

FINAL

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 Manche, Maurice W., Farmstead  
other names/site number 139-100-10023

### 2. Location

street & number CR 900 W (Rt. 1, Box 79) N/A not for publication  
city, town Carthage X vicinity  
state Indiana code IN county Rush code 139 zip code 46115

### 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>2</u>	<u>5</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>4</u>	<u>1</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<u>7</u>	<u>6</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.

Rabuk K. Kalata 7-31-86  
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)

Agriculture: Agricultural Field  
Agriculture: Agricultural outbuilding  
Agriculture: Animal facility  
Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture: Agricultural Field  
Agriculture: Agricultural outbuilding  
Agriculture: Animal facility  
Domestic: single dwelling

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Craftsman  
Other: Gambrel roof barn

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK  
walls BRICK  
STUCCO  
roof TERRA COTTA  
other WOOD: weatherboard  
CONCRETE

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

See continuation sheet

**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)

AGRICULTURE  
ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1915-1937  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1919  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Kiefer, Wayne E. Rush County, A Study in Rural Settlement Geography.  
Indiana University: Geographic Monograph Series, Vol. 2, 1969.

Rasmussen, Wayne D., ed. Readings in the History of American  
Agriculture. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1960.

Rush County Historical Society. A Rush County Retrospect, 1980s-1920s.  
Vol. 1, 1984.

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 160

UTM References

A 116 61187190 4399400  
 Zone Easting Northing

C 116 61195140 4399820  
 Zone Easting Northing

B 116 61187180 43998110  
 Zone Easting Northing

D 116 61195150 4399400  
 Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Northwest Quarter of Section 23, Township 15 N, Range 8 E, not including public right of ways. Refer also to UTM references.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This is the historic property boundary, including the house, outbuildings and acreage associated with the Manche Farm. As detailed in Section 8, the entire farm is a unique resource which maintains its integrity. The entire farm, with its historic field patterns, warrants preservation and recognition.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Susan Becher Gilliam / Field Surveyor, William G. Taft

organization Historic Landmarks Foundation of IN date Sept. 7, 1988

street & number 3402 Boulevard Place telephone 317/926-2301

city or town Indianapolis state Indiana zip code 46208

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Manche, Maurice W., Farmstead

## Description

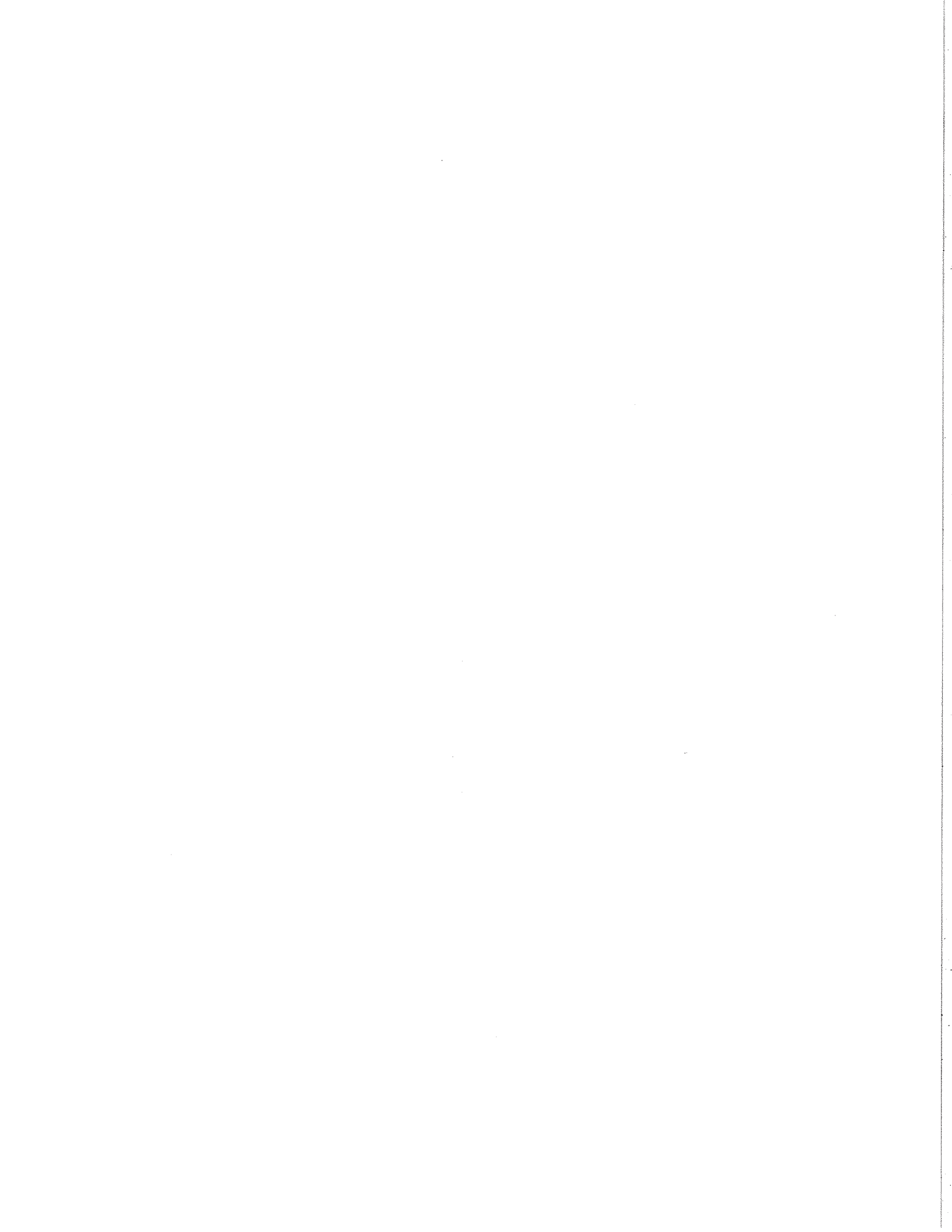
The buildings and surrounding 160 acres of farmland which comprise the Maurice W. Manche Farmstead are an exceptional and intact example of an early 20th century farm complex. The house, barn and outbuildings are centrally located at the western boundary of the nominated quarter section (160 acres) and face County Road 900 West. The land, which is generally flat but with a slight rise and fall, is in active agricultural production. Aerial photographs taken in 1940 and 1983 reveal that overall the cultivated area and general topographic features have been retained. (See attached aerial photographs.)

Boundaries of the quarter section are delineated by woven wire, reinforced concrete post fences. Woven wire on wood and steel posts immediately encompasses the complex of buildings. A U-shaped drive leads from County Road 900 West into the farmstead providing access to the house and outbuildings and to a lane which leads to the rear or east side of the building complex. The entire farm is 2,786 yards or one quarter mile square.

The contributing resources within the nominated property were all constructed for Maurice Manche around 1919. These are: two buildings including a house and a gambrel-roofed livestock barn; four structures including a corncrib and a steel windmill; a scale shed; and a fence surrounding the property which is made up of reinforced concrete posts. Several elements of the nominated property (although compatible elements of the complex) were constructed for later owners after the period of significance, and are ineligible for listing since they are less than fifty years old. These resources include: five buildings including two garages; a chicken house; a small three-portal barn; and a hog house. A metal silo is counted as a non-contributing structure. There are a number of small sheds on the property. These sheds were not included in the count. The farmstead itself is counted as a contributing site.

The house, built in 1919, is a large two-story Craftsman structure faced with brown brick, stucco and half-timbering. The irregular roofline of the side-gabled roof with lower projecting gables disguises the fact that the form of the house is basically rectangular. The dominant feature of the house is the long porte-cochere and porch which extend as one unit past the sides of the house and the roofline is interrupted by a projecting gable over the porch steps. (Photo #1)

The Manche house is an example of a large Craftsman-style country house, certainly considered a high-style interpretation for rural east central Indiana and a non-traditional architectural selection for a farmhouse. The overall composition of the facades displays a strong emphasis on horizontal lines. The horizontal elements include the low-pitch roof, shed dormer, grouped windows and long porch.





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A high, brick foundation contributes to the massiveness of the house. A soldier course forms the watertable which extends around the house. The majority of the house is covered with a brown brick veneer set in common bond. The gables are of stucco and half-timbering.

The front facade is two bays wide, each bay containing a triple window on the second story and the main entrance is situated in the left bay. The massive porch and porte-cochere is the dominant architectural element of the front facade and also plays an important role in the visual composition of the north and south facades. (photo #2) A very low-pitched gabled porch roof is supported by short elephantine wood columns on tall brick piers. Contrasting concrete caps the solid brick balustrade. Two flights of stairs provide access to the porch; one is from the porte-cochere, the other leads from the front of the house and is protected by a projecting gable flanked by paired columns. The main entrance is composed of a large beveled glass pane door with beveled sidelights. A large three-section front living room window also has beveled glass—a portion of which is leaded and in a diamond pattern.

The low-pitch gabled roof is covered with brick-red ceramic tiles. Under the wide overhanging eaves are knee braces and exposed rafters. The location of each knee brace along the fascia is marked by a square four-sided pyramidal decorative piece. This detail is also present in the interior. The house's only dormer is a low-profile shed-roof dormer on the front facade which lights the full attic space with small square panes. The other elements that punctuate the roof surface are two chimneys with corbeled tops. A slope chimney in the rear portion of the house serves the coal-fed furnace. A large chimney on the south exterior wall is for the fireplace in the living room and for one in the master bedroom directly above.

The north facade (photo #3) has double-hung and casement windows which face the U-shaped drive and the main large barn. As previously mentioned, the porte-cochere projects from this facade. Also on this side is a gabled bay containing first and second floor triple windows. Paired and single windows are also used throughout the exterior, with four vertical lights over one. At the rear of this elevation is the service porch, now enclosed, which provides easy access to the farm complex. The rear elevation (photo #4), which faces east, is simply detailed and bears one minor alteration: the replacement of the original bathroom window with glass block. The front porch extends to the south facade by wrapping around the corner and creating a short side porch. A side entrance to the living room is through beveled, ten-light French doors. Also extending out from the back portion of the facade is another small porch with a shed roof.

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The interior of the house exhibits high-style Craftsman characteristics. Dark oak woodwork, flooring and oak veneer cabinets and built-ins decorate the interior. Nine-foot ceilings, wide openings between rooms, large expanses of glass and the use of mirrors contribute to the overall openness and flow from room to room.

The front portion of the house, that which is included beneath the side-gabled roof, is approximately square in form. The room arrangement is such that the foyer is the northwest quarter of the house with the dining room directly behind it. The living room is the south half of the house. The rear, gable-roof extension of the house contains the service-oriented rooms: the kitchen, breakfast nook and rear staircase which is enclosed and has two tiers. Access to the rear extension is gained through doors in the living and dining rooms.

The impressive main entrance is situated in the northwest corner of the house. The walls of the large foyer are covered with wainscotting. The north wall has a built-in writing desk with beveled mirror above. Between the desk and the newel post is a ell-shaped bench. The three starting steps of the main staircase are aligned with the front door. These lead to a landing from which the two-tiered or dog-legged stairway continues (photo #11). Flanking the starting steps are two tall square posts, each topped by a stationary light. The back leg of the stairway is an open flight. The newel post is capped by the pyramidal motif which appears on the house's exterior. The balusters are square shafts and the wall along the stairs has wainscotting. Another built-in seat is located between the large post at the bottom of the stairs and the hall closet which is below the stair cavity.

The transition between foyer to living room is achieved by a colonnade with a bookcase on either side of the opening (photo #12). Two elephantine columns support the arched, wood-cased opening. The living room is a long rectangular space. The ceiling has paneled wood beams which run the width of the room. A simple cornice and baseboard trims the top and bottom of the wall. The focal point of the room is the central fireplace on the south wall (photo #13). The rectangular breast is wood-paneled, and the hearth and face are of glazed tile. The shelf is supported by two braces bearing the pyramidal shape. The overmantle, lit by two paired candle sconces, is also paneled and is topped by a cornice. Two original light fixtures hang at each end of the room; both are semi-indirect chain showers with four additional lights encircling the frosted glass bowl.

The living and dining rooms are separated by a pair of 10-light French doors with beveled glass panes. A door of leaded glass in a diamond pattern separates the dining room from the foyer. Again the ceiling is beamed but in this smaller room it is of a grid pattern with an open center. At the four



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intersections of the beams is a single light with a flame-shaped bulb. In the center of the ceiling is another original light fixture. It is a semi-indirect chain shower with four candles perched atop the bowl holder. On the west wall of the dining room is a large built-in buffet with china closet (photo #14). The buffet is comprised of china cabinets with leaded glass doors below which is a beveled mirror. The oak cabinets and drawers below the mirror all have knobs fashioned in the recurring pyramidal shape. A china cabinet with a leaded glass door is situated at the end of the buffet.

The kitchen is located behind the dining and living rooms (photo #15). Most of the original cabinets remain. The counter top is covered with oil cloth and the built in flour bin and doughboard are intact. The floor is covered with square linoleum tile. A breakfast nook is located in the southeast corner of the house where it receives morning sunlight entering through metal casement windows.

Four bedrooms, a bath and linen closet open onto a center hallway which runs from the front of the house to the rear. The ceiling height of the upstairs is eight feet and the floor is of a wider wood flooring than that of the first story. The master bedroom suite, located at the front of the house, is comprised of two rooms. The front room at the southwest corner of the house has a fireplace which is much smaller than the living room fireplace but uses the same combination of glazed-tile hearth and face, and its mantle and overmantle are of paneled oak. Above the mantle shelf is a beveled mirror lit by two pendant light fixtures. The lights hang from a higher and longer shelf which turns at the corner of the room and is incorporated into the high back of a built-in seat. A wide-cased opening separates the front room from the smaller portion of the master bedroom which has no door into the hallway. Across the hall is a dog-legged staircase leading to the full attic. At the other end of the house, the hall turns ninety degrees and leads to the head of the rear staircase.

The livestock barn is located north of the house. The barn has a large gambrel roof (photo #5). Two small gambrel-roof dormers centered over the main doors provide some light into the center of the barn. Asphalt shingles cover the expansive roof area. The exterior of the barn is sheathed with vertical wood siding. When the barn was constructed, the walls of the barn were assembled on the ground and then raised into place by teams of horses. The timbers were then quickly fastened by pegs. Three aisles run the width of the barn. The largest aisle is located in the center of the barn and has a concrete floor. At the western edge of the floor inside the huge doors is an inscription in the concrete which reads "M.W. Manche;" a date, now illegible, was also inscribed. It is believed that the barn was built just prior to the house.

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The house and gambrel-roof barn share prominent locations in the relationship between the building layout and the road. A horseshoe front drive with auxiliary lane to the rear provides an easy flow of farm machinery and vehicular traffic. On the south side of the horseshoe drive, set back off the road, the house sits atop a graded terrace. Behind the house and barn to the east are the smaller support buildings.

In the lot east of the large barn is a windmill, dating from the complex's construction, which, although currently not operating, is still intact and contributing to the farm's integrity. Just south is the wood-sided scale shed, built in 1925 (photo #6). A 20-ton Howe Scale is installed in the floor of the shed. The roof is a truncated gable-roof with deeply flared eaves. Two small windows above the main door illuminate the interior. A rear bay was added to the length of the shed by Edward Fenner, who bought the farm in 1943, to accommodate a school bus. The two non-contributing concrete block structures south of the scale shed—the work shed and chicken house—were built by Fenner in 1943. The hipped-roof workshop has the date 5-4-43 stamped into the door casing (photo #7). A bathroom was included in the northeast corner. Directly east is the two-story, shed-roof chicken house (photo #8), with two rows of multi-paned windows on its south-facing wall. The current owner uses it as a farrowing house.

A lane branches off from the main drive and leads eastward to the rear of the farm complex. Along this drive is a small non-contributing three-portal barn used as a shed for tool storage (photo #9). Its low-pitched gabled roof, now covered with asphalt shingles, at one time could have sheltered livestock, grain or machinery. It is sided with vertical wood boards and has four small multi-paned windows on each side.

The lane then makes a loop south of the three-portal barn past other outbuildings. Clockwise, the first two structures are a small garage used for storage and a hog feeding floor and shed—both are considered noncontributing. Next the lane leads to the entrance of the drive-through corn crib (photo #10). Two cribs are on each side of the center aisle and five bins are overhead. Vertical, widely-spaced narrow slats allow for adequate ventilation. Three cupolas atop the gabled-roof contribute to air circulation but also are a means to get grain into the upper storage bins. At the west end of the concrete foundation is the signature of Ruth Manche, the daughter of Maurice Manche, and the date 1917. Standing next to the south wall of the corn crib is a metal circular grain bin built in 1976. From here the lane completes the loop and returns to the horseshoe drive.

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The vegetation around the house and outbuildings has changed very little over the years. At the corner of the front porch is a large white pine tree. A lone walnut tree remains along the road in front of the large barn where once there were several in a row. The other trees on the farm are mature soft and hard maples. Beyond the house past a line of maples is evidence of a large garden. The sunken depression of its border is still visible and today a small portion of its original area is planted. Additions are limited to two small blue spruce trees on either side of the drive near the road, planted by the previous owners, and two evergreens on either side of the front steps.

Beyond the farmstead buildings, the 160 acre quarter section of land is occupied by tilled acreage. As stated above, the tilled field land, although now a single field, occupies the same area cultivated in 1940. In its present state, buildings and landscape of the Manche Farmstead maintain their historical relationship and they are clearly representative of the early twentieth century agricultural prosperity which shaped them.

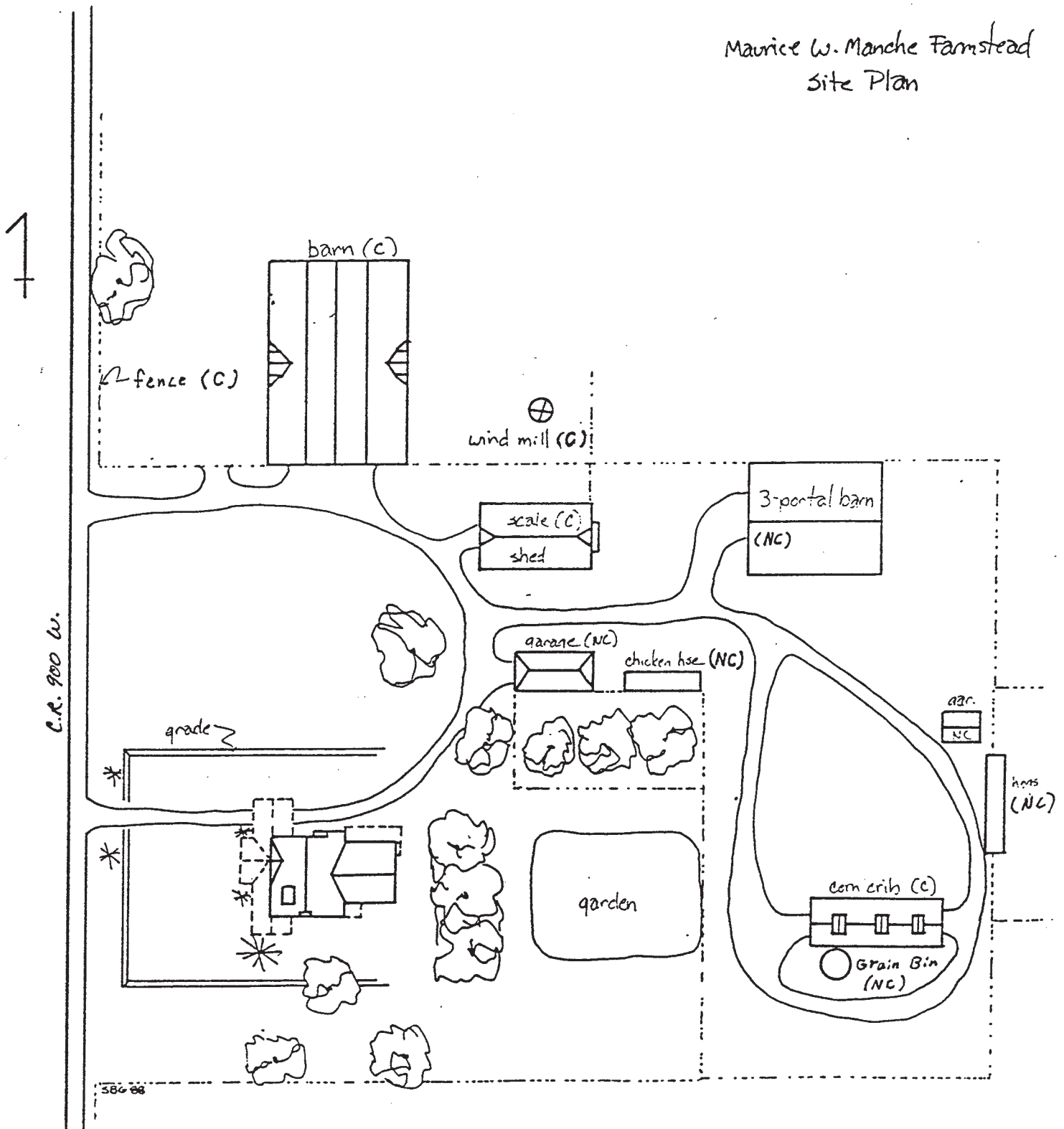
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Manche, Maurice W., Farmstead

Maurice W. Manche Farmstead  
Site Plan





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Significance

The Maurice W. Manche Farmstead is significant in the context of an agricultural farm complex built in the early 20th century in east central Indiana. It maintains the distinctive characteristics of an intact working farm, exhibiting a high standard of integrity, both agriculturally and architecturally, and is therefore eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The assemblage of buildings which comprise the farmstead was built soon after Maurice Manche bought the 160 acre farm in 1915. He constructed the gambrel-roof barn, scale shed, drive-through corncrib, windmill, fences, and house before he sold the farm with the 160 acres to his sister in 1937. In the early 1940s a small three-portal barn, large garage and chicken house were added to the outbuildings. Although just less than 50 years in age and consequently technically ineligible for registration, these buildings are structurally harmonious and actively used components of the farmstead. No other buildings have been constructed since that time.

In addition to the built resources, the continuous planting of the 160 acres, occupying the same quarter section since Manche purchased the land, is of equal importance to the overall significance and integrity of this twentieth century farmstead. Based on data in the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory of Rush and the east-central Indiana counties, the Manche Farmstead compares favorably with other farmsteads from all periods, and it is without peer in the context of early twentieth century complexes. Unlike most farmsteads, the Manche Farmstead has remained physically unaltered in spite of dramatic changes in agricultural technology and economy—forces which have usually resulted in the loss of ancillary agricultural buildings. The Manche Farmstead remains a working farm with all of its components well maintained.

Unstable political and economic forces in Europe during the early twentieth century caused a surge in the price of agricultural commodities in the United States. A rise in the standard of living for Americans was an immediate result. It was during this phase of the country's new role as a world power and leader in the production of agricultural goods that Maurice W. Manche built his house and farm in northern Rush County.

The 160-acre farm is located in the northwestern corner of Rush County, a county which was ranked in a 1930 United States Department of Agriculture report among the richest in the country.<sup>1</sup> The period between 1900 to 1920 witnessed general prosperity in farming. Crop prices rose as production increased, and the average farmer's standard of living made substantial gains. There was a tremendous demand for farm products during World War I and in 1915, the year Manche bought the farm, farmers produced the first billion bushel



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wheat crop in the U.S.<sup>2</sup> The Manche farm (which replaced an earlier farmstead on the same 160 acres) was considered at the time of its construction to be very modern. A biography of Manche written in 1921 remarked, "Here he has built one of the finest country homes in the township as well as one of the largest barns, and his other outbuildings are proportionate in value and attractiveness, while his improvements are of the most highly improved and modern character."<sup>3</sup>

The gambrel-roof barn was the first structure to be built. Its form is indicative of a scientifically designed structure, an advancement of the golden age of agriculture of the early twentieth century. The large cavity created by the gambrel roof provided additional interior space without increasing the overall dimensions of the barn. Also built in ample proportions was the drive-through corn crib. Dated 1917, the wood-slat structure was designed with overhead storage bins as well as cribs on both sides. Besides corn, Manche grew wheat, soybeans and clover for hay and raised some livestock.

It was just prior to the waning years of these good economic times that Maurice Manche built his Craftsman home. In 1919, after the war was over, prices for farm products were fair but then began to fall. During the years 1920 through 1925, there was little prosperity across the country's farms. In Rush County the combined value of farmland plummeted by over 50%. The depressed farm economy also slowed the eventual mechanization of farm labor. In 1920 the farmers of Rush County employed implements and agricultural methods more closely related to their grandfathers.<sup>4</sup> By the late '20s farm prices were beginning to rebound and more and more farmers were applying for credit. Unfortunately the renewed hope was lost with the stock market crash and subsequent general depression of the 1930s.

While farm technology was developing during this period, overriding economic forces stagnated any outwardly visible changes in the physical composition of this as well as most other farms. The Manche farm replaced an earlier farmstead at the same location on the 160 acres. The farm complex grew by the construction of a scale shed in 1925, but then remained essentially the same throughout its period of significance until the farm was bought in 1943. At that time additions to the farmstead included a garage, chicken house and a small three-portal barn. While just short of the 50-year age requirement (and thus ineligible for listing), the three structures are significant agricultural building types which play an important part in enhancing the visual and historic character of the farmstead. Furthermore, they are compatible with the earlier structures as they were built prior to the tremendous changes in agricultural technology and economy which occurred after World War II.

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Post World War II changes in agriculture have rendered obsolete an extraordinary number of historic farm buildings and has caused destruction of entire farmsteads through farm consolidation. The Manche Farmstead is a remarkable exception to this trend. In the span of forty-five years since the last change to the Manche farm was made, the only addition has been a small metal grain bin. Otherwise all the outbuildings are utilized and play a vital role in the operation of this owner-operated farm.

While relatively modern in the construction of the individual buildings, the placement of the outbuildings in relation to the house remained in the traditional configuration—to the rear and side of the farmhouse. The Manche farm follows this rule and is not a haphazard arrangement of buildings. A plan of the complex reveals a placement of structures that is well thought out in relation to their function and importance. The Manche house faces west, the gambrel-roof barn is several hundred feet directly north and the garden is behind the house. The smaller outbuildings are behind, or east of, the barn and house. All buildings are accessible from a U-shaped drive with an auxiliary lane at its apex. The farm complex is located on the east side of County Road 900 West, very near the midpoint of the western border of the property. This location had been the site of an earlier farm complex as documented by the 1879 Rush County Plat Map.

In 1902 two parcels of land were purchased by Daniel Winslow and combined into one farm which forms the nominated quarter section. The 160 acres would have been divided so as to be easily reached by man and horse. In Rush County horses and mules were the main source of power on farms well into the early 1930s. With the location of the old farm complex on the west border of the property, it would be most efficient to align the rectangular fields perpendicular to the road and thus accessible from it. The earliest view available of the farm is from 1940, an aerial photo from the National Archives and Records Administration. It shows four rectangular fields of equal width. The fourth field is ell-shaped. Well established paths lead from the outbuildings to the individual fields. Upon examining the 1983 aerial photo obtained from the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the field patterns had remained virtually the same. The only visible changes are the two small lots north and south of the complex. The lot north of the barn was most likely used for livestock and now is tilled, whereas the lot south of the house which had been tilled is used for pigs.

Today, the overall boundaries of the quarter section of the farm remain the same, with the original field patterns still evidenced by the position of gates in the surrounding fence rows. The cultivated area is still serviced by the original complex of farm structures an increasingly rare relationship in the face of radically altered farming techniques.

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Manche, Maurice W., Farmstead

Beyond its significance as an outstanding historical farmstead, the Manche Farmstead is architecturally significant for its splendid high-style Craftsman house. From the smallest detail to the overall plan, great attention was paid to the execution of its design. The house represents both the prosperity of its era and many of the architectural ideals of the American Arts and Crafts movement.

Maurice Manche was the son of John Manche, a very wealthy and progressive farmer from nearby Hancock County. With the backing of his father, Maurice also went into farming. When Maurice was 38 years old he bought this farm from his father who had owned it for three years. The young farmer selected a style which, although relatively uncommon in rural areas, was well suited to early twentieth century farm life. The architectural selection differed from the traditional vernacular farmhouses most often chosen for farms.

This house reflects important aspects of the Craftsman style: comfort, convenience, hygiene and the interrelationship of room spaces to create a flow of space. Also, a development of the Craftsman style seen in the Manche house was the evolution of the front veranda into a continuous front porch and port-cochere to accommodate use of the automobile.

The plan of the farmstead was also of high caliber and, as stated previously, the locations of buildings were determined by importance, function and accessibility to road and drive. Also of interest is the landscaping around the house. Prior to the construction of the house, the ground was graded to form a slightly raised terrace or platform which the house was built on. The visible grade around the house provides a distinct space above and separate from the rest of the farmstead. It also plays a compositional factor that gives the house more height, thereby accentuating its form which has strong horizontal lines. Groupings of soft and hard maples planted to the south and rear of the house all contribute to the landscaping.

The significance of the Manche farmstead and its 160 acres of land is magnified when compared with other farms from the early twentieth century. Upon review of the recently completed Rush County Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory it is evident that the Manche Farmstead has no peer in Rush County in the combined areas of agriculture, architecture, planning, integrity of buildings and agricultural land. Using the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Interim Reports as a source, these factors were used as a guideline to evaluate other farms from the east-central section of the state. The only other early 20th century farmstead rated outstanding in the Rush County survey



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is the John Anderson Farmstead located in the southern part of the county in Anderson Township. The house, built circa 1915, represents a vernacular house type with no dominant style characteristics or embellishments. The outbuildings of the farm are removed from the house and are reached by a separate drive. Additionally, the farm's agricultural land at the time of construction of the house has been divided and sold.

From an investigation of the published surveys of Fayette, Franklin and Wayne Counties, it was ascertained that there were no outstanding-rated farmsteads dating from the first two decades of the twentieth century; however, a few were rated notable. Those farms rated outstanding are from the nineteenth century, not surprising because of the counties' easterly location and early settlement. Historic Sites and Structures Inventories of Hancock and Madison counties list several more twentieth century farms than the aforementioned survey reports. In southern Hancock County in Sugar Creek Township, due west of the Manche Farmstead, the Hawks Farm is rated notable. The architect of the house, built in 1912, was G.W. Gordon and the builder was John Ashcraft. The two-story Craftsman house also has a side-gabled roof with half-timbering in the gable ends. The farm complex is no longer active and high grass surrounds the buildings. Four barns are maintained but not used. While the house is very similar in style and period of construction, it is not the high-style interpretation that the Manche house is, nor does the farm complex exhibit the integrity of the Manche Farmstead.

The Maurice W. Manche Farmstead was built as a modern farm complex which experienced a few additions in the 1940s but little since. Early 20th century agricultural advances in technology influenced the built characteristics of the Manche farm while past and current historical forces have had little negative impact on it since. The components which make up the farm (house, outbuildings, acreage, and landscape) remain much as they did when the farmstead was developed, an increasingly rare quality in agricultural areas.

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NOTES

- <sup>1</sup> C.S. Simmons, Soil Survey of Rush County, Indiana (U. S. Department of Agriculture, Series 1930, No. 44) pp. 3,6,8.
- <sup>2</sup> Wayne D. Rasmussen, ed., Readings in the History of American Agriculture, (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1960) p. 325.
- <sup>3</sup> A. L. Gray and E. B. Thomas, Centennial History of Rush County, 2nd ed., vol. 2, (Indianapolis: Historical Publishing Co., 1921) pp. 342-3.
- <sup>4</sup> Rush County Historical Society, A. Rush County Retrospect, 1980s-1920s, vol. 1, 1984.



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Continuation Sheet

Section number Photo Page 1 Manche, Maurice W., Farmstead

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- 1) Maurice W. Manche Farmstead\*
- 2) Carthage, Indiana\*
- 3) Susan Becher Gilliam\*
- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana (HLFI)
- 6) northeast
- 7) #1

\*Information is the same for all photos.

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLFI
- 6) southeast
- 7) #2

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLFI
- 6) south
- 7) #3

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLFI
- 6) northeast
- 7) #4

- 4) September 30, 1987
- 5) Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA)
- 6) northeast
- 7) #5

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLFI
- 6) northeast
- &0 #6

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLFI
- 6) southeast
- 7) #7

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Continuation Sheet

Section number Photo Page 2 Manche, Maurice W., Farmstead

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- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLF1
- 6) northwest
- 7) #8

- 4) September 30, 1987
- 5) DHPA
- 6) east
- 7) #9

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLF1
- 6) south
- 7) #10

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLF1
- 6) east
- 7) #11

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLF1
- 6) southeast
- 7) #12

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLF1
- 6) south
- 7) #13

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLF1
- 6) northwest
- 7) #14

- 4) March 30, 1988
- 5) HLF1
- 6) northeast
- 7) #15

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

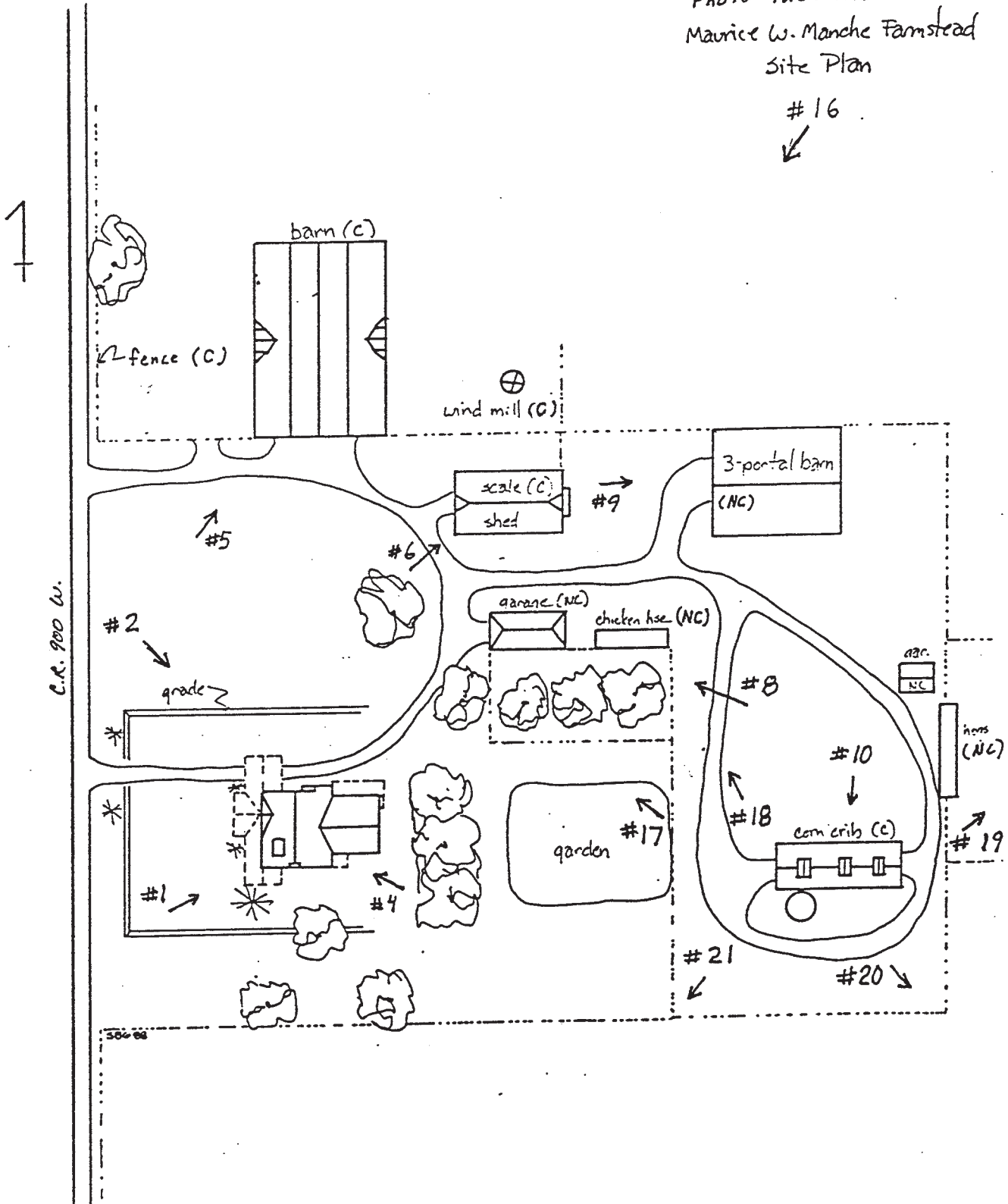
National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number Photo Page 3

Manche, Maurice W., Farmstead

Photo Identification  
Maurice W. Manche Farmstead  
Site Plan

#16  
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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number Photo Page 3 Manche, Maurice W., Farmstead

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- 4. April 17, 1989
- 5. Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana (HLFI)
- 6. Southwest
- 7. #16

- 4. April 17, 1989
- 5. HLFI
- 6. Northwest
- 7. #17

- 4. April 17, 1989
- 5. HLFI
- 6. Northwest
- 7. #18

- 4. April 17, 1989
- 5. HLFI
- 6. Northeast
- 7. #19

- 4. April 17, 1989
- 5. HLFI
- 6. Southeast
- 7. #20

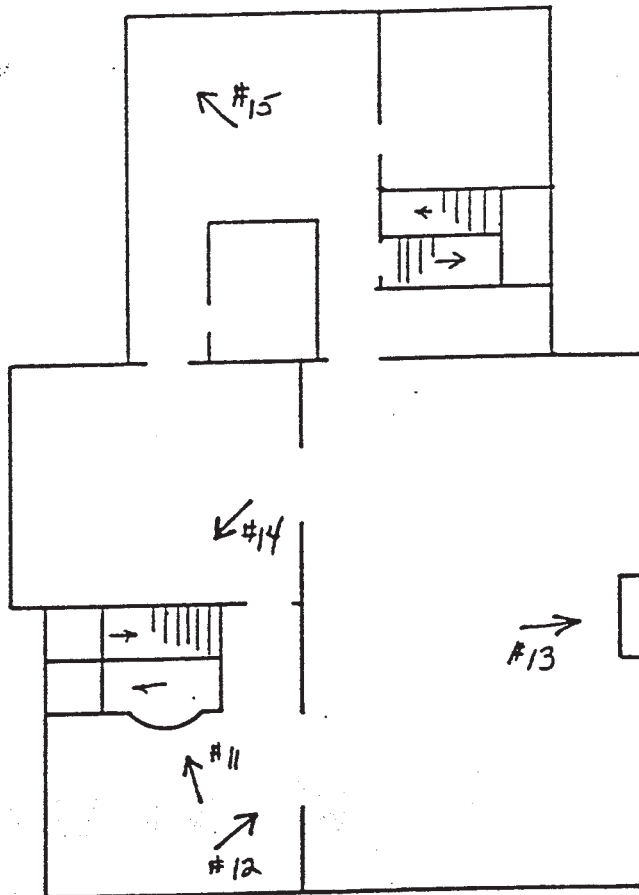
- 4. April 17, 1989
- 5. HLFI
- 6. Southwest
- 7. #21

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photo Page 4 Manche, Maurice W., Farmstead

Maurice W. Manche Farmstead  
First Floor Plan w/ Photo  
Identification





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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

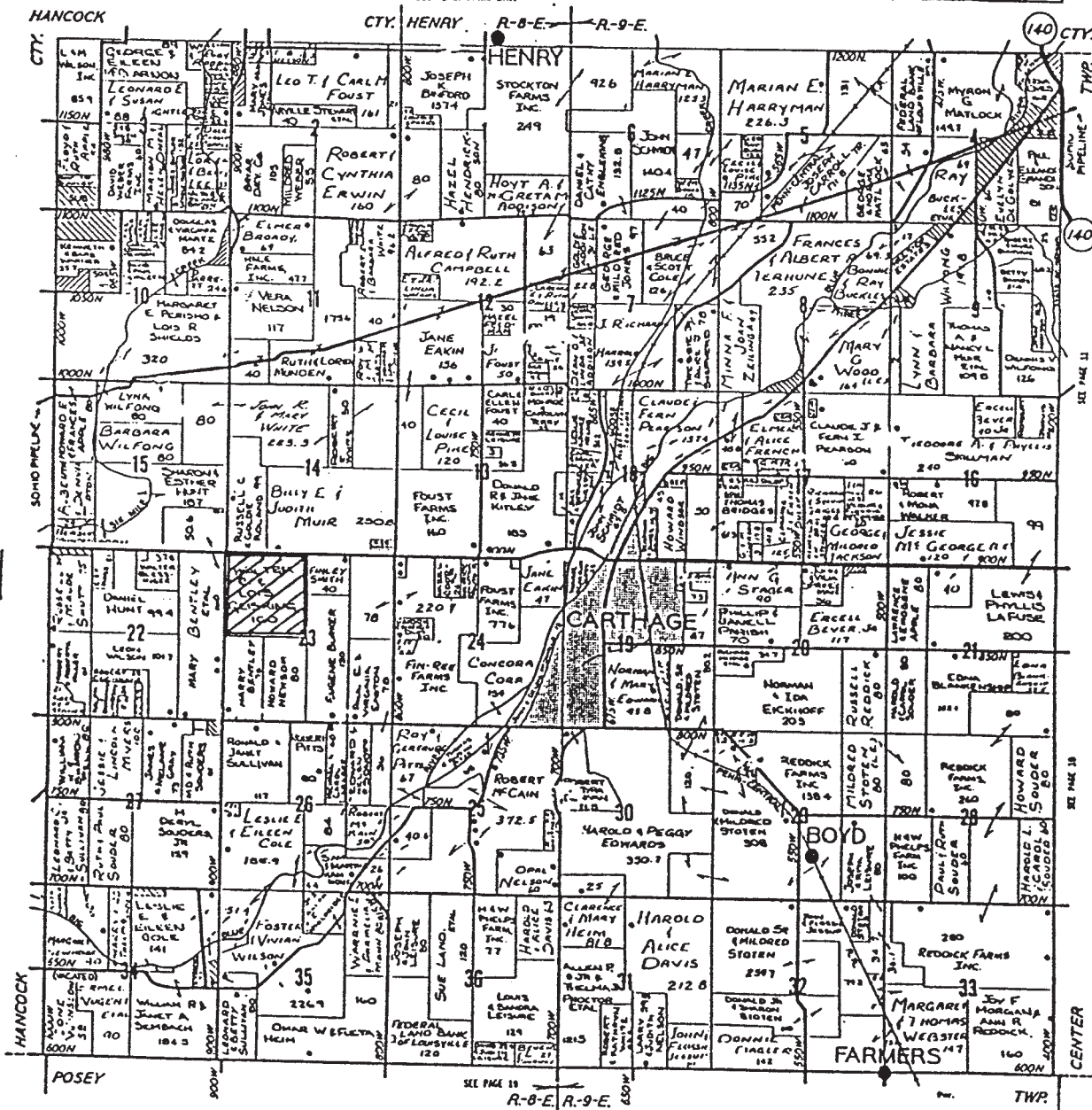
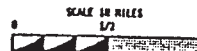
Section number 10 Page 1 Manche, Maurice W., Farmstead

TOWNSHIP 15-N. RANGE 8&9-E.

- LEGEND
- FEDERAL, STATE or INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS
  - COUNTY or TOWNSHIP ROADS
  - RAILROADS
  - CANALS
  - LEVEES
  - CEMETERY
  - INCORPORATED CITY, VILLAGE or BUROUGH
  - SMALL TRACTS
  - SUBDIVISIONS
  - DWELLING or FARM UNIT



RIPLEY

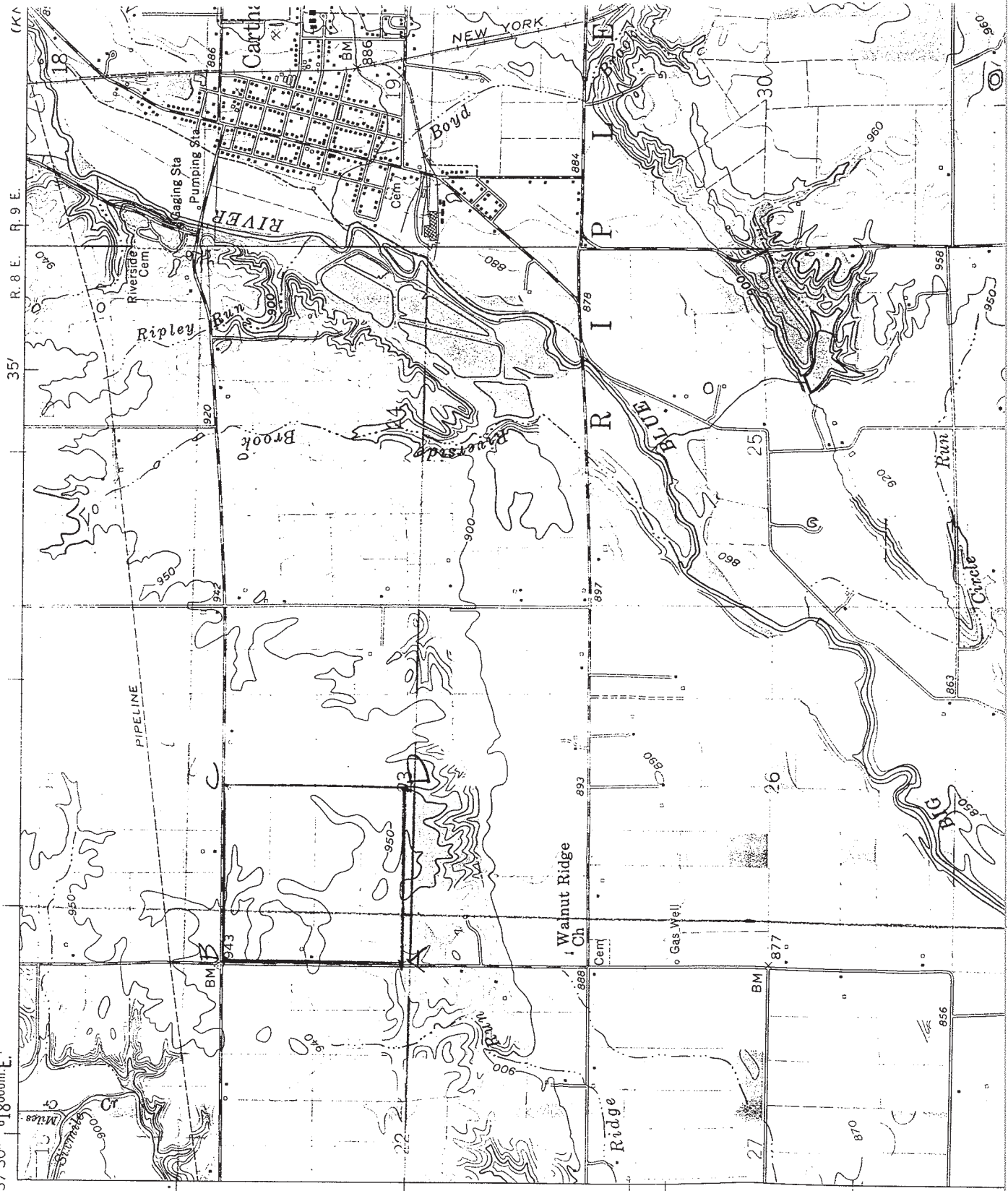


(CLEVELAND)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE  
INDIANA DEPART  
INDIAN/

85°37'30" 618000m.E.  
39°45'



440000m.N.

MAUSDE V4. HANCIE  
FANKI STEAL  
CARTIAGE (LUMPS)  
IN  
A=16 618710 4377400  
B=16 618760 4397740  
C=16 618810 4397920  
D=16 618860 4377400

