

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

FINAL

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received

date entered

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 Morgan House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 532 North Walnut Street N/A not for publication

city, town Bloomington N/A vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Monroe code 105

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Bloomington Restorations, Inc.

street & number 200 E. 6th Street

city, town Bloomington, N/A vicinity of state Indiana 47401

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Monroe County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Bloomington state Indiana

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1978 federal state county local

depository for survey records Indiana Department of Natural Resources

city, town Indianapolis state Indiana

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved

date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Morgan House is a large frame residence located near the center of Bloomington, Indiana. It was constructed in 1890 in the Queen Anne style, and is believed to be an adaptation of a plan found in a late 19th century pattern book compiled by George F. Barber, a well-known residential architect of the period. A two-story structure with an irregular plan, the home features limestone porch steps and foundation, various decorative siding elements, a multi-gabled roof, and four brick chimneys with ornamental corbelling.

The main (west) facade of the structure features a long, narrow veranda and a two-story polygonal bay. The veranda, which continues around the south side of the house, features large, turned columns with scroll brackets and a porch frieze comprised of turned wooden spindles. The large bay, which is surmounted by a gable, contains several of the home's more decorative exterior elements. Three carved wooden infill panels separate the first and second floor windows on the bay's west facade; the center panel contains nine identical roundels arranged in three rows of three, while the panels flanking it have a central roundel from which rays emanate in a sunburst pattern. Over the second floor window on this facade is another panel containing seven roundels, arranged in a horizontal row. The gable area immediately above this is decorated with fish-scale siding. Ornamental brackets appear below the gable ends, just above the bay's chamfered corners.

Similar, but less elaborate, detailing is found on the north and south facades of the home. A wide band of vertical wooden siding stretches across the north facade in the area between the first and second floor windows. A narrower band of this siding is used above the paired second-story windows on this facade, and fish-scale siding is used under the eaves and in the gable area. The south facade includes the continuation of the west veranda, with its turned columns and frieze, and also features an ornamental panel decorated with a horizontal row of six roundels. Fish-scale siding is also employed in the gable areas of this facade. The east facade, the rear of the house, has no ornamental features. A small addition with a shed roof, and a one car garage have been added to this facade.

In the 1920s a small outdoor swimming pool was installed adjacent to the southeast corner of the house. This pool is believed to be one of the earliest private pools in the city of Bloomington.

The Morgan House was purchased by Bloomington Restorations, Inc., in January, 1981. This non-profit organization has recently restored the exterior of the house and is currently offering it for sale, retaining restrictive covenants.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1890 **Builder/Architect** George F. Barber

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Morgan House is architecturally significant as one of the city's best preserved examples of the more restrained version of Queen Anne architecture popular around the turn of the century. It is the only home in Bloomington known to have been built from a George F. Barber design. The home occupies a prominent site on Bloomington's near northside, and its recent renovation has helped to stimulate other restoration work in this once-elite neighborhood.

The home was built in 1890 by local teacher and lawyer, James F. Morgan, based on a plan found in George S. Barber's catalog. Barber, a mid-western residential architect, began publishing catalogs advertising the sale of his house plans in 1887, thereby bringing the practice of architecture to the common man in a familiar format. He soon developed a thriving mail-order business, employing up to 30 draftsmen in his Knoxville, Tennessee, office. The Morgan House is a modified version of Design #41 from Barber's third catalog, The Cottage Souvenir No. 2. Compared to the illustration in this publication (copy attached), the Morgan House has a reverse plan and less elaborate exterior detailing; such alterations were encouraged by Barber as a means of reflecting the client's individual tastes while retaining the basic architectural integrity of the design.

The Morgan Home is prominently situated at a major intersection located between the city's central business district and the campus of Indiana University. It is also one of the key structures in Bloomington's proposed North Washington Street Historic District. The recent purchase and renovation of the house by Bloomington Restorations, Inc., a non-profit organization, has received widespread local publicity, and has provided new impetus to preservation efforts in the community.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bowen, B.F. & Co. The History of Lawrence and Monroe Counties in Indiana. Indianapolis. 1914
Blanchard, C.(Ed.) Counties of Morgan, Monroe and Brown, Indiana. Indianapolis. 1884
Roberts, W. E. The Torphy House: Some Notes. 1980
Barber, George F. The Cottage Souvenir No. 2. 1891. Reprinted by American Life Foundation, Watkins Glen, N.Y., 1982, Design #41.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Bloomington, Indiana

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

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

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

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D

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot #21 in Bollman Place, the same being a subdivision of North Outlots 30, 31, 32, and 33 in the City of Bloomington, Indiana

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

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rosemary Miller

organization Bloomington Restorations, Inc.

date September 8, 1981

street & number P.O. Box 1522

telephone 812/332-4044 (R. Miller)

city or town Bloomington

state Indiana

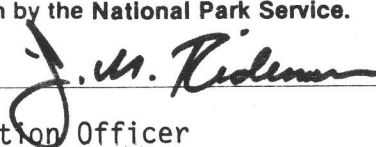
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 1-24-83

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



Morgan House
Bloomington, Indiana
UTM Reference: 16/540310/4335670

UNIONVILLE 7 MI.
COLUMBUS 34 MI.

434

433