (219) - $824-3789$ |  |
| city ortown Bluffton | state Indiana |  |
| $\mathbf{1 2 . ~ S t a t e ~ M i s t o r i c ~ P r e s e r v a t i o n ~ O f f i c e r ~ C e r t i f i c a t i o n ~}$ |  |  |

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

| 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 Heritage Conseryation and Recreation Service. |
| State Historic Preservation Officer signature |
| title Indiana State Historic Preservation dfficer |
| For HCRS use only |
| $\quad$ I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register, |
| Keeper of the National Register |
| Attest: |
| Chief of Registration |



