

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

FINAL

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Old Greencastle Historic District

other names/site number None

### 2. Location

street & number Generally bounded by West Liberty Street on the north, Market Street on the east, West Poplar Street on the south, and the railroad right-of-way west of North Gillespie Street.

N/A

not for publication

city or town Greencastle

N/A

vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Putnam code 133 zip code 46135

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this    nomination  X  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  X  meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

James A. [Signature], Deputy SHPO 4/28/2011  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Indiana DNR – Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register  
 other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only one box.)

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

- private  
 public - Local  
 public - State  
 public - Federal

- building(s)  
 district  
 site  
 structure  
 object

| Contributing | Noncontributing |              |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 79           | 18              | buildings    |
| 0            | 0               | district     |
| 0            | 0               | site         |
| 0            | 0               | structure    |
| 0            | 0               | object       |
| 79           | 18              | <b>Total</b> |

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

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

None

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling  
 : multiple dwelling

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

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### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC: Federal

MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY: Greek Revival

LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

: Stick/Eastlake

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Prairie

: Bungalow/Craftsman

#### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE: Limestone and BRICK

walls: WOOD: Weatherboard  
: Brick

roof: ASPHALT

other: SYNTHETICS: Vinyl

WOOD: Shingle :

#### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

Located west of the downtown business district of Greencastle, Putnam County, Indiana, the Old Greencastle Historic District is characterized by its grid-type arrangement of streets typical of towns throughout the state. Platted in 1826, the district is a portion of the original plat, approximately 40 percent of the original 214 lots, of the Greencastle settlement. The oldest house in the district is likely the Davidson House on Columbia Street that is credited with having an original settlement-period log structure (circa 1826) under the current exterior wall covering of clapboard siding. Other houses from the settlement period have been replaced by a variety of homes that demonstrate architectural style change from the Federal period to the end of the period of significance, 1961. These examples include Civil War-era Greek Revival homes; Victorian mainstays such as Italianate and Queen Anne homes; the middle-class vernacular homes of the turn-of-the-century (1900); a few early-twentieth-century bungalows from the 1920s and 1930s, and a few more modern homes outside the period of significance. The district has 79 contributing and 18 non-contributing resources.

#### Narrative Description

The district is roughly bounded by West Liberty Street on the north, Jackson Street on the east, West Poplar Street on the south and the railroad right-of-way west of North Gillespie Street.

The portion of the original plat of Greencastle encompassed within the historic district is roughly rectangular in shape and the area is four blocks wide and blocks long. The long axis is oriented north-south and the topography is generally flat with a slight reduction in elevation from the east boundary westward to the railroad right-of-way. The resources in the district include homes from the earliest years of the settlement to present-day. Most of the homes have experienced some changes over time but unless the cumulative changes significantly impinge on the original architectural integrity; they were accepted as contributing to the district. Non-contributing resources were either those that had been sorely treated or a few that did not qualify to age.

Demographically the district has not changed much in the types of folks living within its boundaries. Never a neighborhood of the most affluent members of the community, the homes constructed in the district housed families of the working class with a few exceptions. According to the earliest census enumerations, heads-of-household generally listed their occupations as clerks, laborers (skilled and unskilled), and artisans. Later enumerations in 1880 and the early 1900s did not vary to any large degree in the level of economical/social status of heads-of-households only in the breadth of the occupations noted. The district is historically residential and remained the home for many of Greencastle's artisans, laborers, railroad workers, a Daguerreotypist, and a smattering of professionals such as medical doctors, a dentist, and here and there, lawyers. Every so often a county official such as the auditor or a professor from DePauw would take up residence in the district. After the railroads entered the scene the district also became the home for various railroad management folks, engineers, and conductors.

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The district contains two of the earliest examples of architecture associated with residences from the first decade of the community's existence, the Davidson House on West Columbia Street and the Gillespie-Lynch House on North Gillespie Street. Additionally, the district includes examples of other architectural styles from the nineteenth and early-twentieth century that demonstrate the evolution of various aspects of residential development, including size, shape, materials, and the impact of trends in the determination of style choices.

### **Streetscape – West Liberty Street**

1) 304 West Liberty Street  
1928 Bungalow

Non-contributing – Photo #1

The façade of this one-story home contains a shallow gable-front porch offset to the right of centerline, a paired double-hung window unit to the left of the entry door under the porch roof. The foundation of the porch and the house is constructed of rusticated concrete block. The gabled roof of the porch is supported by four wooden turned posts connected by a balustrade with a simple top tailing and balusters; the posts and balustrade are modern replacements for the original items. A semi-circular light is positioned in the peak of the porch's gable. The exterior walls are sheathed in vinyl siding. The double-hung window units are modern replacements. The front door is also a modern replacement for the original. A shallow square bay extends out from the vertical plane of the east elevation; the bay window units are replacements. The moderately-sloped roof is covered with composition shingle and a low brick chimney rises above the roof surface at the rear of the building.

2) 308 West Liberty Street  
1885 Italianate

Contributing – Photo #1

Elaborately painted to highlight certain architectural details, the façade of this one-story home includes a small porch, two entry doors, and window units. The front porch, located in the angle of the "L" formed by the gable front and wing, has a concrete slab deck and the low-pitched shed roof is supported by four wooden columns with chamfered corners, square bases, and non-standard capitals. Extending up from the capitals to the frieze board that defines the lower edge of the frieze are scroll brackets painted in contrasting colors (maroon on white) to accentuate their detail; pendants in the same contrasting colors extend downward from the frieze at mid-points between the columns. The frieze is painted in contrasting colors to accentuate the scrollwork detail in its panels. The exterior walls are covered with wooden clapboards and the cornerboards of the house are accentuated with the same contrasting paint colors previously identified with the porch. The roof-wall junction and the eaves are emphasized by picket-board frieze (ala Eastlake) and contrastingly-painted small brackets. Window and door surrounds are painted in contrasting colors and are topped with gabled crowns with incised scroll work details. The window units are double-hung and glazed one-over-one. The two entry doors and their transoms are original; the doors have single lights in the upper half and a panel in the lower half. The hipped roof is sheathed with composition shingles. A short stucco-covered chimney rises above the roof surface at the left rear of the residence. For some unknown reason the residents of this small house never remained long in the home. In a relatively short period of 40 years, at least five different families called this address their domicile; this is unusual because many of the homes in the district provided shelter for the same family or generations of family members.

3) 310 West Liberty Street  
c. 1880 Queen Anne

Contributing – Photo #1

Detailed in the Eastlake tradition, this simple one-story, front gable and wing house demonstrates the effective use of Eastlake's ornamentation in heightening the visual appeal of an otherwise common house. Included in the overall decorative scheme are turned posts, spindlework, bargeboards, pediments, large brackets, and ornamental moldings. The exterior walls are clapboard-clad and supported on a limestone block foundation. The front gable, painted blue with white trim, includes paired, double-hung window units; the surround has flat sides and a segmented crown decorated with contrasting scroll detail. Immediately above the window unit is a course of picket-board frieze extending across the full width of the gable that creates the visual image of the lower edge of a pediment. The peak of the gable is emphasized by elaborately-designed scrollwork cross-bracing. A small porch is located in the angle of the "L" formed by the gable and wing. The flat roof of the porch is supported by five turned posts connected by a replacement balustrade with top railing and balusters. Massive ornamental brackets extend upward from each post to a frieze painted in contrasting colors that emphasize the scrollwork detailing on its panels. Window units are original, double-hung, and glazed two-over-two. The

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two entry doors and their transoms are original. The doors are replacements for the original items on the house. The roof is sheathed in composition shingles.

**Streetscape – West Franklin Street**

4) 203 West Franklin Street  
c. 1920 Bungalow

Contributing – Photo #2

The façade of this one-and one-half-story home is dominated by a large front porch with a hip-on gable roof supported by two metal posts. The foundation for the porch and the rest of the house is rusticated concrete block painted a bright green color. The thin concrete deck of the front porch is reached by plain concrete steps. The gable end of the porch and the rest of the house is sheathed in vinyl siding. The window units are double-hung and glazed one-over-one. The entry door is modern and metal in construction. A pair of double-hung window units in the half story, positioned above the porch roof, provides illumination to the upstairs. The roofline of the house is hip-on-gable and the surface is composition shingle.

5) 205 West Franklin Street  
1941 Tudor Revival

Non-contributing – Photo #2

This house has received many additions and modifications that detract from its original architectural style so that it no longer contributes to the fabric of the district. The changes include vinyl siding, a non-descript closed porch, fenestration changes, window unit replacements, and a large addition to the rear of the house.

6) 209 West Franklin Street  
c. 1950 Ranch

Contributing – Photo #2

The only example of the architectural style in the district, this small house demonstrates the bare minimum of the character-defining features of the Ranch-style home. A small engaged front porch extends across approximately two-thirds of the façade. The porch roof is supported by two turned wooden posts. The exterior walls are constructed of brick veneer. With the exception of a large picture window in the left half of the front elevation, the window units are double-hung and glazed throughout the house. The picture window has a single-glazed central light and smaller lights on each side. The metal entry door has diamond-shaped lights in the upper half and a panel in the lower half. The side-gabled roof is sheathed in composition shingle.

7) 211 West Franklin Street  
c. 1920 Craftsman

Contributing – Photo #2

A full-width front porch dominates the façade of this one-and one-half-story bungalow home. The foundation for the porch and the house is rusticated concrete block. The hipped roof of the porch is supported by three square brick columns interconnected with a stone-capped and pierced brick balustrade; a low brick wing wall on the right side of the porch denotes a short flight of stairs. The exterior walls are vinyl clad. The double-hung window units in the first story are original with three-over-one glazing. The window units in the dormers are modern replacements for the original. The two entry doors have multiple lights with a wooden frame of rails, stiles, and muntins. The hipped roof has four large dormers, one on each slope of the moderately-pitched roof. The roof surface is sheathed in composition shingle.

8) 404 West Franklin Street  
1880 Indeterminate

Non-contributing – Photo #3

The original visual image, architectural style, and footprint of this residence have been so compromised over time that it no longer contributes to the fabric of this district.

**Streetscape – West Washington Street**

9) 307 West Washington Street  
c. 1865 Greek Revival/I-house

Contributing – Photo #4

Although badly in need of a paint job and some carpentry, this two-story example of the Greek Revival architectural style retains a significant level of integrity and demonstrates many of the style's character-defining features such as a cornice line emphasized with a wide band of trim, a full-width porch supported by prominent round columns, and a low-pitched gabled roof. In this example, the Doric capitals of the four round columns supporting the hipped roof of

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the porch support a plain frieze with no ornamentation. A simple set of concrete steps lead to the wooden porch deck. The exterior walls are clapboard clad. The three-bay façade includes the front porch, double-hung window units and a wooden door with a single-glazed light in the upper half and wooden panels in the lower half. The gable-end walls have two ranks of double-hung window units and a ventilation opening for the attic in the peak of the gable. The roof is covered with composition shingle. A tall brick chimney rises above the northeast corner of roof.

In 1920, local doctor Eugene Hankins and his wife Jessie lived in the house with his mother-in-law.

10) 309 West Washington Street  
c. 1925 Colonial Revival

Contributing – Photo #5

This two-story example of the style has a typical façade consisting of a flat roof front porch, window units, and an entry door. The flat roof of the front porch rests on clusters of three square wooden columns at each front corner of the concrete deck; a simple set of concrete steps provide access to the porch. Vinyl-clad exterior walls rest on a concrete block foundation. The window units throughout are double-hung with six-over-one glazing. The wooden entry door has divided lights in the upper half. The faux gambrel roof is sheathed in composition shingles. A large square brick chimney rises above the ridgeline of the roof.

11) 402 West Washington Street  
1900 Gable Front

Contributing – Photo #6

One-story and clad with vinyl siding, this early example of the style has an unusual three-sided bay in the right half of its façade that harkens back to the Italianate architectural style of the late nineteenth century. The left half of the façade contains a small concrete-deck porch with a hipped roof supported by two metal posts at its forward edge. The window units are double-hung with one-over-one glazing. The front-gable end has a single window unit positioned immediately above the front porch roof. The roof is sheathed with composition shingles.

12) 406 West Washington Street  
c. 1900 L-Plan

Contributing – Photo #6

Devoid of any appreciable character-defining features, this simple one-story house demonstrates the typical form of a National Folk home from the turn-of-the-century expected in this worker/laborer neighborhood that defines the demographic history of this district. An enclosed porch, the enclosure not original, is situated in the angle formed by the gable-front and wing configuration of the house. The exterior walls are vinyl-clad and the soffits are enclosed with metal sections. All of the window units are double-hung and glazed one-over-one; the window unit in the gable end is paired, all others are single sash. A small fixed sash light is positioned in the peak of the gable. An octagonal-shaped attic vent is installed in the gable end of the wing. A large addition extends outward from the south elevation.

13) 410-12 West Washington Street  
1923 Craftsman

Contributing – Photo #6

The only double residence of this style in the district, this façade of this two-story home is unusual with its twin sets of steps that lead up to separate halves of the engaged front porch. Entry to the interior of the buildings is through doors positioned right and left of the mid-line of the elevation. The cover of the porch is supported by four large square wooden columns interconnected by a plain wooden balustrade. The clapboard-clad exterior walls rise up from a rusticated concrete block foundation for the main block and the porch. The double-hung window units throughout the house are modern and glazed one-over-one. The front and rear, north and south, dormers have three-sash, ribbon window units to maximize the light in the upstairs space. The entry doors are modern replacements with one small rectangular light in the upper half of the length of the door. The hipped roof has four large dormers, one on each slope, to accommodate the use of the upstairs for living space. A short brick chimney rises above the ridgeline of the roof.

14) 501 West Washington Street  
1830 Federal/I-House

Contributing – Photo #6

One of the oldest homes in the district, this two-story brick home has been in use since its original construction sometimes by a single family and at times as apartments. The façade has a full-width front porch, windows in both stories and an entry door in the first story. The concrete porch deck has a rusticated concrete block foundation. The porch's shed roof is supported by six turned wooden posts evenly distributed across the width of the porch. Decorative brackets, a small

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gable on the front edge of the roof, and a spindlework frieze, circa 1890, accentuate the simplicity of the rest of the structure. Windows are double-hung and glazed two-over-two. The front door is wooden with a single-glazed light in the upper half. A separate entrance to the interior is located in the south elevation. The small gabled porch roof that protects the entrance has the same type of supports posts, spindlework, and decorative brackets as the front porch. Two fixed-sash lights are located in the peak of the both gable ends of the building. A large addition extends outward from the west elevation; materials and construction techniques indicate that it probably dates from the 1860s or 1870s. Large brick chimneys rise above the ridgeline of the roof at both ends of the building.

This house has a special place in the history of the district and Greencastle. Although there are a number of different dates attributed to its construction there is general agreement that 1830 seems to be reasonable. The Gillespie Family operated a tannery in the earliest years of the Greencastle settlement. Katherine Gillespie, the matron of the family, lived in the house with her four children; she was a widow who moved to Greencastle to live near her brother, William Peck, after her husband James died in Ohio a few years earlier (late 1820s). Her sons, Thomas and James, took up their father's trade to the west of the house until the early 1850s. One of her daughters married a local doctor, John M. Lynch. They lived in the house for years and many locals refer to it as the Gillespie-Lynch House. Successive generations of Lynches lived in the house until the 1930s when it became the property of Frank Roberts. The present owners, the Bruner Family, have restored some of the house to its 1800s look.

### Streetscape – West Walnut Street

15) 103 West Walnut Street  
c. 1885 Queen Anne/L-Plan

Contributing – Photo #7

In spite of several obvious changes made to the building over time, the basic structure retains significant integrity. The façade is a mixture of obvious Queen Anne architectural character with some more recent modifications. The main block of the house has a limestone foundation while the foundation of the front porch is rusticated concrete block. The shed roof of the newer front porch rests on four round columns with Ionic capitals. The deck of porch is a concrete slab. Exterior walls are red brick. The right bay of the façade contains a typical Queen Anne three-sided cutaway bay with scroll brackets at the roof-wall junction and chisel pattern shingle in the peak of the front gable end. The window surround in this gable end has straight sides with a pedimented crown in the Italianate style. The double-hung window units in the first floor are glazed one-over-one. The paired windows in the shed roof dormer above the porch are fixed sash with four lights units in the in each sash. The roof is sheathed with composition shingle.

16) 111 West Walnut Street  
1887 Italianate/Queen Anne

Contributing – Photo #7

This one-and one-half-story home is one of the most architecturally detailed in the district. The façade contains a three-sided, cutaway bay as the gable front in the left bay and a wing with a front porch and entry in the right. Clapboard-clad exterior walls of the gable front rest on a limestone foundation. Each facet of the cutaway bay contains a window with a decorative surround consisting of a wooden sill, reeding detail on the sides, and a gabled crown. Scrolled brackets accentuate the cutaway overhang at the base of the gable peak. A band course of pointed-butt picket boards extends across the gable at cornice level separates the lower portion of the bay from the gable peak. A single window unit is centered in the peak of the gable. The window units in the left bay are double-hung with one-over-one glazing; each upper sash has border of colored art glass panes. The right bay of the façade is dominated by a wrap porch whose hipped roof is supported by six turned posts interconnected by a spindlework frieze. A band course similar to that already described, with small decorative brackets included, emphasizes the roof-wall junction. The moderately pitched roof contains numerous non-original shed-roof dormers that do not add to the architectural significance of the building. The entry door off the front porch has a single-glazed light in the upper half and wooden panels in the lower half. The roof is protected by composition shingles.

17) 306 West Walnut Street  
c. 1860 Greek Revival

Contributing – Photo #8

The façade of this two-story clapboard-clad house has three bays; the right and center bays are identical and the left bay contains the front porch and entry. Two narrow wooden posts, with chamfered edges, support flat roof of the front porch. A low wooden balustrade delineates the perimeter of the concrete deck of the small porch. Window units in the right and center bays, both stories, and the other units throughout the house are double-hung and glazed four-over-four. The entry door surround is paneled on the sides with an elongated-oval-shaped light in the transom. The entry door has a

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large square single glazed light in the upper half and wooden panels in the lower half. A non-original three-sided bay extends outward from the east elevation. The architectural details of the bay are Italianate in nature with brackets cornice and dentil detailing in the roof-wall junction. A wide frieze board extends around the entire house directly below the shallow eaves of the pyramidal roof.

18) 312 West Walnut Street  
1880 Italianate/T-Plan

Contributing – Photo #8

Painted a bright yellow color with blue accentuating a number of architectural details, this small one-story cottage is in excellent condition and possesses a high degree of integrity. The concrete deck of the small front porch in the angle of the house is an obvious change but the flat roof and the three wooden turned posts supporting it are likely components of a period porch. The exterior walls are clapboard-clad. The corner boards are decorative with reeding, simulated capitals, and painted a contrasting white color. A band course of sawtooth detail, suggestive of Eastlake influence, accentuates the roof-wall junction. Window surrounds consists of blue-painted sides with a single reed and a pedimented crown with incised scroll work; the reed and scrolls are painted contrasting yellow. The window units are double-hung with one-over-one glazing. The door is protected by a storm door with divided lights. The entry door also has a wooden frame with divided lights. The hipped roof is sheathed with composition shingles.

**Streetscape – West Poplar Street .**

19) 105 West Poplar Street  
1913 Bungalow

Contributing – Photo #9

Blue in color with white trim, this one-and one-half-story example of the style retains a high level of architectural integrity. The façade has two defining features, a full-width front porch and a massive gabled dormer on the front slope of the steeply-pitched roof. The roof of the engaged porch is supported at the right and left front corners with broad brick columns interconnected with a low brick balustrade capped with stone. The exterior walls are clapboard clad. The double-hung window units are glazed six-over-one; the muntins are arranged in an unusual pattern with the horizontal muntin dividing the vertical lights at the upper one-quarter of their length. A three-sash window unit with a large single light in the center and flanked by smaller sashes is installed to the left of the entry door. The door has a wooden frame with divided lights through its entire length. The front roof dormer has three prominent window units, a paired double-hung unit in the center flanked by single double-hung units. The window trim is painted white. The eaves of the dormer roof are supported by three cantilevered brackets painted contrasting white. The same bracket detail appears throughout the house as support for the deep eaves of the main roof. The roof has a composition shingle covering.

20) 107 West Poplar Street  
1858 Italianate

Contributing – Photo #9

The façade of this one-and one-half-story brick house demonstrates some of the characteristics of two periods of architectural interests. The front porch is obvious in its Victorian details and ornamentation. Specifically, the turned posts supporting the porch roof (shed with a low gable over the steps leading to the deck) and the spindlework frieze and brackets easily date the porch to the 1890s. The common bond pattern of the exterior brick walls, the length of the double-hung window units, and the general position of the fenestration elements, clearly date the basic house to the Italianate period of the 1860s. The windows are glazed four-over-four. The entry door surround has divided sidelights and a divided-light transom. The door is paneled with no lights. The moderately-pitched roof is covered with composition shingles.

The house has been owned by many families over the years. The earliest on record is the Hammond Family who lived in the house from 1861 until 1875 when the Southard Family, Theodore and Frances with children, purchased the home. For a number of years in the 1880s the house sheltered the Lee Family in the person of Leticia and Thomas; she occupied the house until his death in 1888. Leticia married Marion Hurst, a local farmer, in 1892 and lived in the house with him until her death in 1927. The house passed on to the Hays Family upon Leticia's death.

21) 109 West Poplar Street  
1905 Craftsman

Contributing – Photo #9

The two large gables in the façade overwhelm almost any other of the few architectural details of this elevation. The gabled-roof of the front porch is supported by three plain square columns with no ornamentation; the bases of the



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columns rest on a wooden deck. The gable end of the main block is defined by the deep overhang of the eaves and the contrasting knee braces. The exterior walls are sheathed in wide metal siding. A portion of the wall on the back of the porch is covered with board-and-batten siding. The window units are double-hung and glazed six-over-one. A small three-sash ribbon window unit is installed in the peak of the gable end. The front door has divided lights in the upper one-quarter of its length and panels in the lower three-quarters.

### Individual Resources

22) 307 West Columbia Street  
1826 Hall and Parlor

Contributing – Photo #10

Local tradition holds that a log cabin structure is in place under the modern siding that covers the exterior walls. Based on a review of various manuals and other sources, the massing and the proportional relationship between the lower story and the upper story tend to support that local contention. The present home has a front porch whose roof is supported by four wooden posts constructed in the early twentieth century with a rusticated concrete foundation and a hipped roof. The foundation of the one-story wing that extends outward from the east elevation is limestone block. The window units in the main block and the wing are a mixture of double-hung sashes with either six-over-six or one-over-one glazing. The door in the main block is wooden with two narrow lights in the upper half and panels in the lower half. The door in the wing is a more modern wooden example with nine divided lights in the upper half and panels in the lower half.

This house is known locally as the Old Davidson House. The wing was added to the original in 1930. In 1895, George Davidson, a relative of the original owner, lived in the house. The city directory for 1923 lists Fay Davidson as the resident of the time. By 1937, William Lockwood is listed as the resident.

23) 10-12 North Gillespie Street  
1987 None

Non-contributing – Photo #11

One of a pair of identical rental units on this street, the apartments fail to add anything to the fabric of the district either from an age qualification (greater than 50 years old) point or as an example of a particular architectural style.

24) 208 North Market Street  
1867 Federal

Contributing – Photo #12

In poor condition, this remnant of the earliest years of the district retains a great deal of integrity. The exterior walls are covered with simulated-brick asbestos shingle over the original sheathing of clapboards. The current shed-roof, full-width front porch and its supporting posts are likely not original but in the period of the house. The window units in the first and second stories are double-hung but glazed one-over-one in the first story and six-over-six in the second story. The entry door is wooden, plain, and paneled. A frieze board across the full width of the façade accentuates the roof-wall junction. The moderately-pitched roof is covered with composition shingle.

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**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.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1826-1961

**Significant Dates**

N/A

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

None

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance was chosen to incorporate the primary years of Greencastle's development from the early years following settlement through the growth years of the late-nineteenth century initiated by the arrival of the railroads to the mature years of sustained economic viability in the first half of the twentieth century. The 1826 Davidson House, the district's oldest residence, marks the beginning of the period of significance and the period extends to the 50-year cut-off.

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**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Old Greencastle Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. The district meets Criterion A requirements, at a local level, for its association with events that made a significant contribution to our history as a demonstrative example of the early years of a typical settlement during the first decades of Indiana's statehood. Instructive from the history of the district is the manner of private land donations to establish a county seat, the grid pattern of the first plat, the establishment of the first residential neighborhood in Greencastle, and lastly, the development of a social/physical infrastructure necessary to support a growing and lasting community.

The district is also eligible for the National Register under Criterion C at a local level for its inventory of vernacular housing types, some from the first log-cabin days and extending to the Ranch-style homes of the 1960s. Styles include Federal, Greek Revival, Italianate, Queen Anne, Craftsman bungalow, Colonial Revival, and Minimal Traditional homes that span a time period of over 130 years. The district is eligible at a local level, under Criterion A, as an example of early settlement/exploration and under Criterion C as an example of architectural styles dating from the 1820s to the 1960s.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Located in Greencastle, Putnam County, Indiana, the plat of the Old Greencastle Historic District, finalized in 1826, occupies approximately 32 acres. Seventy acres deeded to the county by Ephraim Dukes, and eighty acres conveyed by his son-in-law, John W. Clark, combined to become the 150 acres of the original plat which constituted the heart of the early settlement; Clark's portion became acreage in the district. The district includes approximately 40 percent of the area/acreage conveyed by Clark.

The Old Greencastle Historic District is a neighborhood collection of vernacular homes that sets it aside from the other districts in town. Within its inventory is the Davidson House, an example of an early home with simple hall and parlor plan on the first floor. Three houses reflect the characteristics of the I-house family residence of the early- and mid-1800s. The house at 307 West Washington Street is an 1860s, three-bay example, while the Gillespie-Lynch House at 501 West Washington Street, that dates from about 1830, demonstrates the full five-bay brick type. The builder of the house at 208 North Market Street, constructed circa 1867, chose a side-hall plan or a "two-thirds I-house" plan for this home. Another builder adopted the cubical form for the Italianate house at 306 West Walnut Street. From an evolutionary standpoint, mechanization of the lumber industry and, specifically millworks, gave builders the capability of using/adopting standardized components and house forms such as the L-plan, T-plan, and other vernacular examples for housing. Old Greencastle's streets were lined with fine examples in the decades following the Civil War. Houses at 308 West Liberty Street, 111 and 312 West Walnut Street, and others reflect the evolution of common house types in the community. Many examples retain the elaborate millwork. In the early twentieth century, the bungalow became a common house form for middle-class Americans. The Old Greencastle Historic District contains several intact examples including the house at 105 West Poplar Street. Typically, some homeowners replaced original porches during this era. The district does contain one example of the ubiquitous mid-century Ranch-style home at 209 West Franklin Street.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (if appropriate)

Putnam County's early years of settlement reflect the same experiences of many of Indiana's counties. The Treaty of 1818, between the Miami tribe of Native Americans and the federal government, was one of many that opened unsettled lands in the Northwest Territory for occupation and ownership by whites anxious to find new homesteads. This particular treaty "extinguished Indian title to the soil of Putnam County." The majority of the settlers in the region came from Kentucky, the Carolinas, Virginia, and a few from the Northeast, notably Pennsylvania. Putnam County officially became a political entity by an act of the General Assembly approved on 31 December 1821. Originally organized with only six townships, the county, over time, expanded to a total of 14 townships through a process of adding and dividing

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lands in and around the original boundaries. Not long after organization the first settler, Ephraim Dukes, a prior resident of Pennsylvania, arrived in the vicinity of Greencastle's future location.<sup>1</sup>

Early settlers found a number of opportunities for their future. The land was covered by a dense forest of valuable hardwoods and in future decades this same forest would sustain the development of a lively and profitable timber cutting and milling industry that set the fortunes of several local wealthy entrepreneurs. The bottom lands of the Walnut Fork of the Eel River provided the basis for a healthy agricultural sector of the local economy. The early years were dedicated to subsistence farming but by the middle of the nineteenth century the county's farmers produced sufficient quantities for local consumption and shipped excess production, grain and animals, to other markets. Limestone and coal deposits offered quarrymen and miners opportunities to develop these raw materials into useful products for building, heating, and on a small scale, smelting. When the National Road reached the county in the 1830s the area around Putnamville became the home for "valuable quarries for paving curbs and step stones."<sup>2</sup>

Greencastle did not become the county seat by accident. Mr. Ephraim Dukes and his wife conveyed 70 acres of land from their original 160 acres "in consideration that the county seat is located at the town of Greencastle" in September 1823, thereby assuring a presence of the county government in his town. Local mythology holds that the name of the new county seat is the same as Dukes' hometown in Pennsylvania. For a time his first name, Ephraim, graced a street in town but it was changed circa 1910 to College Avenue. In 1825, John W. Clark, Dukes' son-in-law, conveyed an additional 80 acres for expanding the limits of Greencastle. This "...latter tract comprises that part of Greencastle west from Indiana Street," and in so doing established the full original plat of Greencastle consisting of 150 acres divided into 214 lots. The lots located around the square sold within a range of \$40.00 and \$111.00. The boundaries of the original plat were Liberty, Gillespie, South, and Hill Streets.<sup>3</sup>

Putnam County took an early interest in endeavors educational. By 1830, county officials issued an order for the establishment of a county seminary. It built a single-story, two-room brick building designated for the purpose of teaching elementary level "readin', writin', and cipherin'" to youths of the community. With a mixed record of success (attendance) the county agent made the building available to the trustees of the newly formed Indiana Asbury University to use for a period of three years, starting in 1837. The cost of \$200.00 for the three-year period was minimal and gave the university time to construct its own facility. When the three year period expired the county kept the building open as a free school for "any scholar in Putnam County." By 1854, the county supported, by taxation, four primary schools and one high school for its citizens.<sup>4</sup>

Greencastle became involved in the growing trend for educational institutions in a big way with the establishment of Indiana Asbury University in 1837. Named for the United States first Methodist bishop, Francis Asbury, the institution laid the cornerstone for its first building in June of the same year. For several years thereafter, university classes were conducted in the county's seminary building. Similar in some ways to later subscription efforts by local boosters to get an enterprise to locate in their domain, Greencastle and other communities competed for the honor of hosting the new university. The Indiana Conference of the Methodist Church met at a gathering in Bloomington to resolve issues of future control of its university with state officials; conferees decided to go in the direction of a learning institution under church control rather than share supervision/authority with the state of Indiana. To decide where the new university would be located, numerous settlements (few populous towns existed at this point) offered subscriptions to woo the church to use their locality for this new educational endeavor. Among the competitors were Rockville, Putnamville, Lafayette, Indianapolis, Madison, and Greencastle, which won the privilege to host with a subscription of \$25,000.00 garnered from among 500 of its citizens. When classes opened on 5 June 1837, "...barefooted and without coats" five students joined their professor to begin their search for greater knowledge.<sup>5</sup>

The decade of the 1840s in Putnam County is best described in terms such as "slow and steady" or "plodding." New settlers arrived in the county from the East and the South in a trickle. The 1830 Decennial Census of the United

<sup>1</sup> *Biographical and Historical Record of Putnam County, Indiana* (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1887), pages 208-209; Jesse W. Weik, *Weik's History of Putnam County, Indiana* (Indianapolis: B.F. Bowen and Company, 1910), page 35.

<sup>2</sup> Weik, *History of Putnam County, Indiana*, pages 30-31.

<sup>3</sup> Weik, *History of Putnam County, Indiana*, pages 35-37; Booklet, *Greencastle: A Hundred Years View* (Greencastle: no publication data, 1923), pages 2 and 3. (Note: Available in the Preservation Society files in the Putnam County Public Library.)

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, pages 85-89.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, pages 95-97.

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States enumerated “8,261 white persons and 4 colored persons” in Putnam County. Like most of Indiana, Putnam County’s farmers were intent on clearing fields and eking out an existence; county seats were establishing themselves as the centers of government and commerce within their respective boundaries; and a rudimentary collection of cleared trails euphemistically identified as “roads” began to appear, both in the state and in the county. The National Road reached Putnam County in the 1830’s. One source from the time noted that the thoroughfare (actually only a muddy trace with trees stumped low enough to allow wagons to pass over them) was characterized by, “...one continuous procession of immigrants to all parts of the west.” Indiana received its portion of the road from the federal government, circa 1835, in spite of first refusing to accept responsibility. Rather than becoming a “state” road, it became the source of income to various private turnpike companies, most of whom operated their sections of the road for limited periods of time as dirt or plank roads. Putnam County’s section eventually received a coating of crushed rock in the late-nineteenth century. The 1840s in Putnam County did mark limited commercial/industrial activity. Tanneries and grist mills appeared on the streams around Greencastle in the 1840s. Chair-making, shoe making, and a wool-carding operations served the community at large and the square in the settlement hosted a general store, a tailor, and a tin ware maker among its number.<sup>6</sup>

According to the limited information available from the time, the enumerators of the census in 1840 and 1850 found that many of the residents in the district supported themselves as skilled artisans in many different trades such as tanners, shoe makers, and unskilled laborers. By 1860, occupations declared by district residents included such jobs as wagon makers, a daguerreotypist, and plasterers, as well as a lone county official, the county auditor.<sup>7</sup>

One singular event that occurred during the 1840s was the approval of plans for a new (second) courthouse on the square. Elisha Braman, a local architect originally from Connecticut, received the contract for the design and he had local builder Elisha Adamson construct the 65 feet by 50 feet building for a sum not to exceed \$8,000.00.<sup>8</sup> Braman’s house, at the corner of Washington and Bloomington Streets, is one of the oldest houses in Greencastle. The Davidson House at 307 West Columbia Street and the Gillespie-Lynch House on North Gillespie Street are older by a few years.

The 1850s made the previous decade look even more somnolent by its burst of economic activity resulting from the arrival of the railroad. The frenzy of the railroad era touched the entire state, Greencastle’s chapter in that story began in 1851 when a group of promoters joined together to form the Terre Haute & Indianapolis (TH&I) Railroad. Starting at both ends of the proposed track (Indianapolis and Terre Haute) the two sections met midway between at Fillmore, Indiana, and Greencastle on 18 February 1852 and the railroad era was born in Putnam County. By 1854, a new north-south line named the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago crossed the TH&I tracks south of Greencastle; now farmers, passengers, and goods could travel or be shipped in all directions to markets far afield from Greencastle. Eventually, three different railroads would serve Greencastle and Putnam County.<sup>9</sup>

Greencastle’s location and growing manufacturing base made it a natural to become a railroad center for the area. While the presence of natural resources like wood, coal, iron, and water power and agricultural products in the form of wheat, pigs, and wool cannot be ignored when discussing economic growth, train tracks made the difference. The availability of these items and the means to get them to market brought entrepreneurs and their money to town. The Renicks, who started their carriage factory in the late 1840s, rapidly expanded their inventory of wheeled conveyances to make wheel barrows, plows, and other wood/metal implements for shipment around the state. The Goulding & Ireland Planing mill operation, near the recently built rail line in the north end of Greencastle, manufactured doors, sashes, venetian and panel shutters, and window and doors frames from the mid-1850s into the early-twentieth century. Carding mills grew in number to handle the increasing amounts of sheep and their wool being processed in the community. John Standeford operated a horse-powered mill; by the late 1850s, two more mills were operating, one on each end of town.<sup>10</sup>

After a slow start, Indiana Asbury University began a steady period of growth through the middle decades of the nineteenth century. By 1859, the university offered its primarily male student body, through its eight departments,

<sup>6</sup> Sesquicentennial Committee, *A Journey through Putnam County History*, no publisher, 1966, pages 31 and 35; John J. Baughman, *Our Past, Their Present: Historical Essays on Putnam County, Indiana* (Greencastle: Putnam County Museum, 2008), page 30.

<sup>7</sup> Decennial Census, Putnam County, Indiana, 1840-1860.

<sup>8</sup> Baughman, *Our Past, Their Present*, page 26.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid*, pages 107-111.

<sup>10</sup> Sesquicentennial Committee, *A Journey through Putnam County History*, pages 168 and 169.

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subjects such as philosophy, mathematics, languages, history and the law; eight years later in 1867, Indiana Asbury became coeducational in all of its departments.<sup>11</sup>

The Civil War touched Putnam County and Greencastle as it did in other communities in the state of Indiana. The county's first entrants (volunteers to the man) into the war effort were the Union Guard and Asbury Guards, both militia companies that departed for Indianapolis on 22 April and 24 April 1861 respectively to be mustered into federal service as parts of larger organizations; the Union Guards became part of the Tenth Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Infantry. By the 1865, Putnam County and Greencastle provided 18 company-size units for federal service and two of these companies were primarily manned by Indiana Asbury University students. Putnam County soldiers/units actively fought in such well-known actions as the Shenandoah Valley Campaign, Shiloh, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Vicksburg. Hoosiers from the county served in 52 different units during the war either as smaller component of larger units from other states or as regimental-size organizations. By the war's end nearly half of the service-eligible men in the county had done their duty as protectors of the Union. Generally speaking, folks in the county supported the war and its objectives but in 1864 a small group of men, members of the Society of Knights of the Golden Circle, besmirched the county's record when they attacked a recruiting officer at the Cooper Hotel in downtown Greencastle. Little came of the incident and after Lincoln's reelection, in that same year, opposition melted away.<sup>12</sup>

Chartered in 1865 and funded with \$30,000.00 in subscriptions, the Greencastle Street Railway began to serve the community in 1866. The endeavor, directed by W.D. Allen, William Daggy, and E.T. Keightley, successfully traversed the city streets in winter and summer in cars powered by mules. A common practice of the times, the directors had their fingers in a number of enterprises or offices; for instance, Daggy operated the largest pork packing business in the area and Keightley was the county auditor. A consortium bought the line from its subscribers in 1891 for the purpose of electrification but the costs attendant to this move were too high and the line languished for years to come. The interurban that appeared on the scene a few years later offered intra-city service and provided intercity transportation to other locales in Greencastle's web of commercial and passenger intersection.<sup>13</sup>

The years after the Civil War were rife with attempts to establish educational institutions, most failed because of financial difficulties. Indiana Asbury University was not immune from this same problem and in 1883 it was faced with the very real possibility of having to close its doors. The man who came to the rescue was Washington C. DePauw, a wealthy industrialist from Salem, Indiana. Born in 1822, DePauw, a staunch Methodist, made a name for himself as a philanthropist and a smart businessman. The Methodist church elected him a trustee of the university in the 1870s. By 1881, he was the chairman of the board of trustees and had made his first donation of \$2,000.00 to help defray expenses. In October 1883, with bankruptcy and closure threatening the university, DePauw promised university officials that he would donate \$2.00 for every \$1.00 they could raise through whatever means available. He did just that and the final total of his donation was nearly \$500,000.00. His effort ended the issue of potential closure and in gratitude, over his reputed objection, the Board of Trustees renamed the university De Pauw University. With this single act, the university appears to have turned the corner.<sup>14</sup>

The last three decades of the nineteenth century were generally good to Greencastle. With the availability of transportation and raw materials at hand, Greencastle's business and industrial sectors took off in a climbing curve that didn't slow down. John F. Darnell's Iron and Nail Company opened for business in the late 1860s, and continued to flourish through 1890 when the plant moved to Muncie, Indiana to take advantage of the natural gas boom's cheap energy in eastern Indiana. The community's largest nineteenth century business, it employed 125-150 men and manufactured as high as 250 kegs of nails a day. Another period entrepreneur was James W. Cole, maker of water pumps and later lightning rods. Moved to Greencastle, in 1882 from St. Louis, Missouri, the Cole Brothers Lighting Rod factory set up business next to the pump factory and by 1885, the combined output of both endeavors was 55 pumps and 77 lightning rods sets of 60 various types. Alvah Brockway, a maker of spokes and other wooden items, was at one time a partner with

<sup>11</sup> Weik, *History of Putnam County, Indiana*, pages 97-101.

<sup>12</sup> Pamphlet, "Greencastle- A Hundred Years View," no publication data, 1924; Clipping File "Civil War" (Miscellaneous), in the Putnam County Historical Society collection at the county public library. Note: This collection contains a wealth of information concerning the county and city's history, particularly for those involved in genealogical research.

<sup>13</sup> George William Pierce, "The History of Greencastle" (Master's Thesis, DePauw University, 1929), page 48 and 50. Available in the DePauw University Archives, Roy O. West Library.

<sup>14</sup> Clipping File, "Putnam County", Indiana State Library; Weik, *History of Putnam County, Indiana*, pages 101-102.

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Cole but later established his own factory. Smaller businesses like tanneries, flouring mills, a broom factory, and a shoe factory rounded out the business community of this three-decade period. Interspersed throughout this same period were other consumer-related businesses like bakeries, florists, barber shops, drug stores, and dry cleaners that operated around the downtown square and served the entire county with goods and services.<sup>15</sup>

During the 1870s several catastrophes, natural and man-made, threatened the community. A tornado in the late 1860s did considerable damage to buildings on and around the campus of Indiana Asbury University. Until the 1870s, Greencastle had been spared large fires that plagued most Indiana communities of the time. However, between 1871 and 1879, the town suffered a major fire each year except in 1878. Varied businesses and buildings were victims of these events that included Higgert's brewery in 1871, Gage's flouring mill in 1872, the Female College of Indiana in 1873 but the worst to come occurred on 28 October 1874. In a newspaper article in the *Banner* titled "Burnt Out: A Night with the Fiend," the editor spelled out the damage to the downtown area. Started in a furniture factory on Indiana Street, the fire swept up Indiana Street and consumed an entire block between that street and Vine Street then continued north and east like "ten thousand demons of hell." The final tally of destruction came to \$350,000.00. The same article notes "Of course, a large quantity of goods were stolen during the excitement [of the fire]." One editorial comment in the same issue of the *Banner* quotes Clement Vonnegut, a hardware wholesaler in Indianapolis, in a note to C.J. Kimble, a local planing mill owner that he "...cannot do much to aid him [Kimble] in his loss, except to square his account by donation." Vonnegut was the great-grandfather of well-known Indiana author Kurt Vonnegut.<sup>16</sup> Most of the damage occurred east of the Old Greencastle Historic District and there is no evidence that the fires of the 1870s impacted on the period resources.

Census information from the 1860s, 1870s and 1880s, reveals the stability of the demographic profile of the district. With the coming of the railroads and the growth of the manufacturing sector, the need for housing for workers and laborers was met to some extent by rooming houses or the opening of single homes to individual roomers. Nearly one-half of the district resources of the period sheltered either roomers or apprentices living with their employer. While some of the roomers listed their occupation as "student" the bulk of those living with non-family members either cited the railroad or one of the local factories as their means of employment. Another bit of information captured by the various decennial censuses of the period concerns the lack of significant change in the number of houses extant in the district over a long period of time. Although many of the earliest resources are gone, the number of households in the district, to the 1930s, remained remarkably stable and only the replacement of old homes for newer versions account for the different styles visible today.<sup>17</sup>

The disastrous fires of the 1870s awakened the community to the absolute necessity for a more plentiful and available amount of water for firefighting and for daily needs. A direct result of the fires of the 1870s was the construction of 11 cisterns around town to fight future fires. While this measure satisfied an immediate need, it was far from solving the problem of daily water needs. The original choice of Greencastle's location relied on the presence of a spring that provided a regular flow sufficient for early much smaller settlement. As Greencastle grew in both number of inhabitants and increased needs of the industrial period, local government decided to expand its capability past the use of area springs and develop another means of providing water to the town. In 1881, a petition asked the city council to construct a water works. Like many public-inspired efforts, this idea took another five years to get off the drawing board and into operation. By the late 1880s Greencastle could brag about a functioning water works that pumped water from Big Walnut Creek to a reservoir to be distributed to consumers, ten miles of water mains, and 100 fire hydrants. During the next decades, and well into the twentieth century, the water distribution system, under private and municipal authority, expanded as the city grew. The terminal aspect of water usage, sewer systems, did not become a reality to the community until 1915 when a tax levy was approved to provide construction funds for a treatment plant.<sup>18</sup>

The waning years of the nineteenth century brought other changes to Greencastle. Mud streets began to give way to crushed stone and/or macadamized surfacing applications. The city embarked on a long term plan to install curbs and sidewalks along its major streets, and stopped oiling the dirt streets after citizens raised a fuss about ruined clothing and carpets. By 1893, Greencastle could boast of 23 miles of paved streets, an accomplishment noteworthy of a smallish community. To light their way along new un-muddy streets, recent arrivals from St. Louis, Missouri by the name of

<sup>15</sup> Sesquicentennial Committee, *A Journey through Putnam County History*, pages 167- 170.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid*, pages 187 and 188; 'Burnt Out: A Night with the Fiend,' *Banner*, 5 November 1874, pages 2 and 3.

<sup>17</sup> Decennial Censuses, Putnam County, Indiana, 1870-1930, *passim*.

<sup>18</sup> Baughman, *Our Past, Their Present*, pages 159-161; Pierce, "The History of Greencastle," pages 109-110.

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Ireland and Bell, joined forces with five locals to form the Greencastle Gas and Coke Company in 1886. Although the company could not get the city contract for lighting it did serve about 1,000 users for a short time until it went bankrupt in 1890. By eventually capturing the city contract for distribution of gas for lighting, heating, and power, the company under a new name, became successful in the succeeding years and well into the early decades of the twentieth century as the Indiana Gas and Water Company. The company's primary competitor for the lighting and power market in the city was the Greencastle Electric Light and Power Company, established in 1886, by hometown businessman James Cole of pump and lightning rod fame. Cole, granted a franchise by the city to provide electricity to city residents, proceeded to erect poles along major streets and his company provided electric lights for the 1886 commencement exercises at DePauw University. To really make this a period of great advancement, telephones made an appearance in the community around 1895, after a number of false starts by various companies.<sup>19</sup>

The dawn of the twentieth century would find a Greencastle best characterized as a traditional Hoosier small town. Business, in spite of the loss of the nail factory to Muncie, remained a steady sector of the economic picture; the agricultural sector remained strong and would continue that way for many years to come; and the university continued to grow in the number of students, the stature of its graduates, and its position as a consistent employer in the community. Once in a while conflicting interests between the "town and gown" communities created friction. One incident in the early 1850s involved the suspicion of illegal liquor sales to university students by a local merchant that caused school officials to order students to leave specific boarding houses considered as focal points of this iniquitous activity. Concern for the widows operating these boarding houses as their main source of livelihood fueled an uproar from town folks. They quickly labeled the university president and his assistants as "tyrants." Some sources say that the controversy really stemmed from opposite political ideologies of some principals in the matter. Another head-butting incident occurred in the late 1860s when some enterprising city official decided the student body constituted an untouched "deep pocket" of free labor and ordered students to man shovels to work on city streets. For more than well over a century, moments of conflict, large and small, have brought these two elements of the larger community together to resolve their differences, but as one source mentions, "the university has been the most consistent employer through the history of Greencastle..."<sup>20</sup>

With three or four railroads at hand, manufacturers continued to consider Greencastle a prime location. From 1900 to the 1920s, some businesses failed but others retrenched or redirected their efforts. Racer Bittles moved his implement handle business to Greencastle in 1903 and prospered for many years. Local carpenters Day and Goss took over the old Goulding & Ireland planing mill and produced kitchen cabinets and parts for gramophone cabinets. One particularly prominent employer that came to town around 1902 was the American Zinc Products Company (the most current name of the company) which began operations as a tinplate factory, faltered for many years, but, by 1917, came under the ownership of an Arkansas company and began to produce zinc sheet products. World War I spurred business along and by the mid-1920s the plant had 250-350 men working at producing zinc roofing sheets. In the 1940s, Ball Brothers Corporation bought the business to manufacture zinc components for its food packaging products and lithographer's plates. Large cattle pens, built near the various railroad depots, continued to serve as holding areas for livestock headed to nearby Chicago slaughter houses. Other smaller concerns established themselves in the economic matrix and produced cigars, soap, mattresses, garments, and canned vegetables for shipment to large markets.<sup>21</sup>

World War I awakened Putnam County and its citizens to the ever-growing role of their state and nation in the conduct of world affairs. The county met its quotas and other requirements for manning the forces of the United States Army and Navy and in giving home front support to the overall effort. On 6 June 1917, the newspaper in town noted that 1,405 men registered for the draft and that constituted *everybody* eligible. Liberty bond drives to raise funds for the fight successfully met their goals under the direction of local banker R.L. O'Hair. Total subscriptions from the drives eventually totaled nearly 3 million dollars. Local women's organizations supported the troops by collecting/providing warm clothing and other personal comfort items to be distributed to troops at home and overseas. The most costly sacrifice made by the county was the 22 dead servicemen who never came home to embrace their respective families. The soldiers and sailors who came home to the county experienced little change in the everyday life of their community. A

<sup>19</sup> Baughman, *Our Past, Their Present*, pages 171-172; Pierce, "The History of Greencastle," pages 176-178.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid*, page 225; Sesquicentennial Committee, *A Journey through Putnam County History*, pages 210-211.

<sup>21</sup> Baughman, *Our Past, Their Present*, pages 441-443; Pierce, "The History of Greencastle," page, 136.



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daily reminder to the living is the "Spirit of the American Doughboy" sculpture, erected on the courthouse lawn in 1927, which was the work of E.M. Viquesney, a Hoosier artist from Spencer, Indiana.<sup>22</sup>

If the previous years in the county were quiet and uneventful, the events of 7 December 1914 once more awakened the citizens to the reality of a larger world "outside" the confines of the county/state boundaries that would change many of their lives forever. As in past wars, Putnam County stepped-up to the challenge and between volunteers and conscription did its part to man the force. On the home front, Red Cross volunteers fabricated bandages, supervised blood drives, filled kit bags for shipment to far destinations, gathered and sewed clothing for service members' use in cold climates, and operated canteens for off-duty entertainment of the troops. By the end of the war, DePauw had furnished hundreds of pilot trainees to the service. Ration boards, staffed by local officials and ordinary citizens, administered the rationing program for many commodities such as gas, tires, shoes, butter, and sugar to name a few. The purchase of war stamps and war bonds within the county was often funded by auctioning items such as livestock or personal items donated for that purpose. Local industries in defense work were the zinc mill and Barnaby Lumber. The German V-1 bomb on the courthouse lawn stands in tribute to those county citizens who died in the conflict.<sup>23</sup>

World War II ended in 1945 and the veterans came home to find not much changed since their departure. A few houses of the Minimal Traditional style were built and by the end of the 1940s, a few Ranch-style homes appeared to fill empty lots or replace older homes in the district. With the exception of these changes, the Old Greencastle Historic District remains much the same as it appeared throughout its history.<sup>24</sup>

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Booklet. *Greencastle: A Hundred Years View.* Greencastle: no publication data, 1923.

Clipping File, "Civil War" (Miscellaneous), in the Putnam County Historical Society (PCHS) collection at the county public library

Clipping File, "World War I," in the PCHS collection.

Clipping File, "World War II," in the PCHS collection.

Clipping File, "Putnam County," Indiana State Library.

*Greencastle Herald*, 5 November 1874, 1 February 1922, 13 July 1922, 23 March 1922, and 5 January 1923.

*Indianapolis News*, 28 July 1923.

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<sup>22</sup> Clipping File, "World War I" in the PCHS collection.

<sup>23</sup> Clipping File, "World War II" in the PCHS collection; Baughman, *Our Past, Their Present*, pages 404-406 and 407-409.

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Pamphlet, "Greencastle-A Hundred Years View," no publication data, 1924.

Pierce, George William. "The History of Greencastle." Master's Thesis, DePauw University, 1929.

Sesquicentennial Committee, *A Journey through Putnam County History*, no publisher, 1966.

Weik, Jesse W. *Weik's History of Putnam County, Indiana*. Indianapolis: B.F. Bowen and Company, 1910.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):  
133-250-66000

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Approx. 32 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References** USGS Greencastle Quadrangle 1:24,000

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

|   |           |               |                |   |           |               |                |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| 1 | <u>16</u> | <u>511180</u> | <u>4388500</u> | 3 | <u>16</u> | <u>511560</u> | <u>4387880</u> |
|   | Zone      | Easting       | Northing       |   | Zone      | Easting       | Northing       |
| 2 | <u>16</u> | <u>511480</u> | <u>4388300</u> | 4 | <u>16</u> | <u>511030</u> | <u>4387880</u> |
|   | Zone      | Easting       | Northing       |   | Zone      | Easting       | Northing       |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

From the start point at the southeast corner of the intersection of West Liberty and North Gillespie Streets proceed east along the south curb of West Liberty Street to its intersection with the west curb of North Market Street; turn south and

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proceed along the west curb of North Market Street to its intersection with the north curb of West Franklin Street; turn west and proceed along the north curb of West Franklin Street to its intersection with the east curb of North Jefferson Street; turn south and continue along the east curb of North Jefferson Street to its intersection with the rear property line of 309 West Washington Street; turn east and proceed east along the rear property lines of 309 and 307 West Washington Street to their intersection with the east property line of 307 West Washington Street; turn south and proceed along the east property line to its intersection with the north curb of West Washington Street; turn east and proceed along the north curb of West Washington Street to its intersection with the west curb of North Market Street; cross North Market Street to the east curb of the same street; turn south and proceed along the east curb of North Market Street to its intersection with rear property line of 111 West Walnut Street turn east and proceed along the rear property lines of 111 and 103 West Walnut Street to their intersection with the east property line of 103 West Walnut Street; turn south and travel along the east property line to its intersection with the north curb of West Walnut Street; turn west and proceed along the north curb of West Walnut Street to its intersection with the east curb of South Market Street; turn south and proceed along the east curb to its intersection with the rear property line of 109 West Poplar Street; turn east and proceed along the rear property lines of 109-105 West Poplar Street to their intersection with the west property line of 114 South Jackson Street; continue east along the north property line of 114 South Jackson Street to its intersection with the west curb of South Jackson Street; turn south and proceed along the west curb to its intersection with the north curb of West Poplar Street; turn west and proceed along the north curb of West Poplar Street past its intersection with South Market and South Madison Streets to its intersection with the east curb of South Jefferson Street; cross South Jefferson Street to the west curb of the same street; turn north and proceed along the west curb of South Jefferson Street to its intersection with the rear property line of 402 West Walnut Street; turn west and proceed along the rear property lines of 402-410 West Walnut Street to their intersection with the west property line of 410 West Walnut Street; turn north and proceed along the west property line of 410 West Walnut Street to its intersection with the south curb of West Walnut Street; cross West Walnut Street to the north curb of that same street; turn west and proceed along the north curb of West Walnut Street to the east limit of the railroad right-of-way that forms the western boundary of the district; turn north and proceed along the east limit of the railroad right-of-way to its intersection with the southwest corner of the intersection of West Liberty and North Gillespie Streets; turn east and cross North Gillespie Street and close on the start point at the southeast corner of the intersection of West Liberty and North Gillespie Streets.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries selected encompass a portion of the original plat of the Greencastle settlement and includes the few remaining architectural resources from the first decade of the community's history.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title John Warner  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_  
street & number 5018 Broadway Street telephone 317-283-5450  
city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46205  
e-mail jp\_warner@sbcglobal.net

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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**Photographs:**

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Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

**Name of Property: Old Greencastle Historic District**

**City or Vicinity: Greencastle**

**County: Putnam**

**State: Indiana**

**Photographer: John Warner**

**Date Photographed: 13 December 2010 and 12 January 2011**

**Description of Photograph(s) and number:**

- 1 of 12. Looking west-southwest at 304, 308, and 310 West Liberty Street.
2. Looking northwest at 203, 205, 209, and 211 West Franklin Street.
3. Looking southwest at 404 West Franklin Street.
4. Looking north at 307 West Washington Street. Though partly obscured by vegetation, the house demonstrates some classic style details; it is one of the few remnants of the first wave of homes, not log cabins, from the early decades of the settlement.
5. Looking northwest at 309 West Washington Street.
6. Looking west at 402, 406, 410-12, and 501 West Washington Street. The two-story brick house at the end of the street is the Gillespie-Lynch House, the oldest house, not originally a log cabin, in the district.
7. Looking northeast at 111 and 103 West Walnut Street.
8. Looking southwest at 306 and 312 West Walnut Street.
9. Looking northeast at 109, 107, and 105 West Poplar Street.
10. Looking north at 307 West Columbia Street, the oldest building in the district.
11. Looking northwest at 11-12 North Gillespie Street at one of two sets of modern apartments.
12. Looking southwest at 208 North Market Street. This is one of the few remaining examples of early architecture from the first few decades of the settlement.

Old Greencastle Historic District  
Name of Property

Putnam, Indiana  
County and State

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**Property Owner:**

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

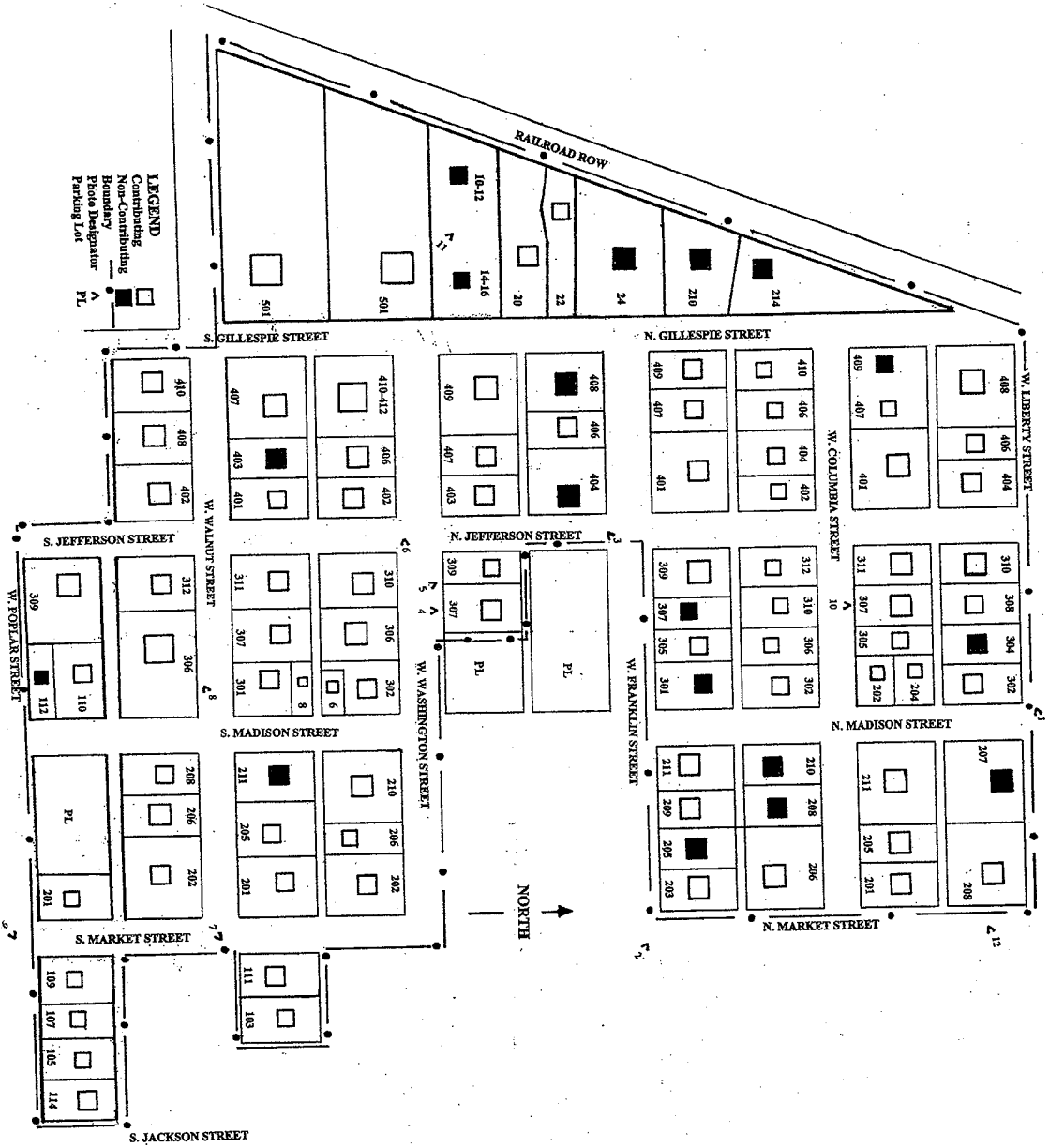
name Phillip Gick  
street & number 911 E. Washington Street Telephone 765-848-1110  
city or town Greencastle State IN Zip Code 46135

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

FINAL  
2/2011  
NOT TO SCALE

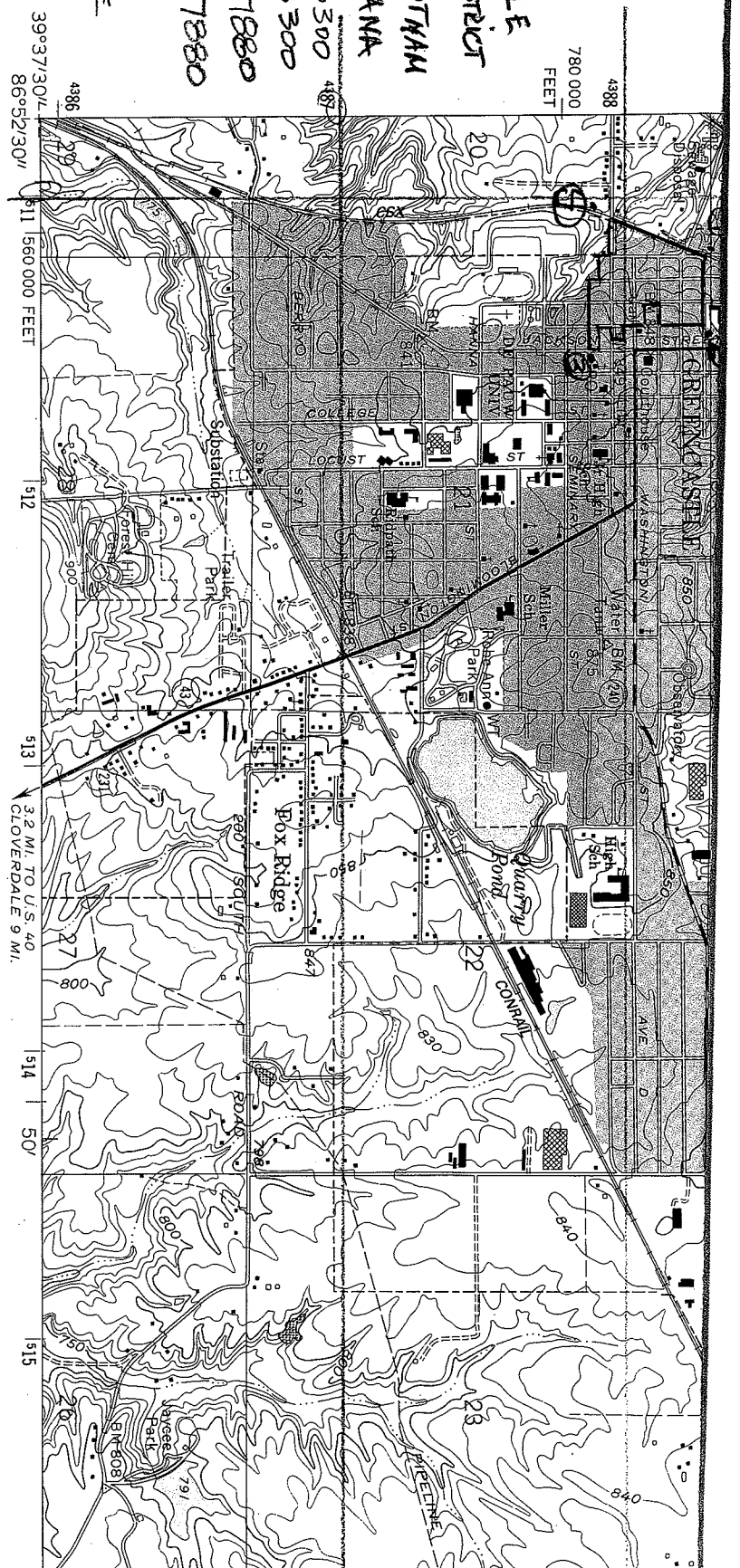
OLD GREENCASLE HISTORIC DISTRICT  
Greencastle, Indiana



OLD GREENCASTLE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  
GREENCASTLE, PUTNAM  
COUNTY, INDIANA

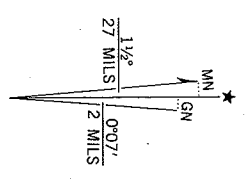
- ① 16 511 180 4388 300
- ② 16 511 480 4388 300
- ③ 16 511 560 4388 7880
- ④ 16 511 030 4387 880

GREENCASTLE  
PUTNAM

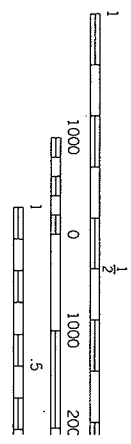


Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1956. Field checked 1958. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970  
Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Indiana coordinate system, west zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue  
1927 North American Datum  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 1 meter south and 1 meter east as shown by dashed corner ticks  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown



UTM GRID AND 1986 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH  
FOR SALE BY  
DENVER, COLORADO  
AND INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC CONTROL NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

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(REELSVILLE)  
3663 111 SW