

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 Foreman-Case House
other names/site number Foreman-Case-Schermerhorn House

2. Location

street & number 312 East Main Street N/A not for publication
city, town Delphi N/A vicinity
state IN code IN county Carroll code 015 zip code 46923

3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Jane Smith 4-9-90
Signature of certifying official Date
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE: professional

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

GREEK REVIVAL

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: limestonewalls BRICKASPHALT

roof ASPHALTother WOOD

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Foreman-Case House stands in an older residential section of Delphi, Indiana. Delphi itself is situated in the Wabash River Valley and is a quiet county seat with a population of about 2,500. Built c.1851, the house is a two story, front facing gabled building built of common bond red brick. A two story hip roofed section adjoins the main section of the house to the rear. Its massing and details are characteristic of the Greek Revival style.

The Foreman-Case House stands on a typical, level parcel measuring 60 by 120 feet. Delphi was platted on a misaligned grid system; the main facade of the house faces northwest. Resting on a coursed, roughfaced limestone foundation, the main facade has three bays on each story (Photo 2). The first story features the main entrance to the far left and two windows placed to the right. Accessible from four dressed limestone steps, the main entrance is a handsome example of Greek Revival carpentry (Photo 1). The composition is framed by stocky vernacular Doric antae surmounted by a massive plain entablature. A transom with geometric rectangular panes and three-paned sidelights surround the door. The door features a large single light, uncharacteristic of the 1850s. It may have been altered or may be a late 1800s replacement. The cross-buck storm door is a recent addition. Two six-over-six double hung wood windows with stone sills and lintels stand to the right of the entrance. This is the typical window type for the house, with few exceptions. The second story has three symmetrically placed windows. Due to the extra width of the entry, however, the far left window is not centered over the door. The other windows align with those below, and the overall impression is one of symmetry.

Above the second floor, the low gable end is treated as a full pediment. The wide, plain wood entablature is carried across the roofline of the entire house, and follows the shallow gable roof to create the pediment. The tympanum is brick, without ornamentation.

Wood shingles were probably the original roofing material. Currently, the house has asphalt shingles. The sides of the main block of the house are plainly treated. There are four symmetrically placed windows on each story of the southwest side (Photo 3). Two windows on each story of the northeast side are offset due to the interior staircase.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1 Foreman-Case House

A two story hip room section abuts the main block (Photos 3 and 4). The first story is brick, but the second story is wood frame with clapboard siding intact behind insulbrick siding. It appears that this section is an early addition which has been enlarged several times. An 1868 view of Delphi indicates a one story addition with a gable roof parallel to the main roof. This same view places the rear section flush to the southwest wall, but offset from the northeast side of the main block. Sometime after 1868, the wooden second story was added and the brick section enlarged. Judging from the four-over-four windows on the second story, this was likely done before 1890. The southwest side of this section is marked by a distinct brick seam (Photo 3). There are three windows on the first floor and two on the second level. The northeast side has a plain door and several windows on each floor. The rear of the house has several doors and randomly placed windows on each story. At some point, a shed roofed two run exterior staircase was added to this side of the house.

The interior of the Foreman-Case House is organized around a side hall plan. The stair hall is the most important space in the house (Photos 6 and 7). The straight run stair case features battered square newel posts and slender balusters. Boldly scaled stair brackets create a Vitruvian Wave pattern. A parlor is opposite the stair hall. Behind these are two large rooms which lead toward less formal chambers such as the kitchen. The second floor has an L-shaped stair hall and large parlor to the front. Three similar bedrooms extend along the southwest side. Bath, dining, and kitchen areas are found in the rear.

Typical interior elements include tall baseboards with cyma recta moldings, 8 inch oak flooring, and heavy paneled doors. Most woodwork is walnut. The window surrounds are especially noteworthy (Photo 8). They consist of panels flanked by 3 foot vernacular Doric plinths under the windows which support Doric pilasters. The composition is finished by a 14 inch plain entablature which extends to the 9 foot tall ceilings. Similar craftsmanship is found throughout the house. At the second floor landing, for example, paneled antae carry a massive entablature (Photo 9). Interior doorways feature simpler architrave moldings (Photo 11). Most of the iron door hardware and marblized knobs remain intact.

Original furniture from the Case family remains in the house. These possessions include a butler's desk, mahogany dining table with 8 chairs, matching youth chair, marble topped breakfront with candle shelves, Empire sofa, several mahogany side tables, and a 3 foot wide oriental hall runner.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2 Foreman-Case House

A 15 x 18 foot cast concrete block garage is located behind the Foreman-Case House (Photo 5). It appears to have been built in about 1920 and is counted as a non-contributing building.

The house is currently used as a lawyer's office.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c.1851

Significant Dates

c.1851
c.1920

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.

Built in c.1851, the Foreman-Case House is significant under Criterion C. This two story brick house is a locally outstanding example of Greek Revival architecture. The full pediment of the main facade and interior woodwork with boldly scaled classical moldings make the Foreman-Case House one of the best examples of Greek Revival in Delphi. The house is associated with Reed Case, who was a prominent citizen of Delphi.

The Foreman-Case House is significant as a representation of the canal era in Delphi. Platted as the seat of Carroll County in 1828, Delphi prospered mainly as a result of trade along the Wabash River and the Wabash and Erie Canal. The canal was first proposed by an 1827 act of Congress which donated a right of way for the project. Starting in Toledo, Ohio, the canal extended to Fort Wayne, Indiana. In Fort Wayne, the canal was to link the Maumee and Wabash Rivers. The proposed route would parallel the Wabash River to the southwest from Fort Wayne to Logansport, Delphi, Lafayette, and Terre Haute. Construction on the canal west from Fort Wayne began in 1832. The canal reached Carroll County in 1838. In 1839, steamboat locks in the Wabash were constructed at Pittsburg. An extension (or "cut") brought the canal to downtown Delphi in 1842. The architectural history of Delphi from 1828-1856 is related to the canal.

With the canal and river traffic came the wealth, goods, and exchange of ideas which allowed residents of the area to construct fashionable buildings. Examples of Greek Revival houses are relatively common in southern and eastern Indiana. Without the stimuli of canal and river trade, however, few if any examples of this style would have been erected in Delphi during this period. The canal operated in Delphi into the late 1850s, but in 1856, railroads were brought to Delphi. The town was soon subordinated to Lafayette, which became a major rail center in the region.

The context of the canal era in Delphi is illustrated by a number of resources. In addition to a remnant of the canal itself, 19 buildings

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1 Foreman-Case House

exist which are from the canal era. (These 19 were given the highest rating possible in the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory). Of these 19, the Foreman-Case is among the most intact and architecturally noteworthy. The Foreman-Case House is a locally outstanding representation of the Greek Revival style. In particular, the full pediment treatment of the gable end is seen on only two other buildings locally, and is rarely used on Indiana houses in general. The solid walnut interior woodwork of the house is also finely executed in the Greek Revival style.

The Foreman-Case House represents a house type which is associated with the Wabash and Erie Canal. Common elements of this type are a rectangular two story mass capped by a low pitched front facing gable roof. The front has three bays, with the entry offset to one side. The interior has a side hall plan. Most examples date from 1845-1860. Starting in New Haven, Indiana, one finds examples of this type along the canal route in New Haven, Fort Wayne, Jefferson Township (Cass County), Delphi, Lafayette, Attica, and Covington. One may theorize that Wabash, Huntington, and Logansport have lost examples to demolition. The detailing varies among examples of this house type. The Angel-Hoffman House in Fort Wayne has the usual elements of this type with simple Greek Revival moldings. The Potter House in Lafayette, on the other hand, recreates the classical temple with its full pediment supported by pilasters.

In Delphi, this type is well represented. The Burr-Bowman House (virtually identical to the Foreman-Case House), the Robinson-Butler House, the Pearson-Brooks House, and the Smith-Darragh House all represent the three-bay Greek Revival house in Delphi. While it would be incorrect to conclude that the three bay house type was linked exclusively to the canal, the analysis clearly shows one way this house type and architectural styles in general came to Indiana.

The Foreman-Case House was built c.1851 for Henry and Rudolph Foreman. In 1854, the Foremans moved to Chicago and the house was sold to James Gridley, who in turn sold the property to Reed Case in 1855. Case owned this house for four years before deeding it to his daughter, Josephine (Case) Schermerhorn, as a wedding gift. The house remained in the family until 1974, when it was purchased by the current owner, Martha Justice.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2 Foreman-Case House

Reed Case (1808-1871) was a significant figure in the development of Delphi. Born in Kentucky, Reed came with his parents to Indiana in 1810. He became a skilled brick mason and contractor, and in 1824, he established his own company. Some of his early projects include a courthouse for Hendricks County (demolished), and portions of the National Road (U.S. 40) through Hendricks and Putnam counties. In the 1830s, Case became involved in the construction of the Wabash and Erie Canal. In 1836, he was contracted to build portions of the canal in Miami County. Shortly after this, Mr. Case moved to the Delphi area and completed portions of the canal just south of town. Case formed a partnership with James Spears of Lafayette in 1838 and in the next year, the firm erected steamboat canals and locks on the Wabash River in Pittsburg. Spears and Case built the canal extension to Delphi in 1842. By this time, Mr. Case had decided to settle permanently in the area. He and his family moved from Pittsburg and he built a two story frame house on Front Street in Delphi. (The house in Pittsburg is likely demolished, while the house on Front Street has recently been moved.) Spears & Case Company began at this time to diversify. A large warehouse and pork packing plant were erected by them in Delphi in 1843 (demolished). In 1845, Spears and Case added James P. Dugan as a partner. At this time, the firm essentially operated as the only bank in the city, and in the 1850s, the three partners founded the First National Bank of Delphi. Reed Case was the cashier.

Mr. Case became active in other forms of transportation at this time. He was the superintendent and a trustee of the Delphi-Frankfort Plank Road. In 1852, Case was one of several delegates to attend a railroad convention in Logansport. When the Wabash Valley Railroad (now Norfolk and Western) was built along the Wabash and Erie Canal bed, Reed Case was appointed to start the Carroll County portion of the project. He rode the first train to use the tracks in June of 1856.

Just prior to this event, Case purchased the nominated property, and converted his former house to an inn. One source credits Case with erecting the nominated property. This has not been clearly substantiated, however.

Spears, Case, and Dugan Company continued to expand, especially in the meat packing trade. In 1863, a large pork and beef packing plant was built just east of Delphi (demolished). Probably about this time, Case moved out of the nominated property and built yet another house (exact location and condition unknown, but probably still standing). Case lived at this fourth house until his death in 1871.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3 Foreman-Case House

Criterion B is not claimed for the nominated house for several reasons, which are outlined below.

-Although one source states that Case lived in the nominated house for "many years," he deeded it to his daughter after only four years. (Case may have lived in the house with his daughter for sometime.) No city directories were published for Delphi at that time which would verify Case's term of occupancy of the house.

-It is unclear which of the possibly three existing resources is more clearly associated with Case. More indepth primary research is needed to determine this. Information is lacking about the fourth house; it is unknown if it still stands, if it has integrity, and how long Case occupied it.

While this point may remain unresolved, the Foreman-Case House is clearly eligible under Criterion C.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Abstract of Title, 312 East Main Street, Delphi, Indiana.

Esarey, Logan. A History of Indiana. Indianapolis: Hoosier Heritage Press, 1970. (Reissue of 1918 Original) pp. 356-360 and 385-393.

Helm, Thomas B. History of Carroll County, Indiana. Chicago: Kingman Bros., 1882. p.246 and p. 250.

Illustrated Historical Atlas of Carroll County, Indiana. Chicago: O.L. Baskin, 1874. pp.32-33

Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. Carroll County Interim Report. Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1980.

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 Less than one acre.

UTM References

A

1	6
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5	2	7	7	3	0
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4	4	9	2	8	3	0
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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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 Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lot 8 in Wilson's Addition to Delphi, Indiana.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This is the historic boundary.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Martha Justice

organization _____

street & number R. R. 2, Box 197

city or town Logansport

date _____

telephone 219-652-4236

state IN

zip code 46947

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1 Foreman-Case House

Bibliography (continued)

O'Dell, John C. History of Carroll County, Indiana. Indianapolis:
B.F. Bowen & Co., 1916. p.155.

Peat, Wilbur. Indiana House of the Nineteenth Century. Indianapolis:
Indiana Historical Society, 1962.

Peat, Wilbur. 19th Century Domestic Architecture of Allen County,
Indiana. Fort Wayne, IN: Public Library of Fort Wayne and
Allen County, 1964.

"Reed Case Profile." Unpublished Article, 1989. Carroll County
Wabash & Erie Canal Association, Delphi, Indiana.

Smith, William C. "Up the River of Time, Historical Facts Pertaining
to Carroll County," Unknown Delphi Newspaper, Date Unknown
(Biography of Reed Case)

Sutton Bros' Lafayette, Crawfordsville, Frankfort, Delphi, and Attica
Illustrated 1887-8 Directory. Cincinnati: 1887.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photos Page 1

Foreman-Case House

The following information is identical for all photographs:

1. Foreman-Case House
2. Delphi, Indiana
3. Martha Justice
4. 1988
5. Martha Justice
R. 2, Box 197
Logansport, IN

The following describes each view, with the photo number given first:

1. Main entry, looking south
2. Northwest (main) elevation, looking east/southeast
3. Southwest (right side) elevation, looking east/southeast
4. Southeast (rear) elevation, looking north
5. Garage, looking north
6. Interior, first floor stairhall, looking north
7. Interior, newel detail, looking north
8. Interior, first floor parlor window surround, looking southwest
9. Interior, second floor landing, looking southeast
10. Interior, second floor doorway, looking southeast
11. Interior, second floor door, looking north