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United States Department of the InteriorNational 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

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Category district X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition in process being considered N/A	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Useagriculture Xcommercialeducationalentertainmentgovernmentindustrialmilitary	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
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7. Description

Condition excellent	deteriorated	Check one unaltered	Check one X original site	
χ good fair	ruins unexposed	X altered	moved date	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Stoner House is located on a one acre lot which was originally part of a large farm. The residence is a large $2\frac{1}{2}$ story vernacular structure with Eastlake and Italianate elements. Irregular in plan, the bevel-sided structure has six gables which intersect the main roof. A one story gable roofed area is located on the rear of the structure. The house rests on a stone foundation.

Facing west, the main facade (Photos #2 and #3) is four bays wide and has a projecting gable on the north end. A one story porch fronts the remaining facade, which contains three bays, the main entry and two windows. The entry is positioned in the innermost bay and has a single leaf door with a glass panel above and decorative wood below. Above the door is a rectangular transom surmounted by a pedimented head which outlines a triangular form above the opening, with a bullseye at the apex and ornamental blocks at the corners. The original brass doorbell is still functional (Photo #5). The windows are double-hung sash with single lights and wood surrounds and sills. Each window is surmounted by a pedimented window head identical to the one above the main door. All windows are of this design. The front porch has a shed roof supported by four round posts which rest on square piers. It is probably a replacement of the original porch. Above the porch, the second level has three windows aligned with the lower level bays. The projecting gable on the north end of the main facade has a window centered on each of the first two levels. Above the second level windows are two gabled attic areas; one is in the projecting gable and the other is above the two southernmost windows. Each gable is covered with diagonally-laid wood forming triangles flanking a diamond. A shuttered opening with the same surrounds as the other exterior bays is centered in each gable. A cornice follows the rake of the gable and the gable returns, with ornate scroll brackets below each. The cornice continues around the eaves. The main facade has a wood water table which extends around the exterior and wood corner board which are repeated on the other facades.

The south side facade (Photo #1) has a two-bay wide porch flanked by a projecting gable on the west end and a one-story rear section. The porch has a shed roof supported by narrow posts. It shelters an entry and a window, which are framed by decorative engaged wood posts, probably evidence of the original porch's appearance. The door is identical to the main entry. Above the porch, the second level has two windows aligned with the main level bays. The projecting gabled area on the west end has a decorated, three-sided bay window on the main level; it contains three windows surmounted by a plain frieze with ornate scroll brackets which support a molded cornice. A wood panel is below each window. Above the projecting bay a window is centered on the second level. The gabled attic area is identical to those on the main facade except for a small centered window. The rear section has three bays. A door identical to the other doors is positioned off-center in the middle bay, flanked by two windows.

The north side facade (Photo #2) has three windows on the first two levels with two gabled attic areas identical to those on the main exterior.

The rear facade also has a gabled attic area. A large porch is located on the north end of the rear exterior.

The structure has a tin roof which has been resurfaced with a black roofing compound. Originally, there were four chimneys; two remain. One of the chimneys is brick and is positioned on the ridge of the south gable of the main facade. The other is located at the east end of the same ridge.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C	heck and justify below community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration settlement industry invention	landscape architecture law literature military music philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1883-84	Builder/Architect Unkr	nown	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Lycurgus Stoner House is significant as a fine example of a composite style Victorian farm house. The house combines the bracketed eaves, projecting bay windows, and round-arched fireplaces of the Italianate style, with decorative detailing on window heads and interior woodwork that is more in the Eastlake mode. Except for alterations to the porches, the house has exceptional integrity both inside and out, and as such is one of the finest rural homes in the county.

Lycurgus Stoner returned home after serving in the Indiana Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War, and purchased a tract of bottom land on Big Walnut Creek, as well as the land upon which this house stands. He married Elvira Boone in 1867, and together they had eight children. Stoner had the house built in 1883-84.

Lycurgus and his brother, Peter, operated a successful partnership involving farming and livestock breeding for 28 years. In addition, Lycurgus was a director of the First National Bank of Greencastle for several years.

The Stoners' daughter, Maude, married Edward Houck, and they purchased her parents' home in 1916. The house remained in the family until 1942. Louis H. and Hildegarde H. Dirks owned the property from 1943 until 1960, when it was sold to Edna A. Brown. The present owners purchased it from her estate in 1984.

Rated "Outstanding" in the Putnam County survey, the house is presently used as an antique shop.

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Attest:

Keeper of the National Register

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

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Continuation sheet Stoner House

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Item number

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Inside the main entry is an L-shaped foyer; it is six feet wide and runs 19 feet, turning north for an additional 17 feet. The foyer has two pairs of top hung pocket doors which open into the parlor on the north side and the music room on the south side (Photo #6). Single doors in the foyer lead to the dining room, a bedroom, and a closet.

The open, curved floating stairway makes its ascent where the foyer turns north (Photo #7). The second floor foyer opens into five bedrooms and a back stairway, which leads down to the kitchen. A bathroom was installed at the base of the back stairs approximately 20 years ago and is in poor condition.

Handsome, wormy chestnut woodwork adorns all of the downstairs rooms, except the work room, and the second level foyer. Most of the woodwork has never been painted and is in good condition. The woodwork on the first level has a different design in each room; for example, the music room has a lyre design over each window and door frame (Photo #8). The walls and ceilings are plaster and the floors are poplar, with some evidence of settling. A metal fireplace in the music room is functional, while the fireplace in the dining room has been closed up. Both fireplaces were painted to resemble marble (Photos #9 and #10). The house was originally illuminated with carbide light, but was electrified when power was brought to the area.

Originally, a detached summer kitchen stood at the northeast corner of the house. Its footings were removed about four years ago. A small shed still remains on the property.

Item No. 10

Beginning at a point 251.95 feet North and 152.23 feet East of the Southwest corner of the Southeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 12, Township 13 North, Range 5 West which point of beginning is on the East right-of-way line of the Greencastle-Manhattan Road; thence from said point of beginning North 24°40 minutes East 183.24 feet with said East right-of-way line; thence leaving said East right-of-way line South 69° 29 minutes East 205.87 feet; thence South 21° 12 minutes West 109.90 feet; thence South 25° 20 minutes West 75.04 feet; thence North 86° 57 minutes West 62.57 feet; thence South 87° 20 minutes West 53.36 feet; thence North 65° 47 minutes West 43.06 feet; thence North 36° 25 minutes West 71.36 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1.00 acre, more or less.

