

John Pound Store
Name of Property

Kosciusko Co., IN
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

na

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE: department store

COMMERCE: specialty store

GOVERNMENT: post office

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls WOOD: weatherboard

roof METAL

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE

Period of Significance

1838-1942

Significant Dates

1838

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

na

Cultural Affiliation

na

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory, Warsaw Public Library

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	601490	4574810
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2			

3			
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cynthia J. Brubaker, Neal Carlson, and Earl Ketrow

organization Portfolio Design Inc. date 10 October 1991

street & number 222 N. College Ave., Suite 300 telephone 812-334-2488

city or town Bloomington state Indiana zip code 47404

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Kosciusko County Historical Society

street & number P.O. Box 1071 telephone _____

city or town Warsaw state IN zip code 46580

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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The John Pound Store is a free standing, commercial structure located in the Village of Oswego. The small village surrounds this two story, wood frame building with single family houses and a few churches, similar in scale, character, style and building materials, and which provide a quiet, small town atmosphere. The rectangular 20' by 49' plan is oriented with its longer side parallel to Second Street and its shorter end parallel to Main Street (facing south). Although the exact date is not known, sometime prior to 1900, the building was rotated from its previous orientation with its shorter end parallel to Second Street (facing east), to its current orientation. The first floor interior is divided into two large, equally sized rooms and the second floor was divided into several rooms for use as an apartment.

The front gable roof building was constructed in the Greek Revival architectural style popular when it was erected in 1838. The main or south elevation is symmetrically composed of three bays on the first floor and two on the second floor, (photograph #1). Two wood frame, fixed, double paned windows with a row of nine rectangular transom panes above, flank a recessed central entrance with a wood and glass door and four-paned sidelights in the reveals. There are two wood frame, double hung, four over four windows on the second floor. The east elevation is composed of one wood frame, double hung, four over four window and a wood panel door with a single-paned transom above at the rear on the first floor, (photographs # 2 and 3). This window and door were originally located on the main or south elevation. Four wood frame, multi-paned, casement windows are symmetrically spaced across the second floor. A 14' by 20', one story, shed roof addition that had one wood door and one wood frame, double hung, four over four window on its east elevation stood at the rear of the building (photograph # 3). This addition was added at an unknown date and was recently removed. The rear or north elevation has a single, centrally located, wood frame, multi-paned casement window on the second floor (photograph # 3). The west elevation includes a brick exterior chimney and small, gable roof, one story addition with a single door on its west elevation (gable facing west); both are at the front or south half of the building (photograph # 4). A wood panel and glass door with single-paned transom above and a wood frame, double hung, four over four window are found at the rear of the first floor. Four wood frame, multi-paned, casement windows are unevenly spaced across the second floor.

The foundation is constructed of mortared field stone (photograph # 4). A basement was added sometime prior to 1900 with an exterior stair and a 7' by 8' access panel at the rear of the west elevation. The walls of the basement are also constructed of mortared stone and the floor is concrete. The wood frame structure and both shed additions are sheathed with wood weatherboard and have wood trim. The gable roofs and shed roof of the rear addition are all sheathed with standing seam metal roofs.

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The Greek Revival style is characterized on this building by the front and rear facing gables, low pitch roof, wood cornice trim and entablature around the entire perimeter, and pediments suggested by the cornice returns on both gable ends (photographs # 1, 2, and 3). A plain, flat, wood trim surrounds the windows and doors. The overall massing and size is typical of wood frame, Greek Revival, commercial structures of the period.

There is no photographic or historic documentation of the appearance of the John Pound Store prior to 1900. It has served as a trading post, post office, general store, for a brief time, as an antique store, and the rear addition was used to store kerosene and other combustibles while the store was a general store. Second Street was formerly the main access to the Tippecanoe River, once a major transportation route, which would account for the building's original orientation. The later predominance of Main Street (later renamed Armstrong Road) as the transportation link to the outside world explains the rotating of the building on the site.

A photograph taken in 1919 shows shuttered, wood frame, double hung, four over four windows flanking the front door on the first floor. The photograph also shows a double, wood panel door with a single-paned transom above, flush with the facade of the building on the main or south facade. The letters "J.F. Pound" are on the transom glass and there are no windows on the east facade. These original, south windows were moved to the east facade and replaced with the present windows sometime between the time of the 1919 photograph and 1934, according to the memory of local residents and historians. Current renovation plans call for the restoration of the 1919 window configuration.

Extensive remodeling occurred in the building between 1910, when the second floor apartment was added, and 1928. Mail sorting boxes on the west wall of the first floor were removed in 1926. The original plaster walls on the first floor have been covered with wood wainscoting and burlap above. Original wood floors, ceilings, and window and door trim remains on the first floor. The recent removal of the rear addition revealed intact wood siding on the north elevation of the main building.

The John Pound Store is currently in a slightly deteriorated condition and in need of basic repairs, and ongoing maintenance. It is operated as the Kosciusko County Historical Museum and plans are underway to renovate the building and restore it to its 1919 condition.

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The John Pound Store is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for its association with the history of commerce in the small Village of Oswego and for its embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of the Greek Revival architectural style prevalent for commercial and residential buildings when it was built in 1838. The Pound Store holds even greater significance as one of only a handful of surviving commercial structures built before 1850 in Northern Indiana. It is a very well intact example of its style and retains its historic characteristics that identify it with the commerce of Oswego from its beginnings until well into this century.

The Pound Store can be evaluated within the historic context of commercial architecture built before 1850 in Northern Indiana, and more specifically, of Greek Revival, wood frame, commercial architecture. The only other known property type that meets the more specific definition is the Bockman Store in nearby North Webster, Indiana (085-473-36006). Both properties were identified in the 1990 Kosciusko County Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. Built circa 1850, the Bockman Store is somewhat later than the Pound Store and has a more squat or square appearance as well as, more decorative detailing. The two story, wood frame structure also has a low pitch, front gable roof, wood weatherboard, shuttered, multi-paned, double hung windows, and wood trim. The first floor has been altered with the addition of large storefront windows, circa 1920, however, the upper story retains its symmetrical composition. Wood pilasters and a full pediment and entablature with dentiled molding remain in good repair on the main facade. A full entablature also extends along the sides of the building. The interior is adorned with early twentieth century, pressed tin ceilings and 1950's display cases and refrigerators.

A commercial structure built within the same time period as the Pound Store was identified in Allen County, however its exterior alterations render its age difficult to recognize. Indeed, there may be additional commercial, or formerly commercial structures built in this period that survive in Northern Indiana, however they have either been altered beyond recognition or not identified in any existing surveys. The Pound and Bockman Stores are clearly separated from other commercial structures built after 1850 by their rare surviving use of wood frame and wood weatherboard and by their clearly identifiable Greek Revival style.

Another example of the Greek Revival commercial style is the Murphy Building at 100 South Main Street, New Castle, Henry County, Indiana. (National Register nomination for the New Castle Commercial Historic District.) This three and one half story, brick building, built in 1849, displays elements of the Greek Revival in its modified temple front with low pitch pediment and full entablature of wood. Although of the same style, building type, and period as

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the Pound Store, the Murphy Building differs from the Pound Store with its larger scale, use of brick and location on the courthouse square on Henry County's county seat.

The John Pound Store is significant for its association with the history of commerce in the small Village of Oswego and Kosciusko County. The area, abundant with good land and lakes for hunting and fishing was the domain of the Miami and Potawatomie Indians until a treaty, ratified by the U.S. Government in 1833 mandated their removal. Ezekiel French, the Indian Agent responsible for the removal of Chief Musquabuck's tribe to a reservation west of the Mississippi River, together with William Barbee and Rowland Willard laid out the Village of Oswego in 1837. The three men built the first commercial building in Oswego and the oldest commercial building in Kosciusko County, the John Pound Store, in 1838. Ezekiel French managed the trading post for ten years under the name Willard and Company. Most of the merchandise was brought in via freight boats on the new Wabash and Erie Canal running from Toledo, Ohio through Ft. Wayne, Huntington, and Wabash, Miami, and Cass Counties. Merchandise was then carried either by horseback or wagons overland to Kosciusko County.

In 1840, the United States Government appointed Ezekiel French as the first of 19 postmasters whose terms ran until 1935 when the post office was closed. French and his partners built the county's first flouring mill, powered by water from a dam. Within ten years of the village's founding a grange hall, tannery and blacksmith shop were built. The Presbyterian and Baptist churches were built in 1839. The store was conveyed to various parties over the years, who continued to run it as a store and post office, until it was sold to John Pound on March 30, 1889.

Pound, born in 1852 in Montgomery County, Indiana, graduated from the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso in 1876, and following a teaching career in Elkhart and Kosciusko Counties was appointed postmaster of Oswego on January 15, 1889. He served until 1898 and again from 1914 until 1917. His wife, Sarah, served between 1898 and 1914. Both continued to run a general store, the only general store in Oswego. The store remained in the family, serving for a time as an antique store in 1950, until 1968 when Philip Harold Pound, son of John and Sarah, conveyed the property to the Kosciusko County Historical Society. The Historical Society has since operated the store as a museum.

The Pound Store is also significant for its embodiment of the distinctive characteristics of the Greek Revival architectural style. The low pitch, front gable roof, symmetrical composition, suggested front pediment with cornice returns, and plain wood entablature are all subtle, yet substantial recollections of the classic Greek Temple form. The simple, wood construction

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is an appropriate reminder of the store's small village context, while the Greek Revival detailing is an appropriate reminder of its builder's desire to conform to the popular building form of the day.

Although the building was rotated on its site, there is no loss of integrity due to its move. The former orientation was appropriate in the context of the importance of water transportation in the early life of the store; Second Street was a direct means of access to the Tippecanoe River. The current orientation is appropriate in the context of the later importance of Main Street and the change has become an historic alteration since it occurred before 1900.

It is especially significant that the John Pound Store has survived as one of two known examples of its specific age and style in Northern Indiana. Despite a small degree of deterioration and a need for restoration and ongoing maintenance, the building retains its distinctive ambience as an early nineteenth century commercial structure with much of its historic setting intact around it.

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correct & complete 9.

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The John Pound Store Kosciusko Co., IN

Armstrong, James W., ed. History of Leesburg and Plain Township. Leesburg, Indiana: The Leesburg Journal, 1914.

Biographical and Historic Record of Kosciusko County, Indiana. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1887.

Brubaker, Cynthia. New Castle Commercial Historic District National Register Nomination. March 1, 1991.

Interview with Bud Robinson, former tenant of the John Pound Store, second floor apartment. October, 1991.

Interview with Ronald Sharp, Kosciusko County Historian. October, 1991.

Kosciusko County Historic Sites and Structures Inventory, 1990.

Nye, George and Marjorie, eds. George Nye's Volumes of Historic Notes. Unpublished, at the Warsaw Public Library, 1944 - 1978.

Progressive Men and Women of Kosciusko County, Indiana. Logansport, Indiana: B.F. Bowman, 1902.

Royse, L.W., ed. History of Kosciusko County, Indiana. Chicago and New York: Lewis Publishing Co., 1919.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

That portion of Lot Number 1 of the Original Plat of the Town of Oswego, beginning 66 feet West of the Southwest corner of Lot 18 in the Town of Oswego, thence North along the East line of Lot Number 1, 82.4 feet; thence West 31.3 feet; thence South 82.4 feet, thence East to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The boundary includes the entire portion of the original town lot that has historically been associated with the property.