

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 Place, Willard B., House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_ 017-366-70551

2. Location

street & number 900 E. Broadway N/A  not for publication  
city or town Logansport N/A  vicinity  
state Indiana code IN county Cass code 017 zip code 46947

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  Y 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 36CFR 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.)

[Signature] 5/13/08  
Signature of certifying official/Title 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 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:

- 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
2	0	structures
0	0	objects
4	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

DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

COMMERCE/TRADE: Professional

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other WOOD

Narrative Description

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

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c.1889-c.1925

Significant Dates

c.1889

c.1920

c.1925

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographic 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 #

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:



The Willard B. Place House was built c.1889 is located at 900 E. Broadway (the northeast corner of Ninth Street and Broadway) in Logansport (photo 1). The house is within the boundaries of a large residential area, the Riverside Historic District, which was identified as a potentially eligible historic district by the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory in 1983. The potential historic district is located to the east of the original plat, between the Eel and the Wabash Rivers. The Place House was given a rating of "outstanding" in the Inventory. The property includes four contributing elements, a house, a carriage house, an iron fence, and brick wall. The house sets back a short distance from Broadway, a tree-lined street of similar houses with similar setbacks. The iron fence defines the property on Broadway. The brick wall, which extends between the house and the carriage house, defines the Ninth Street border. The carriage house faces on Ninth Street at the rear of the property.

The Place House is of the Queen Anne style of architecture (photos 2, 5). The foundation is stone. The house is two-and-a-half stories in height and has brick walls. The roof is hipped roof with multiple cross gables. Massing is asymmetrical. There is a round, conical-roofed turret at the southwest corner of the house. A wooden porch wraps around the house from the main entry at the southeast corner, to mid-point on the west facade. At the rear of the house is an attached, c.1920, Craftsman style garage (photo 6). At the rear of the lot, facing Ninth Street, is a two-story, brick carriage house (photo 9) which was built about the same time as the house. A brick wall extends between the attached garage and the carriage house, defining the west boundary of the property (photo 9).

The main facade for the house (photo 2) is three bays wide. The east bay is angled on the west side and has a cross-gable roof. The main entrance is in this bay. This is a set of paneled, double, walnut doors with a transom above. The west bay is cut away at a 45 degree angle on the first level, and the round tower above. The tower is covered with fish-scale shingles and has decorative wood banding (part of which is missing). The center bay of this facade recedes from the adjoining two. On the roof above this bay is a triangular dormer with a fanlight.

Most windows on this facade, and throughout the house are wood with double hung sash, in flat-arched openings. On the first level, in the west and center bays, are large picture windows with stained glass transoms (photo 4). The smaller window on the angle of the entrance bay also has a stained glass transom. The two large windows have segmental arched openings. There is a continuous stone lintel band which extends around the house above window and door openings on the first level. Some of the windows in the house retain their historic multi-light wood storm windows.

Extending from the east end of the main facade, and wrapping around the southern third of the west facade, is a one-story, decorative wood porch (photos 2, 3, 4). The porch has turned posts, a molded railing with stick balustrade, and a spindled frieze. At the entry on the east end of the main facade is a cross-gabled roof section which extends from the main part of the porch and contains a set of steps.

The west facade (of the house proper) has three main parts. The south third includes the tower on the southwest corner. The middle section is a three-sided bay window with a cross-gable roof. Above the north section on the roof is a triangular dormer with a triangular window. Windows on this facade are wood with double hung sash and stone sills. The window to the north of the tower on the second story is smaller than the others on this facade. It lights a small room, possibly originally a closet or dressing room, off the southwest bedroom. The windows on the first level have segmental arched openings. Second level windows have flat-arched openings.

Attached to the house is a c.1920, Arts and Crafts style garage (photos 5, 6, 7). The flat-arched opening for this building is on the west side (photo 6). The garage is rectangular in plan, one story high, and has a flat roof. It is faced in textured brick with recessed mortar joints. Along the top of a short parapet wall is concrete coping. Stone accents are the only ornamentation. The garage door is wood with four rows of square panels. There are lights in the top panels. This door appears to date from about 1950.

On the rear (north) facade of the garage, there are two wood, double-hung windows in flat-arched openings. These have stone sills. The garage extends from the rear facade of the house, which is similar in materials and detailing to the other facades. At the east end of this facade, off the kitchen, there is a small, wood frame, one story room. This addition has a sloped roof and clapboard siding. A set of wood steps leads up to a paneled wood and glass door on the east. To the west of this door is a wood, double-hung window. This addition appears to date from the same era as the garage.

The east facade of the house is the least visible, being less than 10 feet away from the adjacent house to the east (photo 8). This facade is flat, without bay windows or other projections, except for a 45 degree angle near the south end. Windows were arranged for practical interior considerations rather than exterior aesthetics, since they would not be highly visible. Small windows just beyond the angle are located above a fireplace, on the stair landing, and in a closet. The small window on the second story serves the house's bathroom.

As previously noted, a rough, limestone belt course extends around the house above the level of the first floor windows. Other decorative elements include a decorative wood cornice with scroll-sawn brackets at the top of the house. The foundation is faced in rough, coursed limestone surmounted by a smooth stone water table.

Except for the conical roof of the tower, which is covered in slates, the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. There are three chimneys, all interior. One is located on the west side near the south end of the house. There are two on the east side, one each near the north and south ends. The chimneys are similar in appearance, with decorative brickwork. The top of the chimney on the west side has been rebuilt.

The layout of the house, unaltered from its original design, is a typical Victorian-era plan. Essentially, the rooms border the east and west walls and a passageway in the center provides access. From the main entry, a small foyer enters into a imposing hall which contains the main stairway. To the west of the hall is a formal parlor. North of this room is the dining room. A fourth room in the northwest corner of the house may have been used as a family parlor or servant's room. In the northeast corner of this room is a stairway which leads to the second story. There are large pocket doors between the hall and formal parlor, between the parlor and dining room, and between the dining room and the northwest corner room. An additional doorway leads out of the east side of this last room into a passageway which leads off the front hall (photo 12). The kitchen is in the northeast corner. A door at the north end of the passageway opens to steps which lead down to the attached garage. The garage connects to a basement under the house.

On the second floor, there is a large master bedroom in the southwest corner (photo 13). This room includes a circular area which is in the tower. The master bedroom originally connected to the southeast bedroom through a small room. The doorway from this small room to the southeast bedroom has been filled in. The master bedroom also connected to the bedroom to north through another small room. There are two additional bedrooms, one each in the northwest and northeast corners of the house. The one bathroom is located on the east side of the house, between the main stairway and the northeast bedroom. The third floor of the house, accessed by a stairway in the rear passage, is an open attic.

The interior of the house is highly decorative, particularly the foyer and entry hall (photos 10, 11). For example, the floor of the foyer is polychromatic, diamond-shaped tiles. The interior door is a paneled, wood door. A glazed panel in the central part of the door is bordered by polychromatic, leaded glass. In the entry hall, there is a fireplace on the east wall. This has an elaborate wood and tile surround, and is surmounted by a leaded,

stained glass window. Also in the entry hall is the main staircase. This is a U-shaped stair with elaborate, turned newel posts and a scroll-sawn railing. The window on the landing, in an elliptical-arched opening is leaded, stained glass.

In addition to the fireplace in the entry hall, there are fireplaces in the formal parlor and dining room. These have carved wood surrounds with glazed ceramic tile. Woodwork in the house includes wide, molded baseboards, and elaborate door and window surrounds with rosettes and other designs (photos 10, 11, 12, 13). Large, paneled wood pocket doors, noted above, are intact. Other ornamentation includes decorative brass hinges and lock plates, and decorative cast-iron registers. Floors throughout the house are hardwood, except in the bathroom, which has white ceramic tile. Most walls and ceilings are plaster. In the bathroom, walls are glazed ceramic tile about halfway up and plaster above.

The other building on the property, the carriage house (photo 9), is located at the far north end on an alley, facing Ninth Street. It is a two-story, brick building with a jerkin-head roof and a rectangular plan. The building once had a large, segmental-arched opening on the west side. This has been filled in and a conventional doorway installed. The outline of the original opening is still visible. Windows were added at some point on either side of this opening. Above on the second level is a lunette. There are several window openings on the sides of the building. These are flat-arched on the first level and segmental-arched on the second level. Window openings on the rear (east) facade have been filled in. For the most part, the window sash has been replaced. Inside, the building has been divided into offices. The original configuration and interior materials are obscured by lowers ceilings and paneled walls.

Other contributing elements include a decorative iron fence (photos 2, 5) on the south and west sides of the property, and a brick wall with concrete coping (photo 9), which extends between the garage and carriage house. The iron fence most likely was erected at the time the house was built. The brick wall was probably constructed about 1925.



The Place House is significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. It is an outstanding example of the Queen Anne style, popular in Logansport from about 1885 to 1905. The property includes four contributing elements, a house, a carriage house, an iron fence, and brick wall. The property is within the boundaries of a large residential area, the Riverside Historic District, which was identified as potentially eligible for the National Register by the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory in 1983. The historic district is significant as a collection of high-style residential architecture, and a representation of a period of growth and prosperity in Logansport in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The Place House is being nominated individually.

### *History*

Willard B. Place purchased the unimproved property from John David in 1887 and built his house soon afterwards. (The 1889-90 city directory lists Place at this location.) At the time, Place was a dealer in traction engines and farming implements. He later became an agent for gasoline engines. By 1903, he had become a field superintendent for the Hoosier Oil Company. Place and his wife Dora sold the house to Francis C. and Jessie Murphey for \$15,000 in 1912. Murphey worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Murphey sold the property to Ferdinand I. and Leona Thomas (1922). Thomas was a dentist. In 1940, Thomas L. and Inez Keefe bought the house. A physician and surgeon, Keefe started his medical practice in Logansport in 1936. He died in 1951 at the age of 50. His wife had preceded him in death. After Keefe's death, the house became a rental property. It was purchased in 1996 by Mr. and Mrs. William Milton Cole and has been adapted for use as a vintage clothing museum.

At the time the house was constructed, about 1890, Logansport was the fourth largest city in northern Indiana, with a population of 13,328. Logansport had grown rapidly since the Wabash and Erie Canal arrived in 1838. By the late nineteenth century, several railroad lines converged here, supporting the city as a major industrial center. In the late nineteenth century, as many new jobs were being created, new residential districts were being developed rapidly.

### *Significance*

The Place House is one of the outstanding Queen Anne style houses of Logansport. Because the city's period of greatest growth and affluence coincided with the years of its popularity, the style is well represented. The Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory identified a total of 149 examples in Logansport. (Only 14 examples were identified elsewhere in Cass County.) Only seventeen of the examples in Logansport,

however, were identified as “outstanding” examples of the style, or potentially eligible for the National Register, including the Place House. Most of the other examples had insufficient integrity to qualify individually for listing.

The Queen Anne style, originated by Richard Norman Shaw and other English architects, was an informal blend of eighteenth century English architecture and Medieval motifs. Historical precedents for the style had little to do with Queen Anne or the architecture during her reign (1702-1714). Nevertheless, the name was adopted for the new style.

In America, the style took on numerous variations of decorative detailing: spindle work, half timbering, patterned masonry, and a variety of other ornamentation. The mass-production of such ornamentation was made possible by technological advancements during the late nineteenth century. Expansion of the rail system made it possible for shipment to cities and towns throughout the nation.

The style typically exhibited steeply pitched, complex roofs; asymmetrical massing; windows of a variety of shapes and sizes, and a diversity of wall treatments. Decorative wooden porches were characteristic. Many houses of the style had towers - round, square, or polygonal - located on a front corner.

One subtype of the style has been called “Free Classic.” Variations of this type became common after 1890 and used classical columns, rather than turned posts, as porch supports. Palladian windows, denticulated cornices, and other classical details are often present. The subtype is related to the Colonial Revival style, which would eclipse the Queen Anne in popularity soon after the turn of the twentieth century.

The Queen Anne style first appeared in the state in the late 1870s. The earliest Indiana examples were designed by professional architects commissioned by wealthy clients. For example, Robert Platt Daggett, a leading Indianapolis architect of the nineteenth century, designed the one of the first Queen Anne style houses in the state, the Emery-Ayres House (1878) at 1204 N. Delaware Street in the capital city. Queen Anne soon became a favorite house type for urban dwellers. Cities were expanding rapidly during the last twenty years of the nineteenth century. The 1890s was the peak decade for the style in Indiana. By this time, most Queen Anne houses were based on readily available pattern book designs.

It is not known whether the Place House was custom-designed by an architect, or based on a plan in a builder’s guide. In any case, it is a fine example of Queen Anne, and

exhibits the defining elements of the style, including irregularly massing, a complex roof, a variety of wall textures, variously sized and shaped windows, and a decorative wooden porch. The interior of the house displays elaborate woodwork, patterned hardwood floors, elegant fireplace surrounds, and a decorative staircase. The house has a very high degree of integrity.

In his now classic survey, *Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century*, Wilbur Peat offered the Redmon-Healy House (1890) in Logansport, a “rich and complicated architectural composition,” as an example of a Queen Anne style dwelling. The house still exists today, at 912 North Street, a block north of the Place House. It is similar to the Place House in material, composition, and detailing.

Other examples of brick Queen Anne style houses which are comparable to the Place House are the Schultz House at 621 Market Street, 1889 (70888); the house at 80 Eel River Avenue, c.1890 (43003); the house at 94 Eel River Avenue, c.1890 (43005); the Wiggs House at 110 Eel River Avenue, c.1885 (43009); the Fines-Campbell House at 118 Eel River Avenue, 1878/1894 (43011); and the house at 210 Eel River Avenue, c.1890 (43020);

Outstanding wood-frame examples which are similar in composition and detailing to the Place House include the house at 824 Broadway, c.1890 (70549); the house at 1510 Broadway, c.1890 (70593); and the house at 1603 Broadway, c.1895 (70719).

Contributing elements to the Place House are a carriage house, an iron fence, and a brick wall. The carriage house (photo 9) was constructed about the same time as the house. The architecture of the building, a two-story brick structure, is simple. The door opening has been filled in, but the outline of a large, segmental-arched opening for carriages and horses is still discernible. Although it has been altered, the carriage house retains its essential character on the exterior and contributes to the significance of the property.

Also dating from the construction of the house is the decorative iron fence (photos 2, 5) which borders the property on the south side, and on the west side to the rear of the house. A brick wall (photos 6, 7, 9) extends from the garage to the carriage house and encloses the rear part of the property on the west side. The wall appears to have been constructed soon after the garage, about 1925.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section 9

Page 1

Willard B. Place House

---

Bibliography

Cass County Land Records.

Logansport City Directories, 1889-1960.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana.  
*Cass County Interim Report*. Indianapolis, 1984.

“Keefe, Dr. Thomas,” (obituary) *Indianapolis News*, 22 August 1951, p.21, c.17.

Peat, Wilbur D. *Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1962.

Phillips, Clifton J. *Indiana in Transition: The Emergence of an Industrial Commonwealth*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau and Indiana Historical Society, 1968.

Powell, Jehu Z. *History of Cass County*. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1913.

Sanborn Map Company, Fire Insurance Maps for Logansport, 1885, 1890, 1898, 1906, 1911, 1920, 1930.

Taylor, Robert M., Jr., et al. *Indiana: A New Historical Guide*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section 10

Page 1

Willard B. Place House

---

Verbal Boundary Description

West half of Lot 33, John Tipton Administrative First Addition.

Boundary Justification

This is the historic and present boundary for the property.