

FINAL

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Igleheart, Edgar A., House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 5500 Lincoln Avenue N/A not for publication  
city, town Evansville N/A vicinity  
state Indiana code 18 county Vanderburgh code 163 zip code 47715

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>7</u>	<u>0</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>7</u>	<u>0</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.

Signature of certifying official [Signature] 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

DOMESTIC: Secondary structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

DOMESTIC: secondary structure

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th AND 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:

French Renaissance

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

STONE

roof STONE: SLATE

other WOOD: weatherboard

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Rather than being an Americanized revival version of the French Chateau style, the Edgar A. Igleheart House was patterned after a chateau that the Iglehearts had seen and photographed during a trip to Paris, France, sometime after their 1922 marriage. Completed a decade later, in 1932, on plans prepared by the skilled local architect, Edward Joseph Thole, Sr., the Evansville translation was gifted with a hilltop site overlooking outer Lincoln Avenue, five miles east of the city, deep in the heart of the Knight Township rural countryside. The elegant design and commanding situation of the Igleheart house were a marriage that produced one of the area's outstanding early 20th century architectural and cultural resources, a status which it still enjoys.

The residence is situated in a fifteen-acre section of land that was part of a twenty-three acre tract bought by the Iglehearts in 1929 from George W. Lant, a farmer who had settled in Knight Township fifty years before. The fifteen acres extend from east to west across the southern part of the property and, in addition to the Edgar A. Igleheart House, they support several associated (contributing) outbuildings, which are located east of the main house. Two of the buildings originally comprised the old Lant home, but in making way for the construction of his own residence, Igleheart moved the house in two sections to the new location, and made separate use of each. A third building is the stable. (Adjacent to the fifteen acres, covering the north one-third of the property, are eight acres of flat, unused field land, which are not included for National Register consideration.)

The overall design of the Edgar A. Igleheart House is symmetrical and comprises a central, rectangular section flanked at each end by a wing. White-painted brick walls rise two stories in height and each section is surmounted by a slate-clad hip roof. Those of the wings are more accentuated in pitch than the main roof and terminate with a flair. Piercing the front and rear slopes of the main roof are two widely spaced, segmentally-arched dormers. A utilitarian, round-arched vent punctuates the same roof slopes of the wings. The design program for the north and the south elevations is identical, except that on the south side the wings are slightly advanced and on the rear (north) side they are recessed. The focal point of both elevations is the entrance pavilion, which is treated like a classical portico, complete

See continuation sheet



**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)  
Architecture

Period of Significance  
1932

Significant Dates  
1932

Cultural Affiliation  
N/A

Significant Person  
N/A

Architect/Builder  
Thole, Edward Joseph Sr.

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

The Edgar A. Igleheart House was added to Evansville's relatively small collection of outstanding early 20th century domestic architecture on its completion in 1932. The residence is a scaled-down model of a French chateau which, in execution, has no local peer. It was built for one of the city's prominent businessmen, Edgar Igleheart, the president of the Igleheart Brothers Milling Company, and his wife. The translator for implementing the chateau design for the Iglehearts was Edward Joseph Thole (1890-1956), an Evansville architect knowledgeable in recreating fine architecture of the past. Working from a photograph, Thole successfully produced a home for a modern-day family and, at the same time, maintained the historic elegance of its French ancestry.

Although the exact prototype for the design of the Igleheart is not known, its general plan, consisting of a central rectangular body, cubical terminal wings and hip roofs, is based on 17th century chateau architecture of the Paris environs, such as that of the chateaux of Mesnil-Voisin, Rosny and Courances. Window symmetry and configuration are also in conformance with the style, while the classical entrance pavilion has a particular precedent in that of the chateau La Celle (c.1650). Thole's rendering of the 20th century Evansville model captures the essence Old World architecture and, in line, proportion and detailing, it exhibits the sophistication that helped to make him one of this century's foremost local architects. Among his other known works are the Georgian Revival Bernardin-Johnson House, the Prairie School Boseman-Waters Bank and the Neo-classical portico of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Coliseum, all of which are listed on the National Register. The basilica-style St. Benedicts Catholic Church, a component of the Lincolnshire Historic District (National Register 1990), is another example of his work.

Unlike many period revival homes, the Edgar Igleheart House recreates the spacious setting and accouterments of a gentlemen's estate, complete with pastoral grounds, support buildings, and elaborate stables.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

ATLASES, BIOGRAPHIES, HISTORIES, etc.

An Illustrated Plat Book of Vanderburgh and Warick Counties, Indiana.  
Evansville: Tillman & Fuller Publishing Co., 1899; reprint ed.,  
Evansville: Unigraphic, Inc., and Friends of Willard Library, 1975.

"Edgar A. Igleheart, General Manager." General Foods Magazine,  
December 1931, p. 30.

Lant, Kay Freels. Lant and Allied Families. Evansville: the author,  
1978.

People of Progress in Evansville, Indiana. Evansville: 1966.

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:**

Department of Metropolitan  
Development, Evansville, IN 47708

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property 15 acres

**UTM References**

A	1,6	4,5,7	4,1,0	4,2,0,2	5,0,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		
C	1,6	4,5,7	7,1,0	4,2,0,2	3,2,0

B	1,6	4,5,7	7,1,0	4,2,0,2	5,0,0
	Zone	Easting	Northing		
D	1,6	4,5,7	4,1,0	4,2,0,2	3,2,0

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification** The boundary lines were selected to encompass the immediate grounds of the nominated residence and the outbuildings which go with it. Not included for National Register consideration are eight acres of field land in the north one-third of the property, which do not add to the significance of the residence.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Joan C. Marchand, Historic Preservation Officer  
organization City of Evansville, Indiana date June 29, 1990  
street & number 216 Washington Avenue telephone (812) 428-0737  
city or town Evansville state Indiana zip code 47713

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with a stone pediment, a Grecian-style entrance outlined by stone and brick corner quoins that serve as pilasters. Both the pediments and the entrance surrounds are enhanced with delicately carved classical motifs. The door is a double-leaf paneled style with rich mouldings and capped by a three-light transom. Windows of the house are of the multi-pane, steel-sash casement type, set in flat-arched or segmentally-arched openings, depending on the location. Between the first and second story windows of the central section are stone panels ornamented with a carved swag. Windows of the wings originally had shutters, but they were removed some years ago.

While the exterior style of the Igleheart house may vividly call to mind a Renaissance chateau of, for example the Ile-de-France region surrounding Paris, the interior of the ten-room residence is an eclectic, but elegant, mix of 1930s and reproduction architectural details. Most striking is the Art Deco stairway that provides the spacious reception area with particular interest. It features an iron railing composed of crossed arrows in a repeating pattern, separated by delicate wrought iron balusters. Black moulding dramatizes the ascent of the stair steps. An appointment in keeping with the vintage French architecture of the exterior is the elaborately carved marble mantelpiece that graces the west wall of the formal living room. (However, the fireplace is not functional. This strategem, along with the use of fire-proof construction materials--brick, slate, steel beams and steel-sash windows-- and a four-inch thick concrete first story floor, was a measure intended to minimize the chances of a fire occurring.) Other details include crystal light fixtures--wall sconces and a dining room chandelier.

The outbuildings of the estate are clustered in the east part of the property, in an area at the base of the north slope of the hill. All contribute to the significance of the estate. The stable is the most noteworthy of the group. It was built concurrent with the construction of the residence, or shortly afterwards, to house the Igleheart race horses. The plan is similar to that of the house, and features a central section terminated at each end by a wing. Walls are constructed with ship-lap siding and pitched roofs are now covered by roll roofing. Windows are multi-paned with shutters. The main entrance is



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slightly advanced, and its gable is a hayloft door and a hay pulley. Gables of the building are decorated by curved bracing. On the interior, the south wall is lined with wooden stalls.

Opposite the stable are the two sections of the old Lant home. Knowledge of their construction history is sparse. It is possible to say that both were in existence at the turn of the century. The two-story weatherboarded building, with a cross gable, served as the front part of the house. Its fenestration depicted in a photograph taken after the turn of the century shows that it had over-sized first-story windows at the front, aligned vertically with second-story paired windows. Windows at the time were double-hung sashes containing single glass panes. The building on the inside and on the outside has been substantially altered, besides being separated from the rear wing. It stands vacant, used at times for storage. The one-and-one-half story "cottage" was the rear part of the Lant house, and one of its present gabled side walls was attached to the front section. The screened porch was added after the move from the hill. Again, windows of this section have also been altered. The house is occupied by the caretaker.

Just north of the two story Lant House fragment is a three bay frame garage, built c.1932. Two outbuildings stand south of the stable, the one to the west seems to have been a garage, the other to the east was likely a cow barn (the Iglehearts kept cows on their property to provide fresh milk). Both of these buildings are not actively used now, but they do date from c.1932 and are rated contributing. The tennis court and pool are not included in the resource count, since they are not highly visible structures.

The following includes a list of photographs, accompanied by date and directional data, as well as by any other pertinent information. All 1989 and 1990 photographs were taken by Joan C. Marchand. Period views were reproduced from snapshots. Negatives are on file with Historic Preservation Services, Department of Metropolitan Development, City of Evansville, Indiana. Numbers in parenthesis correlate with the photographic print numbering system and are keyed into the Photo Key map.

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- (1) 11/89. View, facing northwest, of the front (south) elevation.
- (2) 11/89. Close-up view of the front of the house, facing northwest.
- (3) 11/89. View, facing northeast, showing from a distance the residence in its hilltop context. Trees, liberally dotting the front lawn partially obscure the house from Lincoln Avenue now.
- (4) 11/89. View, facing southwest, showing an example of modern development that now surrounds the property. In this case, it is a high-rise apartment building.
- (5) 11/89. View, facing west, of the grounds below the west side of the house.
- (6) 11/89. View, facing west, of the tennis court. The parking lot beyond and to the right in the photograph serves the high school. The tennis court is accessed from the house by the flagstone walk.
- (7) 11/89. View, facing northwest. The photograph was taken from the rear of the house, and offers only a glimpse of the high school.
- (8) 11/89. View, facing northwest, taken from the top of the hill at the rear of the house.
- (9) c. 1930s. View, facing south, showing the rear (north) elevation of the house and its relatively treeless period context. The view also gives a clear idea of the massing articulation of the house.
- (10) 11/89. View, facing northeast. A small portion of the unused field in the north part of the property can be seen at the base of the hill. Virtually unseen, however, is a modern housing subdivision.
- (11) 03/90. View, facing west, showing the east elevation of the house as seen from the somewhat higher former pasture land.
- (12) View, facing southeast, showing a portion of the rail-fenced pasture land.
- (13) 03/90. View, facing northeast, from the pasture land, showing the arrangement of the outbuildings of the property. The two sections of the old Lant home can be seen, the west wing of the stable, and behind it, two contributing outbuildings.
- (14) c.1930s. View, facing northeast, of the front (south) elevation, giving a clear picture of the massing articulation

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- from a different direction, as well as showing some of the detailing, such as the shuttered windows and the quoins ornamenting the corners of the wings.
- (15) 11/89. Close-up view, facing north, of the south elevation of the central section of the house.
  - (16) c.1930s. Unobscured view, facing east, of the plan of the front elevation.
  - (17) c.1930s. A relatively unobscured view, facing south, of the north (rear) elevation.
  - (18) 03/90. View, facing southeast, of the rear elevation. Both the front and rear have identical architectural programs, in keeping with the plans of some French chateaux.
  - (19) 03/90. View, facing south, of the north elevation. The view was taken from the diving board of the swimming pool, which is bordered by a trimmed hedge.
  - (20) 11/89. Close-up view of the south entrance pavilion. That of the rear is identical in plan.
  - (21) 11/89. View from the interior of the double-leaf paneled door. Rich mouldings outline the panels.
  - (22) 11/89. View, from the interior, of a segmentally-arched steel-sash casement window.
  - (23) 11/89. View, from the interior, facing southeast, of the glass-enclosed porch. An architectural feature of the area is the coffered ceiling.
  - (24) 11/89. View, facing west, showing the east elevation of the house, with its two-bay garage. Corner quoins and slate-clad hipped roofs forward the French architecture of the residence.
  - (25) 11/89. View, facing north, of the front stairway. The floor covering of the reception hall is the original rubber tile.
  - (26) 11/89. Close-up view, of the stairway's wrought and cast iron railing, showing the crossed arrow repeating motif.
  - (27) 11/89. View, facing west, of the reception area. The livingroom is located at the west end of the house. The archway to the right in the photo leads into a library.
  - (28) 11/89. View, facing east, of the entrance area, which extends across the full length of the middle section of the house. At center in the photograph and beyond the arch is the diningroom, followed by the breakfast room.
  - (29) 03/89. View of the marble mantelpiece of the livingroom. The crystal wall sconces can also be seen in the picture.



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- (30) 11/89. Close-up view of wood finishes of the entrance area. The trim is used throughout the house.
- (31) 11/89. View of the dining room crystal chandelier.
- (32) 11/89. View of the stairwell light fixture. Light fixtures are generally simple, but elegant in design.
- (33) 03/90. View, facing southeast, of the front (northside) of the stable.
- (34) A close-up view of the slightly advanced entrance to the stable.
- (35) 01/90. View, facing northwest, of the rear (south side) of the stable.
- (36) 03/90. View, facing southeast, of the interior of the stable. Stalls line the south wall of the middle section. The wings contain the tack room and utility areas.
- (37) 01/90. View, facing east, of the front part of the old Lant home. Windows at the turn of the century contained double-hung sashes with single glass panes. To the north and east of the structure is a three-car garage of more recent origin.
- (38) 01/90. View, facing northeast. In the foreground is the former rear section of the Lant house.

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High architectural merit, produced by an accomplished designer, is a significant aspect of the Igleheart house. It is also noteworthy for its association with Edgar A. Igleheart (1891-1962), a grandson of the founder of one of the city's oldest company's, Igleheart Brothers Flour Mill (1856). Beginning as a youth, Igleheart learned the business from the ground up--from the mill floor to the corporate offices. After graduation from the University of Pennsylvania, he joined the family business and spent the next years as sales manager. In 1926, when the company merged with General Foods, he and his cousin were given charge of the mill's operation. Later, in 1932, the year that his country residence was completed, he took over the reins of the company as president and guided it until 1943, when he retired. Igleheart's hobbies were travel and the development of a racing stable, the latter reflecting the large acreage of the estate and the well-built stable and the former hobby, with little doubt, providing the appreciation which lead to the outstanding chateau architecture of the Igleheart's country house.

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## NEWSPAPERS (continued)

"Edgar Igleheart Dies; Former Mill Chairman." Evansville Press,  
2 August 1962.

"Igleheart home on city's far East Side makes statement for timeless  
beauty." Evansville Courier, 2 May 1983.

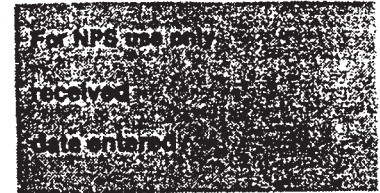
## OTHER PRIMARY SOURCE MATERIALS

Evansville, Indiana, City Directories  
Vanderburgh County, Indiana, Deed Grantee/Grantor Index  
Vanderburgh County, Indiana, Deed Records  
Vanderburgh County, Indiana, Plat Records  
Vanderburgh County, Indiana, Knight Township Assessor's Records



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Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet Geographical Data

Item number 10

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**Verbal Boundaries**

Part of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter and part of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 25, Township 6 South, Range 10 West, lying in the City of Evansville, County of Vanderburgh, State of Indiana, and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point at the intersection of the north right-of-way line of Lincoln Avenue and the east right-of-way line of Fielding Road, that point being 499.6 feet west and 40 feet north of the southeast corner of the northwest quarter of Section 25, Township 6 South, Range 10 West;

Thence north along the east right-of-way line of Fielding Road for a distance of 650 feet;

Thence east to the west property line of Lot 2 of Dr. Weiss Subdivision, unrecorded, a distance of 1000 feet;

Thence south along the west property line of Dr. Weiss Subdivision, unrecorded, to the north right-of-way line of Lincoln Avenue, a distance of 660 feet;

Thence west along the north right-of-way line of Lincoln Avenue a distance of 500.4 feet to a point on the west line of the northeast quarter, thence north along the west line of the northeast quarter for a distance of 10 feet, thence west along the north right-of-way line of Lincoln Avenue for 499.6 feet to the east right-of-way line of Fielding Road, the place of beginning.

Joseph D. Ballard  
Area Plan Commission  
April 1990