

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance.

The Mattias Scholle House was built as a typical two-story brick Harmonist residence, and appears on the 1824 map of Harmonie, Indiana. It is located on the northeast corner of Tavern and Brewery Streets. The house is placed directly on the corner property lines with its only door facing the side yard, typical of Harmonist siting.

Harmonist houses were built of either frame or brick construction, but all were standardized and mass-produced. Timbers were prepared and marked, and when a house was to be erected, the parts were taken to the site for assembly. Connected by mortise and tenon joints, the parts were anchored by driving kiln-dried hardwood square pegs into round holes in the poplar framing. With the passage of time and exposure to moisture in the atmosphere, the pegs would expand to assure a tight fit. Roof rafters were built as individual trusses, with the weight being carried to the outside walls. Thus, interior walls were not affected by snow, wind, or temperature changes.

The fireplaces were built to one side of the house, allowing the center beam to be continuous, but the chimney was corbelled so that it penetrated the roof at the ridge, eliminating the cricket and flashing problem. The center load of the house was carried on the intersection of the interior walls, rather than on the chimney. Interior walls were insulated with brick nogging, so that heat from a heated room would not be lost to a cold room. The ceilings of both the first floor and the attic were insulated with "Dutch biscuits," eighteen-inch boards that were wrapped in straw and mud. The ends of the wood were tapered to fit into grooves in the ceiling rafters. This also acted as a fire barrier.

Downstairs were located the entry hall, kitchen, and living room. The entry hall acted as a cold air lock, and also contained the ladder-type stairway with closets beneath. Next to this was the kitchen. The living room ran the width of the house, with a fireplace on the interior wall, flanked by doors into each of the other two rooms. There was one window in each of the outside walls. Bedrooms were on the second floor.

The Scholle House has undergone some changes from its original design, although much of the original fabric is still in place. The original windows have been replaced, except for one attic window. The cornice and gable verge boards are all of later fabric, and modern roofing has been applied. The door has been replaced, although the frame is original.

Inside, some of the original partitions have been removed, as has the stairway, and the floor of the first story has been covered with later material. However, the floor of the second story is original, and the attic stairway is still in place. The interior trim on the second floor is partially intact. A bathroom was added to the second floor.

The Mattias Scholle House is presently undergoing restoration.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1823

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Mattias Scholle House is significant as an especially good example of Harmonist construction. It stands at the only intersection in present-day New Harmony where three corners are still occupied by Harmonist buildings.

New Harmony is unique in the history of 19th-century American communal experiments, because it was the scene of both religiously and secularly inspired utopian communities. Harmonie, Indiana was founded by followers of George Rapp in 1815, who had moved there from their first community in Harmonie, Pennsylvania. The Harmonists were religious refugees from Württemberg, Germany, dedicated to life in a harmonious, cooperative society. In 1825 they returned to Pennsylvania and sold the village to Robert Owen, who renamed it New Harmony and attempted to develop a communistic society. By the end of 1826, however, that experiment had failed.

The Scholle House was constructed during the Rappite period, using the standardized mass-produced parts for which the Harmonist structures are noted. The house demonstrates the skill and ingenuity of the Harmonists through its excellent design and solid construction.

Mattias Scholle came to Harmonie, Indiana as a young man. His father, Jacob Scholle, was one of the early followers of George Rapp who had come to America in 1804. Mattias, a shoemaker, was a craftsman in a community of craftsmen and laborers. The shoes that he and his fellow shoemakers made were both worn in the town and sold for export.

The New Harmony Historic District was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1965. That District, however, includes only a portion of the Rappite buildings that still stand. Plans are to restore the Scholle House as a public museum.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Harmonist Construction, Don Blair. Indiana Historical Society Publications, Vol. 23, No. 2. Indianapolis, 1964.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name New Harmony, Ind.-Ill.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

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

B

Zone		Easting				Northing					

C

Zone		Easting				Northing					

D

Zone		Easting				Northing					

E

Zone		Easting				Northing					

F

Zone		Easting				Northing					

G

Zone		Easting				Northing					

H

Zone		Easting				Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification

Part of Lot 87, Owen's Original, Town of New Harmony, Posey County, Indiana, as recorded in Deed Record #91, Page #169.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rose Broz

organization Historic New Harmony, Inc. date June 26, 1979

street & number telephone 812-682-4488

city or town New Harmony Box 248 state Indiana 47631

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *[Signature]*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date January 19, 1981

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

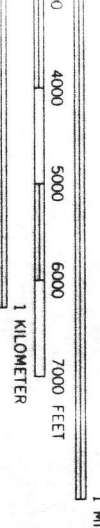
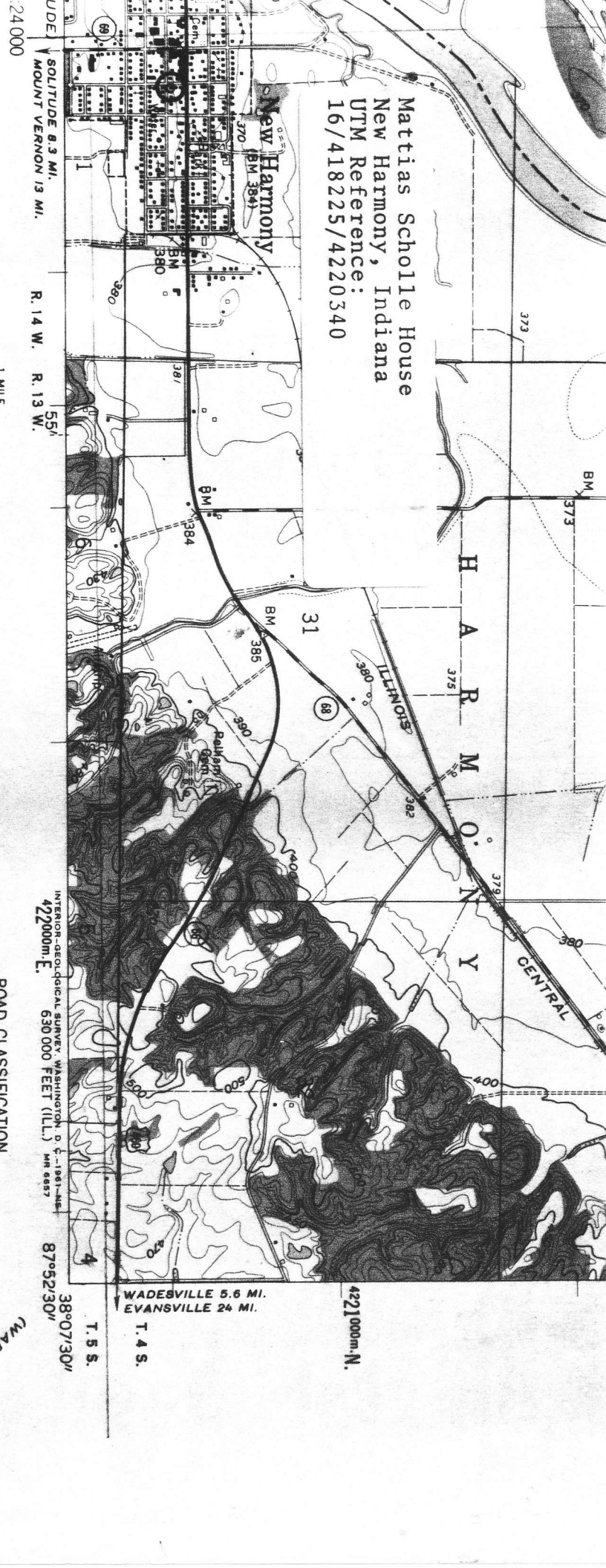
date _____

Keeper of the National Register

Affest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

Mattias Scholle House
 New Harmony, Indiana
 UTM Reference:
 16/418225/4220340



VERTICAL INTERVAL 10 FEET
 CONTOUR INTERVAL 5-FOOT
 CONTOURS IN SEA LEVEL

NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.,
 SURVEY, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA,
 SURVEY, URBANA, ILLINOIS
 AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty ———— Light-duty ————
 Medium-duty ———— Unimproved dirt ————
 U. S. Route State Route

NEW HARMONY, IND.—ILL.
 NW/4 NEW HARMONY 15' QUADRANGLE
 N 3807.5—W 8752.5/7.5
 1959

INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.—1961—464
 422000m. E. 630 000 FEET (ILL.) M 6657

WADESVILLE
 38°07'30"
 T. 4 S.
 T. 5 S.

WADESVILLE 5.6 MI.
 EVANSVILLE 24 MI.

4221000m. N.