

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 Beatty-Trimpe Farm  
other names/site number Beatty-Kasting-Trimpe Farm

2. Location

street & number 4475 East State Road 258 N/A  not for publication  
city or town Seymour  vicinity  
state Indiana code IN county Jackson code 071 zip code 47274

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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

J. C. SA 1-30-03  
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:

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:)

Beatty-Trimpe Farm  
Name of Property

Jackson 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)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
8	1	buildings
1	0	sites
0	1	structures
1	0	objects
10	2	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  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSIST Storage  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSIST Animal Facility  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSIST Processing  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSIST Agricultural Field  
LANDSCAPE: Street

#### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling  
DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSIST Storage  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSIST Agricultural Field  
AGRICULTURE/SUBSIST Agricultural Outbuilding  
LANDSCAPE: Street Furniture/Object

### 7. Description

#### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: I-House  
LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate  
OTHER:

#### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: STONE  
walls: BRICK  
WOOD: Weatherboard  
roof: STONE: Slate  
other: METAL  
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)

AGRICULTURE  
ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1858-1952

**Significant Dates**

1874

1949

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Beatty, Alfred

**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:



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Beatty/Trimpe Farm  
Jackson County, Indiana

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**DESCRIPTION**

This farmstead is a large group of buildings for human and farm use spanning a period of more than ninety years. The structures represent several time periods showing many changes in farming technology, construction technology and typical living for the farm families. A variety of construction materials and techniques and uses for those structures reflect the time period(s) they were constructed, used and/or re-used.

**Farmhouse - Contributing**

The farmhouse, built c. 1874, is a brick, 2-story I-house form with a one-story rear ell and a modern red brick addition. The front facade consists of three bays with a central door. The windows on the upper story are arched, double hung with 4 over 4 panes. On the 1<sup>st</sup> floor they are segmented arched windows with the same pane configuration. The existing front porch is a one-story wrap-around to the east side of the house. It has a concrete base with the construction date, 7/12/11, and the initials "M.B.", marked under the right front window. The original I-house and ell are painted white while the modern addition remains unpainted. In front of the farmhouse, near the road is a wrought iron fence c. 1874 that originally connected to a wire fence.

The east gable end of the 2-story portion has no openings. The original rear ell is not visible on this side due to the modern one-story addition in 1970. This red-brick addition has a bay window and is visible on only two sides, the east and south. Its construction required enlarging the roof of the original rear ell. A small dormer addition on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor is visible on the east facade and allows for an upstairs bath.

The south facade of the 2-story section has two windows, one on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor with a segmented arch and one on the 2<sup>nd</sup> with a round arch. The original south facade of the rear ell is partially obscured by the new addition which included a rear chimney and entrance.

The west facade of the house is comprised of two sections, 2-stories in the front or north end and a one-story ell which appear to have been built together. The 2-story portion has one window on the first and one on the second floor with the same pane configuration found elsewhere. Unlike the other facades both are segmented arch windows. The one-story ell has one set of paired windows with one segmented arch over both. A third single window is also a segmented arch. The last opening on the south end of this wall was originally a doorway. This doorway opened outside onto a west side porch, but later accessed a wood-frame bathroom. In 1970, the bathroom was removed, the doorway bricked up two-thirds and a stained glass window inserted. The stained glass for this window was salvaged from an area church which was demolished.

**Interior**

Throughout the house, the woodwork is simple with no crown molding found anywhere in the house. Primarily, the trim downstairs is oak and upstairs is poplar. The baseboards on the first floor have an upper concave curve not found on the baseboards upstairs. The door trim for the interior doors downstairs includes decorative molding across the top of the lintel with a half-round trim under the lintel.

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The three exterior doors have flat arch transoms incorporating the same trim as the first floor interior doors. On the second floor, the door trim is very simple with only squared lintels across the tops of the doors and transoms. The window surrounds on the first and second floors are trimmed like the doors on the respective floors. The floors are primarily narrow oak wood floors.

**Downstairs**

The central hall has narrow wood floors and wainscoting under the stairs. On the right is a door to the sitting room. At the back of the hall, a second door accesses the furnace room, a 1943 addition. Since the door appears original, it was likely a back exit originally. A closet is hidden under the stairs. A third door at the back of the stairs goes into a first floor bedroom. Because of its location, it likely never had a public function. The downstairs bedroom has stained woodwork, narrow wood floors and two closets side by side. The closet doors here are four paneled. Small doors provide access to storage areas over the closets. The two windows face north and south. A slight bump in the east wall indicates an earlier chimney for a wood stove.

The doorway from the central hall to the living room has a glass paneled door with glass transom. The living room has windows on the north and west walls. A slight bump out on the west wall indicates the placement of an earlier chimney. Gable end chimneys were not uncommon for this type of house. A large decorative doorway with wood trim and square columns separates the living room and dining room which were used as double parlors from the 1940s-1970. The narrow oak flooring in these two rooms runs perpendicular to one another.

The dining room is a large room with one set of paired windows on the west wall. The south door opens into a den that was a dining room in the 1940s. A second doorway to the east opens into the new addition which contains the modern eat-in kitchen. Unlike the other interior doorways, the transom and trim above the transom are arched. The door itself is also slightly taller. These details indicate its original use as an exterior door as they match the front door. This doorway opened onto an east side porch.

The den was converted from a dining room when the existing kitchen was added. A fireplace was added on the south wall. A doorway on the east wall opens into the modern kitchen. Originally, this doorway opened onto the east side porch and has the same details as the other exterior doors. The trim above the stained glass window matches the exterior doors, showing the opening's original use as an exterior door. This door first opened onto a west side porch. Later, when indoor plumbing became available, the doorway accessed a frame bath which was removed in 1970.

The modern kitchen, built in 1970, is large with an island and eating area. This addition also contains a full bath, mudroom and laundry facilities. There are two exterior doors in this room, one on the north wall that accesses the wraparound porch and one on the south that opens into the backyard.



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**Upstairs**

The staircase located in the center hall is U-shaped with a red-carpet runner. The newel posts and balusters are simple and square. The hand rail is curved comfortably to fit the hand. The stair runs south to a rectangular landing, then runs north, five steps, from the opposite end of the landing. The landing at the top of the stairs accesses two bedrooms, one to the east and one to the west. Both bedrooms have narrow wood floors, painted woodwork and glass transoms. The east bedroom has two closets with small storage areas over both. The closet doors are four paneled. This bedroom has two windows one north and one south. The west bedroom has one closet with a 4-paneled door and small storage area. The windows here are on the north and west walls.

Originally, there were no openings from the middle staircase landing. With the kitchen addition, an opening with three steps up was cut in this exterior wall and a full bath added over the furnace room in the dormer addition. The floor is vinyl and the walls are tiled to the chair rail and painted above. The fixtures are modern.

**OUTBUILDINGS**

**Smokehouse - Contributing**

The three-room brick smokehouse with metal roof sits south and east but in close proximity to the farmhouse. Built c. 1874, it is approximately 12 feet x 24 feet with the gable end and primary entrance facing west. The eaves are shallow and touch the farmhouse eaves. The smokehouse was originally built with three interior rooms. The partition walls were removed in the mid 1950s, but their locations are still visible on the walls. The front room was 7'7" deep, the middle 5'0" and the rear 8'6". The original uses of the front two rooms is unknown. There are no physical clues to their uses, but the middle room had a separate door on the north facade which was changed to a window in the 1950s. The rear room was used as the smokehouse and still retains its ceiling hooks, firebox and chimney. The firebox, centered on the back wall, is 3'8" wide and 3' high. A second window is found in this portion and was added with the other interior changes. The interior ceiling and walls of the smokehouse are plaster. The floor may have been dirt, but is now concrete.

Near the back entrance are remnants of the frame 2-room washhouse which also contribute to the nomination. The foundation and interior pump remain and demonstrate the layout and close proximity to the farmhouse of supporting buildings. The washhouse, a frame kitchen (demolished), the smokehouse and farmhouse were connected under roof of the porches around the back of the farmhouse, so you could stay under roof when walking between the buildings in inclement weather. The demolished buildings were wood and had significantly deteriorated.

**Ice House - Contributing**

Approximately 30 feet from the back door is a rusticated concrete block building approximately 8'x8' that with its double-wall construction, was built as an ice house. The entrance faces east and has double wooden doors. The exterior door which appears to be original, is three thicknesses of narrow vertical boards. The interior door is a newer paneled door, probably replaced due to deterioration of the original door in the moist environment. A small wood gable door provides access to the peak for replacing the sawdust and other insulating material. The

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interior walls and ceiling are beadboard. The floor is concrete and the roof is a standing seam metal roof. There are no windows in the building. The building was likely built in the late 1890s or early 1900s. Alfred Beatty was a contributor in an ice plant in Seymour which may explain its construction. The building has apparently had settling problems and a steel band circles it near the eaves.

**Scale Shed - Contributing**

South of the ice house is a wood frame scale shed, 35' long by 28' wide and built c. 1910. The drive-thru area, 15½' wide and open on both ends, contained scales for weighing crops. There were wood planks to drive onto for weighing. The scales were removed in the 1950s. The sign for the scales, "Fairbanks Standard Scales," was retained inside this area. Handwritten numbers from years of adding remain on this sign. On the east side of the scale shed is a shed-roof room with three windows. Two, approximately the same size, are elongated with 8 panes each. The third is a smaller, vertical window with six panes near the south end of the building. The main doors on the north end of the side room have been replaced by a modern garage door. On the south, the original swinging doors remain intact. A concrete foundation, 9' wide, remains on the west side of the scale shed, remnants of a second shed roof room on that side. This room was removed in the 1980s due to its poor condition. The scale shed has been converted to storage for straw and equipment.

**Round Roof Barn - Contributing**

The newest barn on the farm, constructed c. 1949 with timbers from the farm, is a round roof barn. It sits several hundred feet southeast of the house and much closer than the English barn. This barn replaced an older deteriorating barn. The barn is a combination of concrete block and aluminum siding which covers the original wood siding. The large round or gothic shaped roof is the primary architectural feature of this barn and is covered with tin. The front of the building faces west and has one human-size door. There are four stationary windows on this facade, two within the concrete block and two near the roofline in the aluminum siding. There are two small doors one above the other in the aluminum siding both accessing the loft area. The east facade is almost identical to the west except for the door and windows within the concrete block. The two long facades have three to four doors each at ground level, as well as three to four stationary windows on each. The south facade has one door above ground level which opens into the hay loft. There is also one large opening on the east end of this facade for moving cattle/equipment in and out. Three of the four sides of this barn are fenced in.

The interior is divided into five primary sections. The first is the central aisle, 11' wide, which you enter from the human-size door on the west facade. It has a concrete floor and a water pump to the right of the door. The aisle is slightly elevated and separated from the sides and end by open timber construction. On each side of this aisle are two more sections with dirt floors, both containing stalls and feeders for cattle. The fourth section is a large dirt floor room at the east end of the main aisle. It extends across the entire width of the barn and is approximately 10-12' wide. This area may have been used for cattle or storing equipment and is accessed directly from the outside by the large opening on the south side. The stairs to the loft are on the north side approximately ⅓ the way down the main aisle. The loft floor is primarily supported by large wooden beams with two steel I-beams over the large room at the east end of the walkway. The loft is a large area unobstructed



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by timbers. The roof is supported by numerous arch-shaped wood supports each constructed of 4, 1x4s laminated together. The lift system for bringing the hay bales up for storage remains intact. The floor in the loft consists of wide rough sawn wood planks ranging from 4" to 16" wide.

**Garage - Non-Contributing**

Just north and west of the round roof barn is a red non-contributing garage built in 1977. It has a one-car garage door and one small sliding door, both on the south facade.

**Granary/Corncrib - Contributing**

South and west of the round roof barn is a drive-thru combination granary and corncrib approximately 30' x 40'. Constructed c. 1949, this building was modern and up-to-date for its time. However, within a few years of its construction, it became obsolete with the improved technology in harvesting. Double aluminum doors on each gable end are on sliding tracks. These doors access a central aisle that runs north/south. On the west side of the aisle is a corncrib with the open space wood slats still visible on the west facade. The east side is divided into four granaries for storing dried grain, including soybeans and wheat. Overhead is a loft for storage. The building has a concrete block foundation, concrete floor and vertical aluminum siding covering the original wood siding. The aluminum siding was added to alleviate the continued expense of painting. It is now used for storage.

**Garage/Workshop - Contributing**

South of the scale shed is a garage/workshop 27' x 50', built c. 1949. It has two sets of double sliding doors on the long side and a standing seam metal roof. Although constructed fifty years apart, it is constructed of rusticated concrete block similar to that found in the ice house. The gable ends are wood frame vertical boards. This building is used for tool storage and for tractors.

**Concrete Bridge - Non-Contributing**

A simple concrete bridge without railings sits over Indian Creek near the English barn. Constructed in the 1970s, this structure is considered non-contributing.

**English barn - Contributing**

Sitting approximately one-half mile south of the farmhouse is the original barn for the farm from the 1850s. Built while large timbers were plentiful, the construction consists of large hand-hewn beams and small tree trunks, dressed and undressed. Most timbers are joined with mortise and tenon and pegs. It appears that the main part of the barn was built and included a central threshing floor with a series of smaller rooms around it. A large two-level loft provided storage for hay. Wooden, hand-made ladders access the lofts. Later, probably within a ten years, when the threshing floor was no longer needed, a shed-roof addition on three sides was added. The addition is constructed like the original, but the joints between the two are obvious. The addition forms an L-shaped interior aisle on the north and west sides. The barn is covered in vertical wood siding and has no windows, typical for this type of barn. The floor remains dirt.

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The gable facade facing east has three openings, one door for humans, one opening for equipment and one door in the peak, likely for access to the loft. The north facade has one large sliding door opening toward the original threshing floor. The shed addition is most obvious on the west gable end. This facade has no openings. The south facade is a series of openings supported by round and square posts resting on stone pillars. There are two primary sections divided by an opening accessing the interior of the barn. The east section of this facade has two large openings for the cattle to reach the feeders under the shed roof of the addition. The west section has one feeder and a wide opening accessing the west end of the L-shaped aisle.

**PASTURE**

Within the boundaries of the nomination are pasture areas around the round roof barn and granary/corncrib which were used for the cattle Trimpe specialized in. The Beattys would also have used this area for pasture as it encompassed an earlier barn used by them and the agricultural census information shows they had both milk cows and a significant number of beef cattle in addition to horses. Today these areas are used for beef cattle.

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Beatty/Trimpe Farm  
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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Beatty/Trimpe Farm meets National Register Criteria A and C. Its development over a period of more than ninety years under four owners, Alfred Beatty, Jackson T. Beatty, Ernest Kasting and Omer Trimpe, in just two families, is an excellent example of the changes that occurred in agriculture during that time period. The architecturally important buildings include a farmhouse, a scale shed, round roof barn, English barn, granary/corncrib, garage/workshop, icehouse, and smokehouse. It continues to be used for farming purposes with grains, corn and soybeans, the primary output and beef cattle secondary.

During Alfred Beatty's primary farming years, the 1850s-1900, agriculture underwent dramatic changes. The farming population grew during Mr. Beatty's lifetime, but their percentage of the labor force dropped. This shows the strong attraction towns, cities and urban areas had and is some indication of the difficulty of farm life. During his lifetime, other areas of agriculture also increased. The total number of farms increased. The acreage on those farms and their value more than doubled. Production of corn, wheat, cotton, cattle and hogs increased. Part of these increases is due to the expansion into the Great Plains, but part is also due to the vast improvements in technology which made it possible for farmers, including Mr. Beatty, to accomplish more in a day than ever before.

During Mr. Beatty's childhood, farm work was primarily hand work with productivity depending on a farmer's ability to use the axe, adze, hoe, sickle and other hand tools. Some tasks utilized draft animals, but human skills and energy were the primary basis. In the early years of his farm, it took about 75-90 labor hours to produce 100 bushels or about 2 ½ acres of corn with a walking plow, harrow and hand planting. The mechanization of field work and the use of horsepower instead of human labor were the most obvious changes in midwestern agriculture in this time period. The change from hand power to horses characterized the first American agricultural revolution. This was soon followed by gang plows, sulky plows and spring tooth harrows. Iron machinery and draft animals became part of farm life, creating new skills and replacing many age-old skills. Mr. Beatty's continued increase in acreage as well as his obvious success as a farmer indicate he likely took full advantage of these improvements. During his farming years, oxen were replaced by faster horses, barns were adapted to house machinery and his sons learned machine operations. The Census of Agriculture shows Mr. Beatty had three horses in 1860, eight in 1870 and fourteen in 1880, so his dependence on them for a variety of farm tasks grew significantly. Farms may have had or had access to a riding or sulky plow, disk harrow, seed drill, corn planter, corn cultivator, reaper, mower, hay rake, hay fork, windmill, and three or more horses. In late summer it would also have used a threshing machine and portable steam engine.

During his lifetime on the farm, Alfred Beatty experienced the railroad boom, benefitting as the miles of railroad track increased ten times from 1840 to 1860. In the next twenty years the miles increased more than five times in addition to the introduction of refrigerator cars which increased the markets for fruits and vegetables. He saw the development and stabilization of the corn and wheat belts and the beginning of specialization in farming. During his lifetime, mixed chemical fertilizers were first sold commercially. All of these changes saw the labor hours to produce 100 bushels of corn drop to 35-40 by 1890, using 2-bottom gang plow, disk and peg-tooth harrow and 2-row planter. This was less than half the time required in 1850. During

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Jackson T. Beatty's farming career (late 1800s-1934), this dropped to only 15-20 hours using a 2-bottom gang plow, 7-foot tandem disk, 4-section harrow and 2-row planters, cultivators and pickers.

In addition to the improvements in farming technology, one distinction between the Beattys and the Kasting/Trimpe farming was the diversity of the farm. Farmers in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century grew a variety of crops including corn, wheat, oats and potatoes in addition to the hogs, milk cows, beef cattle and horses. These farmers were to a large extent self-supporting, raising crops and animals for both sale and farm use. By the Kastings' era, farmers were likely to be specialized into certain types of farming. Omer Trimpe specialized in beef cattle and grains. The round roof barn was built for dairy farming. However, almost as soon as the barn was finished, Mr. Trimpe saw benefits in raising beef cattle and the decreased work load versus dairy cattle, so dairy farming on a large scale was abandoned. While the family kept only a few dairy cows through the 1940s and 1950s, the herd of beef cattle grew. The structures he built reflect his intention to specialize in dairy farming, but were quickly converted to support beef cattle farming. This reflects the continuing changes that were occurring in farming throughout this time period and how buildings were many times built for one purpose, but frequently adapted for other uses.

Ernest Kasting and Omer Trimpe, and to some extent Jackson T. Beatty, were no longer self-sufficient, but rather depended on outside sources for many things in their everyday lives. With the increase in machinery and dependence on outside sources, Jackson Beatty, Kasting and Trimpe also depended on cash much more than Alfred Beatty.

This farm has an excellent group of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century farm buildings as well as the farmhouse and several supporting buildings. Alfred Beatty built the farmhouse and smokehouse in 1874. At this time, he had 5-6 children and likely needed and was able to afford a larger home. The I-house form is commonly found on middle class farms where finances allowed for expenditures on more commodious housing. This house type is common on farms in the Midwest, and is the most widely distributed vernacular folk house particularly in rural areas. The rear ell of this farmhouse is more typical as a later addition, though examples with the ell are found. Its original end chimneys are very common with this house type. I-houses were built with a variety of stylistic details, however, this particular I-house is simple and unadorned. The most significant Italianate detail is its tall narrow windows with round and segmented arches. This farmhouse is less adorned than other farmhouses in the area, but it is an excellent example of a vernacular farmhouse for this area.

Beatty may have also built the English barn or it could have all ready been constructed when he purchased the property. The English barn was probably built as a typical three-bay threshing barn. However, the shed-roof addition was likely added within 10 years due to the similar construction techniques between it and the original barn. Also, between 1860 and 1870, Alfred Beatty's livestock nearly tripled, increasing his need for storage and feeding stations, both included in the additions. While the two side additions are less common, the gable-end shed is a common addition in the Midwest.

The various buildings remaining on the farm show the major changes in farming techniques and improvements in farming technology as well as the improvements in construction. They also show how multi-purpose farm



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buildings evolved into structures with more specific uses, but are now multi-purpose structures again. The distinct changes in needs for farm buildings is clearly seen, especially between the two barns. Features such as the threshing floor in the English barn were no longer needed in the 20<sup>th</sup> century while the hay lift in the Round Roof barn eased farm work and saved time. Concrete and concrete block decreased the fire threat and improved the sanitary conditions for livestock in farm buildings. The round roof barn also provided much more storage space than the gable roof of the English barn, allowing the farmer to store more feed and thus, keep more livestock.

The farm is not only significant for its association to agriculture, but also for its association with Alfred Beatty, its most prominent owner and a wealthy, active local resident. Alfred Beatty purchased the first piece of the farm, 240 acres in 1858. He was at least the third owner of this acreage. In 1860, Beatty's total farm acreage ranked in the top 25% of all farms in Jackson County. In 1870, his improved farmland had grown almost 25%. By the 1880 Census of Agriculture, his total farm acreage, including wooded land, had grown to more than 750 acres and ranked in the top 3% in farm acreage in Jackson County. By 1888, his land holdings in Hamilton Township had grown to more than 1,000 acres. The 1890 Census of Agriculture shows that only three farmers in Jackson County farmed more than 1,000 acres and the average farm size was just 127 acres. His two primary crops throughout his farming years were wheat and Indian corn. From 1860 to 1880 output increased sixteenfold for Indian corn and wheat nearly eightfold. This significant increase in twenty years shows his acceptance of and success with improved farming practices, thus increasing his wealth.

Alfred Beatty was married five times. He had at least ten children including two at about 70 and 75 years of age. Around 1874, when married to his third wife with 5-6 children living at home, he built the existing brick farmhouse. He likely built the smokehouse at the same time since they are the only brick structures on the farm. Since the English barn was constructed much earlier, it is likely that this farmhouse replaced an earlier one, which probably sat closer to the English barn.

Mr. Beatty was ahead of his time when it came to making this land in the "bottoms" useable. Parts of this area of Indiana along the East Fork of the White River were low-lying and too wet and swampy for farming. He constructed the first ditch under the law authorizing such improvements. His ditches allowed the land to drain and made farmland that was swampy and too wet for farming into some of the best farmland in the county. His significant contribution to the ditch system is seen on the 1900 Jackson County plat map which identifies one extensive ditch as the Beatty & Walker Ditch. This ditch runs through several sections of Hamilton Township including over 400 acres owned by Beatty in Sections 5 and 6. While he obviously benefitted financially from these improvements, so too did other farmers in the area, who after Alfred's success, saw the benefits of the drainage ditches. His foresight and success with the drainage ditches affected many families in this area who profited as they followed his lead.

Among his other community involvements, Mr. Beatty was one of the original stockholders in the Seymour Bridge Company formed in 1868 and one of only a few from Hamilton Township. He held four shares for a total of \$100.00. He certainly saw the need for improved transportation across the river since he lived just 1.3



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miles past Bell's Ford Bridge, one of the projects of the Seymour Bridge Company. Improved transportation was probably the reason he subscribed \$3,000 to the cause of the Freetown/Courtland Seymour Gravel Road Company. This road was tolled through 1900 so the individuals could make back on their investment. Mr. Beatty understood improved transportation was vital for farmers to sell and ship their products and to benefit from advances in farming.

Around 1895 when he retired from farming, Beatty divided much of his land between three of his sons and moved to Seymour. Around this time, the ice house was constructed on the farm. Beatty had invested in an ice plant in Seymour and this may explain the interest in an ice house for the farm. He also continued to spend his summers on the farm. Although retired from farming, Beatty remained active in real estate and at his death owned numerous properties in Seymour.

When the farm was divided, Beatty's son Jackson T. Beatty received the property with the farmhouse, nearby buildings and the English Barn. He received a total of 280 acres from his father ranking him in the top 10% of farms in Jackson County. His farm increased to 360 acres in 1908 and remained there until his death in 1934. Jackson's son inherited the farm and in 1937, Ernest and Elizabeth Kasting, the current owner's grandparents, purchased 280 acres of the farm. They were caretakers of the farm with no major construction projects during their tenure. Mr. Kasting retired from farming in 1946 when Omer Trimpe, Ms. Keller's father assumed management of the farm. The Trimpes ownership saw the next major construction for the farm as well <sup>as</sup> another revolution in agriculture. In 1942, before Omer Trimpe joined the army, the family had been forced to move from a farm south of Seymour in order for the government to create Freeman Field. At the time Mr. Kasting sold much of his farm equipment including the horses. Mr. Kasting's sale of his horses signaled for this family the change from horse power to tractors. Once again this major change in farming affected the labor hours to produce crops. In 1945, only 10-14 labor hours were required to produce 100 bushes of corn with a tractor, 3-bottom plow, 10-foot tandem disk, 4-section harrow, 4-row planters and cultivators and a 2-row picker. This is 6½ to 7½ times faster than Alfred Beatty in 1850.

In addition to grain farming, the Trimpes expanded the farm into cattle farming. After WWII, Omer Trimpe started to focus on dairy cattle, an idea he got from agriculture classes in Seymour. In 1949, to better equip the farm for dairy farming, the Trimpes built the round-roof barn, granary/corncrib, and garage/workshop that are all contributing buildings, making 1949 a significant date for this farm. However, by the time the round roof barn was completed, Mr. Trimpe saw the benefits of beef cattle over dairy and never expanded the dairy cattle operation. These buildings are contributing since they meet the fifty year minimum and remain almost exactly as they were built. They represent a construction era that increased the storage capacity, fire safety and sanitary conditions of the barns through improved construction technology. These buildings were considered modern for their time with the poured concrete foundation and concrete block walls. They also represent a time when farm buildings were more specialized reflecting the specialization in farming.

The round roof barn or gothic roof used lighter frames in construction and pre-formed roof trusses. The arched laminated braces without interior braces provided more space in the loft which was particularly suitable for

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raising livestock. This roof became more popular after 1925, particularly in the Midwest, although it was not widely built due to its expense and more difficult construction. This type of barn was more difficult for the average farmer or local builder to construct. Round roof barns in this area of the state and over the vast majority of Indiana make up less than 10 percent of all the barns. The only concentrations are two small areas where the round roof barn makes up 10-25 percent of all barns and neither is located where this barn is found. In the Midwest, the round roof barn is found in greater concentrations in Wisconsin where dairy farming is more common. The open loft also allowed for a hay carrier for ease in storing hay in the large loft. Around this barn and the granary/corncrib are pasture areas fenced with a combination of wood and wire fence. These areas were used for the beef cattle owned by Mr. Trimpe. Before that, the Beattys likely used these areas for pasture as they were convenient to the farmhouse and would have been located around an earlier barn that sat where the round roof barn sits.

In 1980, Mr. Trimpe retired from farming and his only child, Mary Elisabeth Keller, the current owner, assumed the management of the farm. The farmhouse addition and the modern garage were done during her ownership. Today, the farm continues to be used for farming by the current owner. Her farm consists of grains and beef cattle. She has lived in the farmhouse since 1970 and works to preserve these buildings while using them for the needs of her farm.

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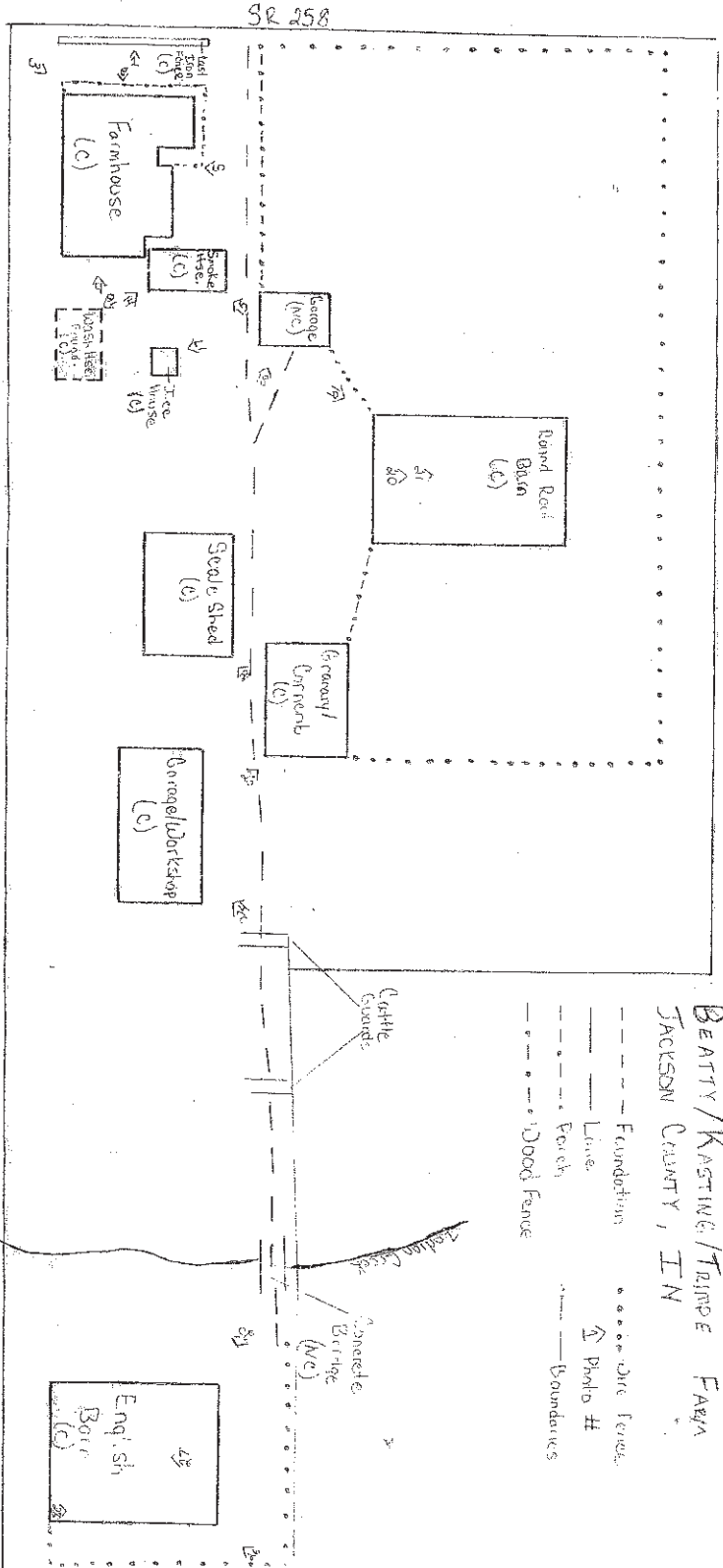
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**BOUNDARIES**

The Beatty/Kasting/Trimpe Farmstead is located in Section 10, Township 6, Range 5 in Jackson County, Indiana. The boundaries for the farmstead begin at the northeast corner of the Southwest quarter of Section 10, Township 6, Range 5 and run south along the east line of the quarter to a point southeast of the granary/corncrib. Turning west to the east side of the north/south lane in the middle of the farmstead. Turning south and running along the east side of the lane, crossing Indian Creek, running parallel to the east facade of the English barn to a point southeast of the southeast corner of the English barn. Turning west and running parallel to the south facade of the English barn to a point southwest of the southwest corner of the English barn. Turning north and running parallel with the west facade of the English barn to the north boundary of the southwest quarter of Section 10 Township 6 Range 5. Thence east along the north line of the southwest quadrant of Section 10, Township 6, Range 5 to place of beginning.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

These boundaries encompass the extant contributing buildings for the Beatty/Kasting/Trimpe Farm including some pasture used by both the Beatty and the Kasting/Trimpe families. The lane is included since it has been used for generations to access the English barn, fields and pasture sitting south of the primary farmstead. Supporting evidence for the lane's use includes the age of the English barn and the previous existence of a wooden bridge replaced with a concrete bridge over Indian Creek. The east side of the lane is excluded from these boundaries since it includes several non-contributing resources and does not add to the significance of the farm.



BEATTY/KASTING/TIMPE FARM  
JACKSON COUNTY, IN

- Foundation
- Line
- ..... Fence
- . - . Dook Fence
- ..... Fire Fence
- ↗ Photo #
- ..... Boundaries



ALFRED BEATTY ESTATE  
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