

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name John and Minerva Kline Farm
other names/site number Kline Homestead, 069-288-25013 30010

2. Location

street & number 2715 East 400 North N/A not for publication
city, town Huntington vicinity
state IN code IN county Huntington code 069 zip code 46750

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>7</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>10</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Paul A. Hart for J. M. Pederson 11-15-88
Signature of certifying official Date
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE:

agricultural outbuildings

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

MID-19th CENTURY: Greek Revival

OTHER: English barn

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: limestone

walls BRICK

roof STONE: Slate

other WOOD: Weatherboard

WOOD: Shake

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The nominated property includes the buildings and landscape features which comprise the Kline farmstead. Included are two houses, three barns, a summer house, a pump house, a chicken house, fencing, and planted materials which reflect the farmstead's original and subsequent development from the mid-nineteenth century through the early twentieth century. The high integrity of the farmstead conveys the sense of an agricultural and domestic unit with buildings and plantings associated with historic farm life and folk-derived architecture.

House (1865)

The house is a full, or five bay, I-house, two full stories in height, with a one and one-half story rear ell extension (photos 1 and 2). The main portion of the house has slate shingle-covered gable roof of medium pitch. The slate shingles are hexagonal-ended except for the upper and lower few rows which are square-ended; the shingles are of two tones, with circular patterns executed in the darker tone. There are three chimneys on the house's main portion; the two gable-end chimneys are brick and flush with the end walls of the house. A third brick chimney, exterior to the house's south wall, has been added. Eaves treatment is plain, with narrow crown molds; smooth, sloped soffits; and wide, plain frieze boards. Lightning rods remain at the roof ridge.

Facades are of red brick, laid in running bond on front (north) facade and common bond on east, west, and south facades. Windows and door on north facade are arranged symmetrically, with the door centrally located on the first story, flanked by two bays of windows. Five second-story windows are aligned with first story bays. There are four windows--symmetrically arranged, two on each story--on the west facade. There are no windows on the south or east facades of the main portion of the house.

Windows are double-hung sash type with six-over-six lights and narrow muntins. Sills and flat-head lintels are limestone, smooth-finished. The four-panel front door is set in surrounds consisting of a rectangular eight-light transom; side lights with three glazed panes over two wooden panels; and panelled jambs. The doorway is sheltered by a small, wooden porch which has a flat roof and articulated entablature (photo 5). It is supported by four posts and two pilasters. The posts and pilasters

See continuation sheet

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are square, with astragal and capital moldings. Paired scroll-cut brackets rise about each post; single brackets are found above each pilaster. The porch deck is wooden and rests on limestone ashlar.

The foundation of the house's front (north) facade is faced with smooth limestone ashlar beneath a smooth limestone water table. There are two basement windows on the north facade. Elsewhere the foundation is of rock-face ashlar, both random and square-cut. Entrance to the basement, which is under the main portion of the house only, is gained by an exterior stairwell at the east end. This stairwell has a limestone lintel.

The rear ell extends southward from the southeast corner of the main portion of the house, with its east wall being not quite flush with that of the main portion of the house (photo 6). The rear ell is one and one-half stories in height and has a gable roof covered with slate shingles in the same shape and color pattern as found on the main portion of the house. Cornice treatment and facade material are also the same. There are two brick chimneys in the rear ell; one is a centrally located ridge chimney and the other is located on the southwest corner. Foundation is of coursed, rock-face limestone ashlar.

There are two windows and a door on the east facade of the rear ell. Window treatment is identical to that on the main portion of the house. The door is set beneath a rectangular, two-light transom and limestone lintel. The south end of the rear ell has a window at each level. The lower window is like those on the other facades. The upper window is smaller, double-hung, with six-over-six lights and a segmental arch head.

The west facade of the ell has two doors and a window which open onto a porch. Facades, windows, and doors are similar to those on the east side of the rear ell. The porch area has been enclosed with two frame, clapboard-sided enclosures. The earlier enclosure, a laundry room, is at the southwest corner, and it has two one-over-one light, double hung sash windows on its west facade and a door on the south facade. The remaining enclosure of the porch has a door and three three-over-three, double-hung sash windows. The enclosure of the porch does not alter the plan or

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the roof line of the house. The porch rests on a log sill supported by stone footings.

The interior of the house conforms to the I-house type: one room deep, two rooms wide at each story, with a central hall. The hall contains a stairway consisting of two flights joined by a landing. The stairway has a dark-stained, hardwood handrail with turned balusters and newel post. Decorative wooden scrollwork is applied to the riser ends (photo 8). A flight of steps providing interior access to the basement is located under the stairway.

Walls and ceilings throughout the house are plaster. Windows are splayed. Doors are four-paneled and have original hardware including porcelain knobs. Doors are of pinned, mortise and tenon construction.

The west parlor has undergone some remodeling but retains its original plan. A fireplace has been removed from the west wall; walls are covered with vinyl panels, and narrow-board hardwood flooring has been installed atop the original floor. Original moldings, more ornate than elsewhere in the house, remain intact.

The east parlor has retained its original materials and decorative elements (photos 9 and 10). The fireplace and chimney, located on the east wall, are flanked by large, hardwood cabinets with double-leaf, four-panel doors and cavetto moldings. The mantelpiece consists of two pilasters which rise to support a narrow cavetto molding. The fireplace itself has a brick, segmental-arch-head opening and a brick hearth. The floor in the east parlor is oak boards, four inches wide. Door and window moldings are relatively simple and they are intact.

On the second story, the west room has also been slightly remodeled with the addition of vinyl wall coverings and acoustical ceiling tile. The east room is intact, with shallow cabinets flanking the chimney. Entrance to the attic level of the rear ell is gained through a door in the east room. Floors in the upper story are of oak boards, four inches wide. Window and doors surrounds are characteristically plain.

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The interior of the rear ell which contains a kitchen and two smaller rooms is unaltered. A bathroom has been installed in a room at the southeast corner. The basement which is under the main portion of the house only is of full depth, load-bearing walls partially sheathed in cement. Basement floors are also cement-finished.

Overall, the integrity of the historic fabric of the house is quite high. Changes to the exterior are few and do not detract from the house's appearance. Alterations, for the most part, reflect changes in nineteenth century taste. Alterations include: addition of interior chimney to serve interior stoves and furnace; addition of a slate shingle roof; addition of a porch at the front entrance; and enclosure of the porch on the west side of the rear ell. Interior changes have been few as well and are limited, with the exception of the removed fireplace, to cosmetic additions.

Summer House (c.1865)

The summer house is located directly to the south of the main house, adjoined to it via a grape arbor (photo 7). The summer house is a double-pen house with a gable roof covered with composition shingles. Lightning rods remain on the roof ridge. There is a centrally located brick ridge chimney which serves both rooms. Eaves treatment is plain, with smooth soffits and wide, unadorned frieze boards. Facades are of common bond red brick.

There are two doors to the summer house, located on the west side under a frame, shed-roof enclosure. Doors are four-panel with original hardware, set in segmental-arch-head openings. Windows--one on the north, two on the east, one on the south--are double-hung sash type with four-over-four lights, limestone lintels, and brick, segmental-arch heads. The attached frame shed-roof extension along the west side of the summer house is sheathed in board and batten siding. This shelters the two doors and also contains a small room at its south end. The foundation of the brick portion of the summer house is coursed, rock-faced limestone ashlar. The interiors of the two rooms are finished with plaster ceilings and walls. An iron bell atop a pole remains at the north facade.

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Tenant House (Mid to Late Nineteenth Century)

The tenant house, located to the southeast of the main house, is a small, one and one-half story gable-front house with rear shed extension and side addition, both one story in height. The roof is covered with slate shingles of the same design and color as found on the main house. Eaves are plain, with narrow, smooth soffits. Facades are sheathed in asbestos shingles. Windows are double-hung sash type, one-over-one lights, with plain surrounds. There is a small, gable awning over the front (north) door. The rear extension has a shed roof; the side addition has a low-pitch, asphalt-covered hipped roof. The house rests on stone footings and, at the addition, on concrete.

English Barn (Mid to Late Nineteenth Century)

The barn, located at the southeast corner of the farmstead is an expanded English barn with a double, central aisle (photo 13). The original barn has been expanded to the rear (south) with a large shed addition. The gable roof is metal-covered. Facades are of vertical board, with louvered vents located at two levels. The barn is banked toward the south and has a low ramp leading to doors on the north. It is of pin-frame construction (both original and added portions). Doors are large, double leaf, hung on massive hinges. Lightning rods on roof ridge are intact. A sign above the main (north) doors reads: OLD HOMESTEAD 1849. The earlier portion of the barn rests on a split limestone foundation, with footings of the same material, approximately three feet in height, supporting the interior. The added portion has a concrete foundation.

Drive-in Crib Barn (Mid to Late Nineteenth Century)

The drive-in crib barn is rectangular in plan, with a standing-seam metal-covered gable roof (photo 11). Facades are board and batten sheathed. Hinged, double leaf doors are located at east and west ends. The aisle runs parallel to the roof ridge (east-west) between large cribs. Exterior loading doors for cribs are located along north and south facades. The crib barn rests on stone footings.

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Pump House (Twentieth Century)

The pump house is a small rectangular-plan building which was built to shelter a mechanically-powered pump (photo 12). It has a wood shingle-covered gable roof and horizontal board facades. Unglazed windows are located on north and south sides; the door is on the east. A hand pump remains immediately west of the structure.

Livestock Barn (Mid to Late Nineteenth century)

The livestock barn is rectangular in plan with a wood shingle-covered gable roof and vertical board siding (photo 12). It is clapboard sided and has doors at each gable end (north and south). There are two louvered windows on each side (east and west) and one above each door. The interior is divided into two rooms, for roosting and laying.

Landscape Features (c.1865-Early Twentieth Century)

The Kline Farmstead contains several landscape features associated with historic farm operation and landscape gardening. Ornamental and fruit bearing plant materials remain either in currently tended or in vestigial form. Spatial divisions of the farmstead in the form of fencing and plantings have survived.

The house lot is bounded on all sides by picket fencing (photo 3). To the east of the house lot and north of the barn is a large open area bounded on the north by a mature lilac hedge running along County Road 400 North. A gravel driveway leads from County Road 400 North to the interior of the farmstead, running immediately east of the house lot. The drive is bordered by a row of mature walnut trees on the west and a row of mature maple trees on the east.

A path leading from the front door of the main house to the picket fence gate is flanked by a pair of pine trees which probably date from the period when the house was constructed (photo 4). Ash, elm, and maple trees are found at the western edge of the house lot as is a remnant of an orchard. Grape arbors are located behind the main house as well as to the south of the summer house

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and tenant house. Other flower and fruit bearing plants, now untended, surround the main and summer houses. An operable, hand-powered water pump is located at the west side of the main house's rear ell.

The cultural resources of the Kline Farm could be described as follows: there are seven contributing buildings (house, summer house, tenant house, English barn, crib barn, livestock barn and chicken house); one non-contributing structure (pumphouse); two contributing structures (picket fence and historic driveway); and one contributing site (landscaping--including trees along drive, pine trees in front of the house on path to front door, orchard remnant, lilac hedges, arbors and other elements listed under Landscape Features in item #7).

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

Significant Person

N/A

Period of Significance

1865 - c.1900

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Dates

1865

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The John and Minerva Kline farm is significant not only because of its architectural style and as a well-preserved, intact historical farmstead, but also as the residence of very early settlers in Huntington County. In addition to its architecture and early settlement, the farm is important because the Klimes and later their son, Oliver, and his wife, Mary, were leaders in their community. Oliver and Mary became well known throughout the state for their efforts with the Extension Department of Purdue University. Oliver was also active politically and in education as were his three daughters. In addition, the farm remained in the same family for 138 years until October of 1987 when it was sold to Kathleen and Kinnie Moon.

The two and a half story brick Greek Revival style house on the property was built by the Klimes in 1865 of bricks supposedly made on the site. It is an outstanding example of an eaves-front Greek Revival residence, one of only six in the entire county from that time period, and one of only two in Union Township. The house has remained virtually unchanged except for the addition of an Italianate porch (probably built within twenty years after the construction of the house) which blends well with the scale and proportion of the house. The site also includes a brick summer house constructed shortly after the main house, a small frame cottage, a barn, and four outbuildings of various sizes. All of the buildings contribute to the significance of the farm with the exception of the pumphouse. The integrity of the site which is prominently situated on a slight rise has been maintained as an agricultural homestead.

The sense of a mid-nineteenth century home and farm is apparent not only because of the collection of historic buildings but also because of the site itself and its landscaping. The yard to the house is enclosed by a picket fence whose gate is flanked by two large evergreen trees. Through those trees across the road, a spectacular view unfolds of the surrounding farmland.

See continuation sheet

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The land was purchased from the government in 1849 by John's parents, Daniel and Catherine. They reserved 160 acres for each of their children upon the occasion of their marriage. John and Minerva moved onto the land in 1856 and constructed a log house. Nine years later, they built the brick house. Because Huntington County was not organized until 1834, and the present township arrangement was not established until 1847, the Klines were obviously one of the very early families in the area.

John and Minerva became important figures in the area and were looked up to as community leaders. Their firstborn, Oliver, and his wife, Mary, were even more well known not only in Huntington County but throughout the state. Both Oliver and Mary were teachers; with Oliver going on to become the Huntington County Superintendent of Schools. In that capacity, he gained wide recognition by revising the course of common school instruction, a course which was supposedly adopted by several other areas of the state. Oliver was later elected County Surveyor and went on to serve three terms as a state senator (1914 to 1918, 1918 to 1922, and 1926 to 1930). He lectured regarding agriculture throughout the state for the Extension Department of Purdue University while Mary spoke to farmers wives for the Extension and wrote a column for the "Farmer's Guide," a weekly agricultural newspaper which was published in Huntington.

John and Mary were not the only members of the Kline family who were educators. John's only sibling, Matilda (Hattie) taught for several years in Huntington city and county schools as did her three nieces (John and Mary's children), Anna, Emma, and Alice. Anna Minerva (Kline) Black went on to become the principle of Bippus High School in 1918, an accomplishment not usually achieved by women at that time.

The Old Homestead, as the farm was called by the Klines, passed from Oliver and Mary to their daughter Anna and her husband Loy L. Black, then their daughter, Virginia and her husband, Richard DeLong. It was sold late in 1987 by the DeLong children. The current owners are living in the cottage until they complete restoration work on the main house, at which time they will occupy the main house.

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The Kline Farm, then, is important to Huntington County for its architectural style, its integrity as a mid-nineteenth century farmstead, and as the home of one of the earliest families to settle in the area.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Barrown, Frederic Irving, History of Fayette County, Indiana, Her People, Industries, & Institutions, Indianapolis: B.F. Bowen & Co., Indiana, 1919.
- Bash, Frank Sumner, History of Huntington County, Indiana, Volume 1, Chicago & New York: Lewis Publishing Co., 1914.
- Black, Loy L., Black-Bowman-Kline, unpublished family history, 1955. Herald Press, December 7, 1936, pp. 1 & 3
- History of Fayette County, Indiana, Chicago: Warner, Beers & Co., 1885.

See continuation sheet

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 5.63

UTM References

A

1	6	6	3	4	8	1	0	4	5	2	7	4	2	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Part of the northeast quarter of Section 16, Township 28 north, range 10 east in Huntington County, Indiana, as follows:

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes all of the buildings, objects and structures historically associated with the farm without including unnecessary acreage.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Karen Kiemnec, J. Marshall Davis

organization Historic Landmarks Foundation of IN date December 21, 1987

street & number 903 West Jefferson Street telephone 219/232-4534

city or town South Bend state IN zip code 46625

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Commencing at the northeast corner of the northeast quarter of said township, follow south 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds for 1245.21 feet to the point of origin, thence south 02 degrees 58 minutes 00 seconds west for 399.56 feet, thence north 89 degrees 03 minutes 45 seconds west for 522.59 feet, thence north 03 degrees 12 minutes 40 seconds east for 389.44 feet, thence north 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds east along the north line of the northeast quarter of said township for 621.40 feet to point of origin. See enclosed map.

