

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

FINAL

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 Clark, Wellington A., House

other names/site number _____ 089-142-79202

2. Location

street & number 227 South Court Street N/A not for publication

city or town Crown Point N/A vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Lake code 089 zip code 46307

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 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.)

Jon C. GTE D-SHPO
Signature of certifying official/Title

4.30.01
Date

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:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:) _____	_____	_____

Clark, Wellington A., House
Name of Property

Lake _____ IN _____
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
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Number of Resources within Property		
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.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/CULTURE: Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19th c.: Greek Revival
OTHER: Hall and Parlor
OTHER: Upright and Wing

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
walls WOOD: Weatherboard
roof ASPHALT
other CONCRETE

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 _____

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT _____

Period of Significance

1847 _____

Significant Dates

1847 _____

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: _____

Clark, Wellington A., House
Name of Property

Lake _____ IN _____
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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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 James Douglas Smith and Sherry A. Nagel-Smith

organization The Old Homestead Preservation Society date 09-07-2000

street & number 1001 Merrillville Road telephone 219-662-0381

city or town Crown Point state IN zip code 46307

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 City of Crown Point, Indiana

street & number 101 North East Street telephone 219-662-3240

city or town Crown Point state IN zip code 46307

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.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Narrative Description

The Old Homestead, one of Lake County's earliest surviving houses, was built in 1847. The structure is located on the west side of Court Street just south of the Old Lake County Court House in the Crown Point Historic District and in the proximity of the business sector of town. West and at the back of the home is a "mini" mall that accommodates several small businesses. Across the street and east of the homestead are the Crown Point Community Library and the First Presbyterian Church. The church is near the end of a rebuilding project. The new church structure was designed to be compatible with the historic theme of the area. On the north and south sides of the home are parking lots utilized by patrons of the local library and businesses and members and visitors of the First Presbyterian Church. Currently the landscape around the home consists only of one tree. Due to the need to replace the foundation, all of the overgrown shrubbery that had roots abutting the foundation had to be removed. Due to neglect, flowering plants had long past perished and where the grass had been, weeds became the prominent feature.

The Lake County Interim Report of the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory published by the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, May 1996, lists The Old Homestead as a hall and parlor house, vernacular in construction. The basic style of the dwelling is Greek Revival. The home is a one story wood-framed structure with clapboard siding and a shingled roof. The house is practically in its original state and, when erected, was one of the best homes in town. The house is framed with rough-hewn timbers and covered with cedar clapboards, a sophisticated structure for the era in which it was built as logs were normally utilized for residential and civic construction. Like many hall and parlor homes, the front portion of the house consists of two rooms side by side with a single entry. The house has a rear extension in the shape of an "L" that was built concurrently with the front portion. The "L" extension includes a full width parlor/dining area with a small bedroom off the southwest end and a galley kitchen at the northwest end that leads to a cooking and storage area at the far west end. An attic is accessible through a doorway in the front main entry room and covers only that area. A small brick-walled basement approximately six feet deep is below part of the front main entry room with access from the adjoining parlor/dining area. The foundation and structural system consist of heavy timbers sitting on brick piers with intermediate joists spanning between the beams.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Narrative Description, continued

EXTERIOR

The construction of The Old Homestead was unique for Crown Point and Lake County in 1847. Most of the residential and even civic structures at that time were of log construction. However, the homestead was framed with rough-hewn timbers and covered with cedar clapboards with a five and one-quarter inch exposure.

East Facade

The front portico (Photo #1), which faces east, has large wood columns and a moderately pitched roof which are in the Greek Revival style. The three double-hung windows are original and have an unusual nine over six light pattern. Two windows have wood shutters that are original. All shutters have the original operable hardware still attached. The side is covered with the original cedar clapboards.

North Facade

The north elevation (Photo #2) is in the most unaltered condition. The sidewalls are of the original cedar clapboard siding. There are six wood framed double-hung windows and shutters on the first floor and one double-hung window in the attic. All windows have six over six sash and have undecorated flat wood trim. Four of the windows have the original wood shutters and all still have the original hardware.

West Facade

On the west side of the house were an open porch and stair that were added in the 1950's. A fixed window sash in the attic, a double-hung, wood window with six over six sash in the kitchen and the doorframe are original. There is hardware for shutters at the sides of the window, but the shutters are missing. Again, the side of the house is covered with the original cedar clapboards.

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Section number 7 Page 3

The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Narrative Description, continued

South Facade

On the south side of the house was an enclosed porch (Photo #4) that had been added in the 1940's. The interior north wall of the porch consists of original cedar clapboards and three original double-hung windows with six over six sash openings to the dining/sitting area. The trim is flat, undecorated wood. The original hardware is still attached, but the shutters are missing. Again, on the north wall of the south facade is a doorway that served as an outside entrance door prior to the addition of the porch. The door slab to the porch and the door slab to the dining/sitting area are not original.

Two additional original double-hung windows can be seen from the south facade, one east of the porch and one west of the porch. The shutters are not original, but the existing hardware is original.

A brick fireplace (Photo #5) was added sometime in the 1950's to the south side of the house.

INTERIOR

As technology arrived in Crown Point, various changes were made to the house. Nevertheless, the entire interior is very close to the original condition. When electricity came to the city in 1896, the "Town Square" was the first to be lit, then extended to nearby buildings. The Old Homestead was on of the first structures to receive power, as was the First Presbyterian Church across the street. Indoor plumbing was added and the potbelly stove gave way to a gas furnace. The electric wiring, plumbing, duct work and supply/return vents are concealed or non-intrusive.

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The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Narrative Description, continued

Main Room

The main entry (Photo #6) functions as a hallway and a multipurpose room. The flooring, typical throughout the house, is wide-planked softwood. The walls consist of wallpapered plaster over wood lathe and the ceiling is painted plaster over wood lathe. The interior wood trim is very simple and in the original state. The base is approximately eight inches high, has a radius top and a quarter round shoe. The doors are typically trimmed with four inch wide boards, butted together. The trim was originally painted, not stained. Considering the age of the home, the trim does not have excessive layers of paint, nor is it damaged.

In Photo #7 there is a view of the door leading to the attic stair from the main entry room, as well as a view into the small bedroom in the northeast corner of the house. Floor, wall and ceiling finishes and trim in the bedroom are the same as described above in the main entry room.

The attic space directly above the main entry room (Photo #8) is finished with wallpapered plaster over wood lathe. Floor to ceiling span at the center of the attic is approximately six feet ten inches. The knee walls are approximately three feet six inches high. Two small windows are on the south facade and one small window is on the north and west facades. Removable access panels in the attic open to additional space beyond the knee walls. The additional space is unfinished.

Parlor/Dining Area

Walking west from the main entry room is the parlor/dining area (Photo #9). The walls are covered with wallpaper on plaster over a wood lathe. The ceiling is painted plaster over a wood lathe. The flooring is wide-planked softwood. The original simple wood trim is painted. On the east wall (not depicted in the photo) is the door that connects to the main entry room, a door to the basement stairs, and a door to a bathroom that also opens to the small bedroom in the northwest corner of the house. (The northwest bedroom was previously depicted in Photo #7). The west wall as seen in Photo #9 has a door to a storage room and a door to the southwest bedroom. Another door on the west wall (not depicted in photo) leads to the galley kitchen.

On the south wall, as seen in the photo, is the original double-hung window on the south side of the house. Not depicted in the photo is the secondary entry on the south side of the house.

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Section number 7 Page 5

The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Narrative Description, continued

Southwest Bedroom

The southwest bedroom has walls that are wallpapered plaster over wood lathe and the ceiling is painted plaster over wood lathe. The flooring is the same as the rest of the home, wide-planked softwood. The original simple wood trim is painted. The door at the west end of the bedroom is to a closet.

Galley/Wash Kitchen

Northwest of the parlor/dining area is the galley/wash kitchen (Photo#11), which serves as the passageway to the cooking kitchen (Photo #12). The walls are wallpaper on plaster over wood lathe, the ceiling is painted plaster over wood lathe, and the flooring consists of linoleum over the original wide-planked softwood. The simple original wood trim is painted. The cabinets are wood and the sink is porcelain on cast iron. An original double-hung window is on the north side of the kitchen.

Cooking Kitchen

The large cooking kitchen (Photo#12) at the west end of house is finished with the same materials and in the same style as the balance of the house. The walls consist of wallpaper on plaster over wood lathe, the ceiling is painted plaster over wood lathe, and the flooring is linoleum over the original wide-planked softwood. Again, the simple wood trim is painted.

On the south wall of the cooking kitchen is the entry (Photo #13) to a storage room (Photo#14). The storage room was originally an open wood shed. The walls are wallpapered plaster over wood lathe, the ceiling is painted plaster over wood lathe, and the flooring is wide-planked softwood. A small closet in this room (not depicted in the photo) was left unfinished and allows a view of the original wall framing

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Section number 7 Page 6

The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Narrative Description, continued

Restoration work has been initiated for The Old Homestead. The foundation and piers were stabilized by lifting the house and building a new concrete and block foundation. Three walls of the original basement were saved. Original bricks from the foundation were salvaged, cleaned, and reinstalled on a brick ledge around the house. None of the new foundation materials are visible. During the stabilization of the foundation, the fireplace and the enclosed porch on the south side of the house were removed, as well as the open porch on the west side of the house.

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Section number 8 Page 7

The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Old Homestead is eligible for the National Register for its architectural significance. It reflects several locally significant vernacular building traditions. The first owner of the home Wellington A. Clark, was a pioneer of Crown Point and Lake County, Indiana. One of Lake County's only surviving examples of architecture of the pioneer era, the house is a simple frame, home built in 1847.

The dwelling is a one story wood-framed structure with clapboard siding and a shingled roof that is located in the Crown Point Historic District just south of the Old Lake County Courthouse. The house is practically in its original state and, when erected, was one of the best homes in town. A basic Greek Revival, vernacular in construction, the house was framed with rough-hewn timbers and covered with cedar clapboards. The home was a sophisticated structure in a time when logs were normally utilized for residential and civic construction. Like many hall and parlor homes, the front portion of the house consists of two rooms side by side with a single entry. The house has a rear extension in the shape of an "L" that was built concurrently with the front portion. The "L" extension includes a full width parlor/dining area with a small bedroom off the southwest end and a galley kitchen at the northwest end that leads to a cooking and storage area at the far west end. An attic is accessible through a doorway in the front main entry room and covers only that area. A small brick-walled basement approximately six feet deep is below part of the front main entry room with access from the adjoining parlor/dining area. The foundation and structural system consist of heavy timbers sitting on brick piers with intermediate joists spanning between the beams.

One can view The Old Homestead house within several vernacular traditions. On the one hand, the house seems to be within the hall and parlor vernacular. In other ways, however, it seems that the builder combined elements of the upright and wing, and gable front traditions to arrive at this plan. In this context, it is not surprising that the owners came from Upstate New York. Certainly, the early settlement period homes of Lake County owe much to the influx of Yankee builders and pioneers. Most came (ultimately) from Connecticut, New York, and other New England States, where these types germinated in the early 19th century.

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The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Narrative Statement of Significance, continued

The New England influences show in The Old Homestead in the placement of the stairs and relationships of the rooms to one another. The Old Homestead resembles in many ways the "wing" portion of an upright and wing. While industrialization has removed many traces of these early homes, a number can be seen in Center Township, and in other more rural portions of Lake County. As many as twelve examples, in varying states of repair, still stand in the southern Townships of Lake County. Neighboring Porter County has more examples of the upright and wing type. In several cases, the wing has a projecting end room seen in The Old Homestead. Besides hall and parlor houses, these upright and wing houses are the closest comparable vernacular type in the county. The Old Homestead has equal or better integrity than most of them. The home clearly reflects the early settlement era of Lake County and the New England influences on its early homes.

According to The Lake County Interim Report of the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory published by the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, May 1996, a majority of the hall and parlor homes in Lake County are located in the southern half of the county. Comparison of The Old Homestead with other hall and parlor home was accomplished by visiting each site. In Winfield Township a home in Leroy (c.1880) appeared to be close to the original construction, except that the windows and roofing material had been replaced. In general, the home is in poor condition. In Eagle Creek Township, the home on East 173rd Avenue (c.1880) appeared to have the original windows, but the siding and roofing appeared to be modified. The home seemed in fair condition. In Cedar Creek Township, four homes in Lowell (c.1860-1870) had been significantly modified with new windows and altered porches. Further, an additional story and vinyl siding had been added to the house at 118 North Freemont. In Center Township, the John Barman Farm on West 109th Avenue, c.1840 per the Interim Report, has a sign on the property indicating c.1852. The house has been significantly modified with the addition of a second story, new windows, and new siding.

In comparison, The Old Homestead can be seen as the one of the oldest hall and parlor homes in Lake County that has not been significantly altered. Further, investigation revealed that The Old Homestead is the only hall and parlor home that is actively being restored to an era that is close to when it was constructed.

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The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Narrative Statement of Significance, continued

The era during which The Old Homestead was built ushered in a long period of growth for the county and thriving economic development for the city of Crown Point. In October 1834 Solon Robinson came to the area and built a log house of the site that was to become Crown Point. Others followed and by 1835 the settlement numbered 21 people. In March 1836, a post office, known as Lake Court House, was established. In 1840 the newly platted town of Crown Point, Indiana, was designated the county seat. By 1847, when The Old Homestead was erected, Crown Point flourished with two churches, two general stores, a hotel, a school and a population of 150.

The home was built for one of the earliest and better-known citizens of Lake County and Crown Point, Wellington A. Clark (1815-1912). Mr. Clark relocated to West Creek Township in 1839 from Naples, New York, where it is reported that his father, Benjamin Clark erected the first grist mill in 1795 or 1796. His father was a soldier and became an officer in the Revolutionary War. Tradition is that the ancestors of his mother, Thankful Watkins, came over in the Mayflower, but the full line has not been established. On December 7, 1843, Wellington A. Clark married Mary C. Hackley (1819-1906), a member of a family of early settlers in West Creek Township.

Around 1846, the Clarks left their farm in West Creek Township and removed to Crown Point where he became an agent for some large eastern houses. Records indicate that when he came to Crown Point he built "a good dwelling house." Between 1846 and 1875 the Clarks alternated living in their home in Crown Point and on their farm in West Creek Township. In 1867 Mr. Clark erected and started the first cheese factory in Lake County. In 1875 Wellington and Mary returned to The Old Homestead permanently, residing in Crown Point until their deaths. Upon his return to Crown Point in 1875, Mr. Clark was instrumental in the organization of the Old Settler and Historical Association. He became the first president and delivered the inaugural address at the first annual gathering of the pioneers on September 25, 1875 at what was then the fairground. He held the office of president of the organization for twenty years. Mr. Clark was a charter member of the first Masonic Lodge of Lake County.

On December 7, 1893, soon after the close of the Columbian Exposition, Mr. and Mrs. Clark commemorated the golden anniversary of their marriage, a celebration that was considered the first "Golden Wedding" of Lake County.

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The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Narrative Statement of Significance, continued

Mary Hackley Clark died December 21, 1906 at which time the home and lot were deeded to Claribel Clark Rockwell, granddaughter of Mary and Wellington Clark. Wellington Clark continued to live in the home until Wellington's death on July 25, 1912. On November 2, 1959, Claribel Clark Rockwell Bevan deeded The Old Homestead to the City of Crown Point, Indiana as a life estate. The life estate was released by Mrs. Bevan July 13, 1963 and the City of Crown point became the owner of one of the oldest landmarks in Lake County.

The City of Crown Point and The Old Homestead Preservation Society are committed to the preservation and maintenance of the home as a unique place of historic interest.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 10

The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Bibliography

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Ball, T.H., Rev. (1873). Lake County, Indiana, From 1834 to 1872. Chicago: Goodspeed, I.W.

Ball, T.H., Rev. (1884). Lake County, Indiana, 1884: The Semi-centennial Celebration of Lake County. September 3 and 4 with Historical Papers and Other Interesting Records. (pp.189-203, 370). Crown Point: Ball.

Demmon, Little, McNay, and Taylor. (1934). History of Lake County, Indiana, Volume XI. Lake County Star Press.

Lake County Tract Book,

Reports of the Historical Secretary of the Old Settler's Association of Lake County, Indiana from 1906 to 1910. (1910). (pp. 53).

Lake County Directory. (1909). Lake County Library

Vinnedge, E.A. and Brown, A.B. Pioneer Women of Lake County, Indiana 1834-1850.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 11

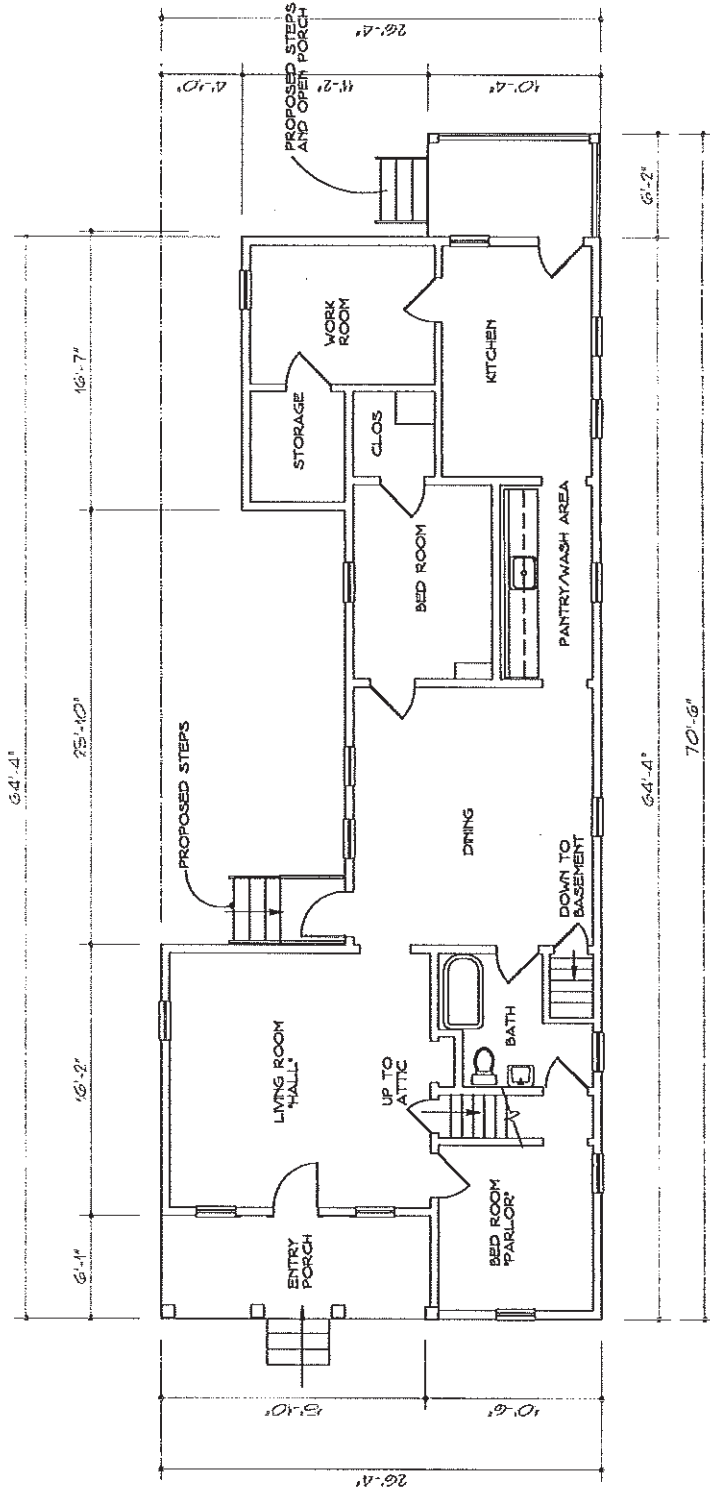
The Old Homestead, Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana

Verbal Boundary Description

Lot fifty-four (54) except the South fifty-four (54) feet and except the West ninety (90) feet thereof, as marked and laid down on the recorded plat of the original Town, now City of Crown Point, as recorded in Deed Record "B," page 121 and as shown in Plat Book 1, page 46 in the Recorder's Office of Lake County, Indiana, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging; located at 227 South Court Street.

Boundary Justification

The boundary reflects the current legal recorded boundary lines. The area encompasses the land and the house which are the historic feature of the property.



MAIN FLOOR PLAN
"OLD HOMESTEAD"
 SOUTH COURT STREET, CROWN POINT, INDIANA
 DRAWN BY: JAMES D. SMITH, AIA, ARCHITECT

WELIKONEN GAVE
 THE OLD HOMESTEAD
 HOUSE
 227 SOUTH COURT ST
 DEAN'S POINT, WISCONSIN
 16489420 4584760

