

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Howe, John Badlam, Mansion

other names/site number Howe Military School Rectory; Howe Military School Admin. Bldg.

2. Location

street & number West Union Street N/A not for publication

city or town Howe N/A vicinity

state Indiana code IN county LaGrange code 087 zip code 46746

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Patrick R. Roberts

8/1/95

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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:)

John Badlam Howe Mansion
Name of Property

LaGrange County, Indiana
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
RELIGION: church-related residence
EDUCATION: education-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: museum
EDUCATION: research facility
EDUCATION: education-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Second Empire

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE
walls BRICK
STONE: limestone
roof SLATE
other TERRA COTTA
METAL

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

John Badlam Howe Mansion
Name of Property

LaGrange County, Indiana
County and State

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.

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1875-1883

Significant Dates

1875

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Howe, John Badlam

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Barrows, Julius

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Howe Military School Archives

John Badlam Howe Mansion
Name of Property

LaGrange County, Indiana
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>6</u> <u>3</u> <u>1</u> <u>0</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>6</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u> <u>1</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marcia Marsett, Gloriann Poljak, Thomas Merritt (Superintendent)

organization Howe Military School date February 24, 1995

street & number 1 Academy Drive, P.O. Box 240 telephone 219-562-2131

city or town Howe state IN zip code 46746

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name Howe Military School

street & number 1 Academy Drive, P.O. Box 240 telephone _____

city or town Howe state IN zip code 46746

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1The John B. Howe Mansion
LaGrange County, Indiana

Description

The John B. Howe Mansion is a two story white brick building with a fieldstone foundation. It was built in 1875 in the Italian Villa style and is located on the campus of Howe Military School, Union Street, in the Village of Howe, Indiana.

Constructed of Grand Rapids white brick, trimmed in stone and terra cotta, (as described in 1876 by Architect Julius M. Barrows), this house faces south with the front measuring 51 feet and the overall length 78 feet (photo 1). The three story square tower, centrally positioned in a gable-front and wing plan, has a crested mansard roof, pierced by four full arched dormer windows, decorative brick belting with dentils, port-hole windows with decorative window heads, and wide eaves with carved paired brackets. There are three interior brick chimneys with decorative corbelling rising above a patterned slate roof (photo 2). The carved and incised decorative trim on each of the three gables, wide cornices with ornate paired eaves brackets, and front porch with chamfered posts and incised cornice brackets all remain in excellent condition (photo 3).

To the west of the tower, on the front facade, are four paired, one over one, double hung windows. The first floor has segmentally arched windows, and those on the second floor are fully arched windows. All windows on this facade have stone sills and elaborated stone crowns (photo 4). In the peak of the gable and centrally located above the second floor windows is a fixed port-hole window. Echoing this circular window is an elaborate arched wooden eaves trim with incised and open work and supported by wide cornices with dentils and ornate paired eaves brackets (photo 5).

The tower has two, one over one, double hung windows, one on each floor, on the south facade and the main entrance, and a single one over one double hung window above the entrance on the east. A one story porch extends from the tower to the east end of the east wing. Equally spaced on the first floor and under the porch roof, are two, one over one, double hung windows. The front entrance, also under the porch roof, has an elaborately carved stone crown. The second floor of the east wing has two equally spaced, one over one, double hung windows. Above these windows is a wide cornice with dentils and three pair of ornate eaves brackets.

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LaGrange County, Indiana

Description (Continued)

The south part of the east facade features four paired, one over one, double hung windows with stone sills and elaborated stone window crowns. The windows on the first floor have segmental crowns and those on the second floor are fully arched. The ornate gable trim highlights the fixed port-hole window and echoes the gable trim of the front facade (photo 6).

At the center of the east facade is a single story bay topped by a mansard roof and three full arched dormers with framed, one over one, double hung windows. The three, one over one, double hung windows of the bay have stone sills and elaborated segmental stone crowns (photo 7). On the north side of the bay is a door opening to a porch which is recessed under the mansard roof of the north wing.

The north wing is a single story with a straight mansard patterned slate roof, segmental dormers with framed two light double casement windows (photo 8) and two porches. In 1958, the wooden porch floors and steps were replaced with concrete and brick. Metal handrails were installed and a small brick projection was built under the roof and in the center of the porch on the east facade. Three doors with segmental brick crowns open to this porch (see floor plan). To the north of this porch is a single, two over two, double hung window with stone sill and segmental brick crown.

The rear, or north, facade, of the north wing, shows a single, two over two, double hung window and steps leading to a doorway with a rectangular four panel wooden door. The doorway and window are topped with segmental brick crowns patterned to follow the stone crowns of the main building. The mansard roof on this facade has one centrally located segmental framed dormer with two light double casement windows and wide eaves with small carved double eaves brackets mounted on a plain narrow cornice (photo 9).

The west facade of the north wing has three, two over two, double hung segmental windows with stone sills and brick crowns. To the south of these windows is a doorway opening to a porch which originally extended from the main building to form a porte-cochere. Set in the mansard roof are two framed segmental dormers with two light double casement windows.

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The John B. Howe Mansion
LaGrange County, Indiana

Description (Continued)

In 1958, the porte-cochere was removed, the wooden floor and steps of the porch were replaced with cement, and metal handrails were installed. A portion of the original porch roof remains and separates the single, two over two, double hung windows on the first and second floors of the north facade of the main house. The same carved and incised gable trim, fixed port-hole window, wide cornices, and paired eaves brackets, complete this north facade (photo 10).

The west facade has a two story projection with four paired, one over one, double hung windows with stone sills and elaborated stone crowns. Again, the first floor has segmental arched windows and those of the second floor are fully arched. Positioned on the gable roof, above this projection, is a mansard roof with metal cresting and one hooded, full arched dormer with a, one over one, double hung window. To the south of this projection is a two story octagonal bay with a decorative brick panel between the two floors. The, one over one, double hung windows of the bay have stone sills and brick crowns. Projecting from the gable roof above the bay is a hooded, full arched dormer with a framed single panel window. Wide cornices with ornate paired eaves brackets and dentils complete this facade.

The front entry, with arched double doors, containing single etched glass panes and carved panels, opens from the porch to the main hall, 9 x 42ft. 3in., finished in black walnut and wainscoted. It contains one original chandelier and an open staircase with ornate newel post (photo 11) and carved balusters leading to the second floor. All doors opening from this hall have arched tops (photo 12).

Off the hall, to the west, is a parlor, 18 x 22ft., with bay window, plaster cornice, original ceiling medallion, and ceiling molding. There is a white marble mantel topped by a large mirror set in an elaborate wood frame, painted white, with gold trim (photo 13). Valances over the windows echo the design of the mirror frame (photo 14). In 1896, the original gas lights were replaced by electricity and a doorway to the east of the fireplace was added in c. 1910 (photo 15-a copy of c. 1895 photo).

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LaGrange County, Indiana

Description (Continued)

To the north of the parlor is a bedroom, 14 x 18ft. 8in. It has a Tennessee marble mantel, plaster cornice, and the original ceiling medallion. Originally opening from this room was a closet, 6 x 7ft. and a bathroom, 6 x 9ft. 10in., containing a bathtub, washstand and a water closet supplied with hot and cold water. All three rooms were finished in butternut. The openings to the closet and bathroom were closed in 1958, and these rooms were remodeled into public restrooms with an entrance from the front hall.

Across from the parlor, to the east, is the library, 16ft. 10in. x 17ft. 7in., with plaster cornice, original ceiling medallion, and ceiling molding (photo 16). There is a fireplace mantel of wood finished in ash and a hearth of glazed ceramic tiles. A large over-mantel mirror is simply framed in wood in keeping with the wide wooden moldings on the arched doorways (photo 17). Remaining today, as it was in 1875, (photo 18-copy of c. 1895 photo), the library is connected to the dining room with large double pocket doors (photo 19-copy of c. 1895 photo, and photo 20).

The dining room, 15ft. x 21ft. 6in., has a three window bay (photo 21), plaster cornice and wood mantel finished in black walnut (photo 22). A large over-mantel mirror is set in an elaborate wooden frame accentuated with cartouches and carvings. In 1981, a new ceiling medallion and chandelier were installed to replace the original medallion which was broken in 1958 (photo 23). The original opening from this room to a china-closet, with a dumb waiter, was closed in 1958.

A back hall, 6 x 6ft., finished in walnut and wainscoted, opens from the main hall into the kitchen, back stairway, and porch. An original gas fixture, later electrified, remains in this hall.

The kitchen, 12 x 21ft., originally finished in pine and varnished, wainscoted, and with hardwood floors, opens into a china-closet, and pantry, 5ft. 6in. x 12ft. In 1958, doors and walls were added to the kitchen and laundry, 12 x 14ft., at the rear of the kitchen. This was done to partition this space for offices. The kitchen and laundry also open to the east porch. (See floor plan).

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The John B. Howe Mansion
LaGrange County, Indiana

Description (Continued)

Above the main hall, on the second floor, is a hall of equal size. There is no wainscoating and doorways are rectangular with wide moldings (photos 24 and 25).

The front chamber, over the parlor, has a carved, marble mantel (photo 26), plaster cornice, and bay window continued from below (photo 27).

To the north of this chamber and over the bedroom below, is a chamber having a carved, marble mantel, a closet and bathroom. These rooms were originally finished in butternut.

The chamber over the library has two original closets and a wood mantel, originally finished in butternut, but presently painted white (photo 28). The chamber over the dining room has a wood mantel and was originally finished in cedar. Opening from this room is a bathroom supplied with hot and cold water.

Also, on the second floor, formed by the mansard roof of the north wing, are two chambers, a back hall, three closets, and a backstairs. All are finished in pine and varnished. Opening from the back hall is a stairway leading to the attic and tower. The tower is finished in pine and varnished. The attic contains a cedar closet.

Originally, the attic contained a twenty barrel tank and each floor was equipped with a faucet for the attachment of a hose, as a preventative against fire. Speaking tubes and bells were supplied throughout the house. None of these features remain today.

The basement, equal in area to the horizontal section of the whole house, is divided into different rooms containing the furnace, coal storage, fruit and vegetable storage, and a wine cellar.

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John B. Howe Mansion
LaGrange County, Indiana

Statement of Significance

The John B. Howe Mansion, built in 1875, is significant as an outstanding example of the Italian Villa style with High Victorian detailing, and for the originally fine craftsmanship which has been preserved during its 120 year existence. Built of Grand Rapids white brick, trimmed in stone, and terra cotta, with a slate roof, a tower, and modern improvements of that day, it was considered to be "the highest attainment in residential building", in the county, in 1876. The decorative brick work, the wide cornices with paired brackets, and the carved wooden ornamentation on the gables, are fine examples of the craftsmanship of the period. Its interior contains an ornately carved staircase in the main hall, doors with arched tops, plaster cornices and medallions, eight fireplaces with mantels of marble or wood, and wide moldings finished in ash, black walnut, or butternut. Few changes to the original building have been made, and the building has high integrity on both the interior and exterior.

Representing the prosperity and growth of the area in the late 1800's, and built under the supervision of architect Julius M. Barrows, the John B. Howe Mansion remains, today, the only example of this style in the county. As a resident of Sturgis, Michigan, in 1889, Julius M. Barrows had been the architect and contractor of other fine residences and the Methodist, Baptist, and Lutheran Churches of Sturgis; three churches in LaGrange County, and some fifteen churches in other places. He was also known as the Superintendent of the building of the Fifth Avenue Hotel in Emporia, Kansas. It is not known how many of those structures remain today.

The John B. Howe Mansion is also significant for its historic association with the development of the community of Howe, Indiana, education in Indiana, and as the home of a prominent Howe citizen.

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John B. Howe Mansion
LaGrange County, Indiana

summary paragraph

The Howe Mansion is significant under National Register Criteria B and C. John Badlam Howe was an outstanding citizen of LaGrange County in the 19th century, having been associated with many aspects of the development of the county and of the town of Howe. In the field of education, however, many of his efforts combine to indicate his lasting contribution to the community and beyond. He taught in the first (log) school in Howe, he raised subscriptions to erect the first frame school in town, he gave significant funds toward the building of the first consolidated township high school in the state, also located in town, in the 1870s Howe wrote four economic textbooks which were widely used, and lastly, he set aside funds in his will to found what is now known as Howe Military School in town. The log and frame schools are gone, and only the bell tower of the high school survives today. His mansion house, hereby nominated, relates to his level of success perhaps more than his earlier house (c.1840) which relates more to Howe's early political career and settlement achievements in town. The Howe Mansion is also architecturally significant as one of the grandest Second Empire houses in LaGrange County.

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John B. Howe Mansion
LaGrange County, Indiana

Statement of Significance (Continued)

The first white settlers came to Lima Township in 1828, and found a settlement of several thousand Mingoquinog Indians. As more settlers arrived, the Village of Lima (renamed Howe in 1909) was platted in 1834, and the few hundred Indians that remained in the area were removed by the government to the Kansas Territory in 1839.

During this time, John Badlam Howe (born March 3, 1813, and a graduate of Trinity College, Hartford) settled in Lima in 1833. He taught the first school in the area, in a log cabin, and also studied law. He was admitted to the Bar in 1834, and, at that time, was the only lawyer in LaGrange County. The County Seat was located at Lima (Howe) in 1832, and the first courthouse, where John B. Howe resided, was built there in 1833. It was used for ten years until a second courthouse was built in the centrally located town of LaGrange, which had been platted on June 18, 1836.

After practicing law several years with success and considered with high regard by the citizens of the area, John B. Howe represented Northeastern Indiana in the House of Representatives of the Indiana General Assembly in 1841. In 1850, he was a leading member of the State Constitutional Convention.

From its earliest settlement, Lima was a central point for trade and milling. Surrounded by rich agricultural land, numerous lakes and rivers, and located fifty miles from either South Bend or Ft. Wayne, Lima continued to grow and prosper. In 1854, John B. Howe, in partnership with Samuel P. Williams, founded the first bank of the area. In 1857, this bank became a branch of the State Bank of Indiana, and, under various names, continued to operate as a private bank until 1986.

A devoted member of the Episcopal Church, John B. Howe and his halfbrother, James B. Howe, were almost entirely responsible for building the first St. Marks Church in Lima in 1853.

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John B. Howe Mansion
LaGrange County, Indiana

Statement of Significance (Continued)

Also, interested in education, John B. Howe helped raise subscriptions for the first frame school in Lima, and, in 1874, donated \$2,500.00 towards the construction of a new public township school. This elaborate, three story, brick building on Main Street became the first consolidated township high school to be commissioned in Indiana (October 10, 1881) and remained in continuous use until 1984.

In July, 1875, construction of his new residence began. This two story Italian villa, under consideration here, was built for his wife, Frances Marie Glidden, whom he married in 1846. Recognized as exceptional, the following was stated in the LaGrange Standard, February 24, 1876.

"Nearly all the log cabins of the early settlers have disappeared, and the barnlike frames are vanishing. Well painted, modern styled, frame and brick, dwellings are now general throughout the county. The year 1875 witnessed the erection of at least two residences, that, in costliness, artistic design, and completeness of provision for human comfort and enjoyment, will rank well with the better class of residence of any part of the country." Also, in the article, was a complete description of the building and an electrotype of the residence which presented a picture of this Mansion to the reader.

Continuing as a successful banker, John B. Howe, in 1878-1881, wrote four books: Political Economy in the Use of Money; Mono-Metalism and Bi-Metalism or the Science of Monetary Values; Monetary and Industrial Fallacies; and Common Sense. The Mathematics and Metaphysics of Money; all published by Riverside Press, Cambridge, and widely used as college textbooks. He lived in the Mansion until his death, January 22, 1883.

Immediately after his death, and following his desire for the establishment of a training school for the educating of young men for the ministry in the Episcopal Church, his widow, Francis Glidden Howe, made plans for the founding of Howe Grammar School. Using \$10,000.00 left by John B. Howe in his will, her first home with four acres of land, donations from the Right Reverend David B. Knickerbacker,

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John B. Howe Mansion
LaGrange County, Indiana

Statement of Significance (Continued)

the Third Bishop of Indiana, gifts from James B. Howe, and money from subscriptions from the people of Lima. Frances Glidden Howe opened Howe Grammar School in 1884 in her former residence, located two blocks east of the Mansion.

Continuing to give more land and money to erect new buildings, Mrs. Howe and James B. Howe supervised the growth of the School from the Mansion. In 1888, the complex of Knickerbacker Hall and Howe Hall was completed. Erected to the south of the Mansion, this new, three story brick structure contained school rooms, masters' rooms, dormitories, bathrooms, etc. This complex, the Mansion and Mrs. Howe's first home constituted the entire Howe campus at that time.

In 1892, the campus expanded to the north and west of the Mansion by the addition of twelve acres. In 1895, Howe School became a military school and continued to expand. As the enrollment increased, more facilities were needed. Before the death of Frances G. Howe, on May 21, 1904, a new chapel, dormitory, dining hall, library, infirmary and gymnasium had been added.

Following her death, the Mansion became the home of rectors and superintendents of Howe Military School. From 1958-1985, it was used for administrative offices. It continues in use today as a reception center and museum.

Surrounded by mature, stately trees and appearing as it did in 1875, the John B. Howe Mansion continues to be an important building on the 150 acre campus of Howe Military School. Great care has been taken to maintain high integrity to the building and grounds. The Mansion is representative of the refined life style reached in the area at that time, and is a fine example of a picturesque Italian Villa that was in high fashion in the 1870's.

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John B. Howe Mansion
LaGrange County, Indiana

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Telephone Interview, February 10, 1995, by Gloriann Poljak,
of Richard Tjarks, president of the LaGrange County
Historical Society.

Telephone Interview, February 10, 1995, by Gloriann Poljak,
of Bob Hair, president of the St. Joseph County
Historical Society, Sturgis, Michigan.

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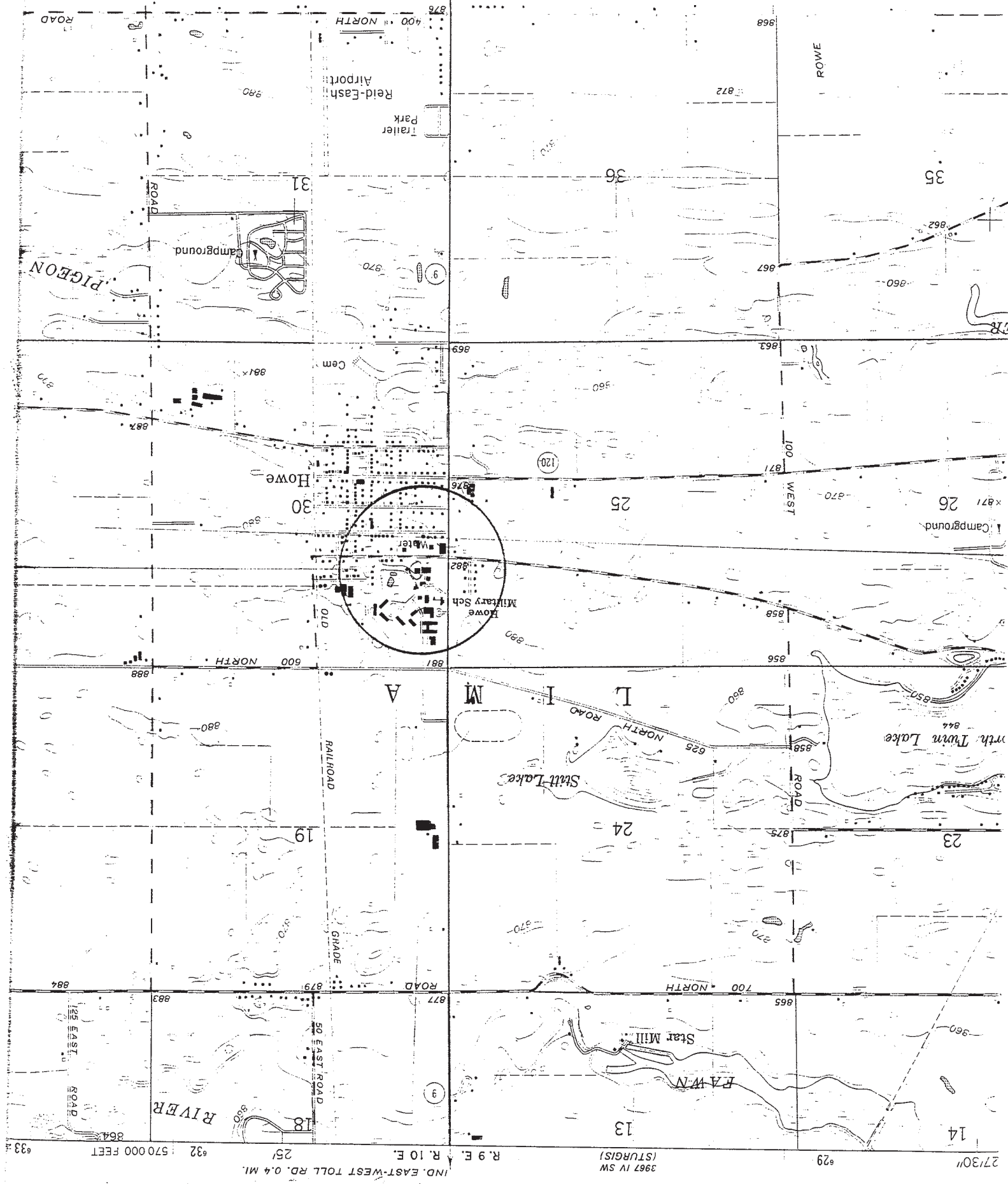
John B. Howe Mansion
LaGrange County, Indiana

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 3 and 4 of block 22 in Howe, LaGrange County, Indiana

Verbal Boundary Justification

This is the historic property boundary.



27°30'' 929
 3967 IV SW (STURGIS)
 R. 9 E.
 IND. EAST-WEST TOLL RD. 0.4 MI.
 25' 932 57000 FEET 933