NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

FINAL

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Finney, Joseph, House

other names/site number

2. Location

street & number County Road 217 N/A ☐ not for publication

city or town Bloomingdale ☒ vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Parke code 121 zip code 47932

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.)

10·25·02

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:

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:)

Finney, Joseph, House
Name of Property

Parke 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	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Continental Log

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE
walls WOOD: Log
WOOD: Weatherboard
roof METAL: Tin
other

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

Finney, Joseph, House
Name of Property

Parke IN
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contriibution 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
1827

Significant Dates
1827

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:

Finney, Joseph, House
Name of Property

Parke IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	476760	4412020
2			
3			
4			

☐ See continuation sheet

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laura Thayer, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization _____ date 05-10-2002

street & number 4950 South 150 East telephone 812/ 372-6806

city or town Columbus state IN zip code 47201

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 Neil Allee

street & number P.O. Box 189, R.R. 1 telephone 765/ 498-4525

city or town Bloomingdale state IN zip code 47832

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.

The Joseph Finney House is located in Penn Township, Parke County, in west-central Indiana. The house was built in 1827 on an 80-acre farm about a mile west of the village of Annapolis. The land on which the house is situated continues to be farmed today, and the surrounding area remains rural in character.

The Finney farm is located on the Montezuma-Crawfordsville Road. The house itself is almost a half-mile north of the road. The 1908 Parke County Atlas indicates a short - about half a mile - road that extends north along the Section 2 & 3 boundary from the Montezuma-Crawfordsville Road. The resource count includes one contributing building, the Finney House, and no noncontributing resources.

The Finney House may be classified as a Continental log house. It is a two-story, hewn log structure with a side gable roof (photo 1). There is a frame ell addition off the west end of the south side of the original section (photos 2 and 3). The original (log) section of the house is roughly 24 feet wide and 16 feet deep. The logs are sided with clapboards. The house has an interior chimney on the west end. The front door is located slightly off center on the main façade. First floor windows on this façade are wood, double hung, with six lights in each sash. Upper story windows have fixed, wood sash, divided vertically, with two lights in each. Windows have wood board surrounds.

The ends of the original part of the house have no openings (photos 1, 2). The rear façade of is virtually identical to the main façade, except that the first floor window on the west end has been made into an (interior) doorway to access the ell; and that a shed roof has been added under second story windows to cover a back porch (photo 3).

The one-story ell appears to date from the late 19th century (left in photo 3). It is of frame construction, has a gable roof, and double hung wood windows with two lights in each sash. There is a chimney at the end of the ell.

The clapboards are narrow on the front of the house, on the upper story of the rear façade, and on the ell (photos 1, 2, 3). They are wider on the ends and on the first story of the rear of the house. The roof covering is corrugated tin.

The interior of the original part of the house is divided into three rooms on the first level, and is open on the second level. The first level has one room, the kitchen (photo 4), on the west side. (This room was not used as a kitchen after

the ell was added for this purpose.) The east side is divided into two rooms: a parlor (photo 5) at the front of the house, and a bedroom at the rear. There are two doors, one each on the front and rear of the house. Both access the original kitchen, and are located slightly off center. A narrow, enclosed stairway (photo 6) extends from the kitchen to the second floor. From the second story, a ladder-like stair accesses an attic (photo 7).

The original part of the house has narrow board wood floors throughout, and wood paneled walls (photos 4, 6). Ceiling joists are exposed, and are beaded (photo 4, 7). A narrow, molded baseboard is seen both downstairs and upstairs (photos 4, 7). The front door of the house is a plank door. Interior doors to the parlor and bedroom are paneled wood doors. The rear door is a paneled wood and glass door (photo 4). There is a similar door on the east side of the ell. The ell has board walls and ceilings.

As stove in the kitchen of the original house replaced the original large fireplace on the west wall (photo 4). The mantel for this fireplace is stored in the parlor (photo 5).

The house is in fair condition, and has a high degree of integrity.

Other buildings on the property include a 20th century house, a garage, barn and sheds (photo 8, 9). These buildings were constructed after the period of significance and were not included in the boundaries or resource count.

The Finney House is significant under Criterion A in the area of Exploration/Settlement, and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The house is associated with the early settlement of Parke County. It is a rare example of a Continental log house, and of a pioneer house of any type.

History

Joseph Finney was born in North Carolina in 1784. At some point, he moved with his family to Tennessee. He married Mary (Polly) Long in Greenville, Tennessee in 1805, and their oldest child, Robert, was born the following year. The next four Finney offspring were born in Surry County, North Carolina, between 1808 and 1815. During this time, Joseph Finney served in the War of 1812 with the 2nd Surry Regiment. By 1818, the family had moved to Lawrence County, Indiana, where four Finney children were born.

Records of the federal land office at Crawfordsville, established in 1823, show that Finney was given a patent on December 15, 1826, for 80 acres in Parke County. This was the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 2, Township 16 North, Range 8 West, the same boundaries of the present day Allee Farm. Between 1832 and 1838, Finney acquired additional tracts of 80, 40, and 40 acres near his home farm.

Like most of the settlers in the county, Joseph Finney was a farmer. He and his wife had 12 children in all. A brief school history of Penn Township named two of the younger Finney children, Polly and Wesley, as pupils at the first school in Penn Township, a log building. One of the teachers at the township's third school, located one-half mile west of Annapolis, had a Mr. Finney as an early teacher. This may have been one of the older sons. The Finneys apparently prospered as the 1850 Census showed that their farms were worth $3,000. Joseph Finney died in 1867, and Mary died in 1873. Both are buried in Linebarger cemetery.

Joseph and Mary's daughter, Polly, born in 1818, married Alexander Ephlin in 1839. One of the Ephlins' sons, Josiah M., born about 1840, married Anna Tenbrook in 1867, the daughter of early settlers. The 1874 Parke County Atlas shows the 80-acre Finney farm divided into two 40-acre tracts. The north tract, where the house is located, is shown under the ownership of "A. Copeland," and the south tract is shown under the ownership of "A. Tenbrook." It is believed that an Ephlin family lived in the house following the death of the Finneys, but the details of which Ephlin family that was, and the time period they lived there, are not known. (Because of a fire in the Parke County Courthouse, many of the early

land records were destroyed. For this reason, the exact history of the Finney land cannot be traced.)

By the time the 1908 county Atlas was compiled, Finney's original 80 acres had returned to one owner, Edgar D. Davies. A biography of the Davies family in a recent Parke County history states that Edgar Davies was born in 1860, and later made his home west of Annapolis in the house "now occupied by the Allee family."[1] The Davies family remained here until the Allee family acquired the property in 1917. Descendants of the Allee family continued to occupy the house until 1978. It is now vacant.

Exploration/Settlement

Parke County was organized in 1821. The first white settlers arrived in 1818. Roseville was initially named the seat of county government. It was relocated to Rockville in 1824. Settlers were drawn to Parke County, as they were to each county as it was opened to settlement, for inexpensive farmland. Parke County was also attractive to the pioneers for its timber and coal fields. Land was entered through the Crawfordsville Land Office in Montgomery County.

Settlement began in the area that would become Penn Township about 1825. Many of the early settlers were Quakers from North Carolina and Pennsylvania, and represented the great wave of Quakers who moved to Indiana and Ohio during this period. Penn Township was formed in 1854 from parts of Liberty, Reserve, and Sugar Creek Townships. It was originally named Scott Township, but, after objections, was renamed Penn Township after William Penn, because of the large number of Quaker families.

Many of the early settlers came from the south, traveling northwest along the Buffalo Trace that extended from New Albany to Vincennes, and then north along roads that had been established by Indiana counties as they were established from south to north. Few streams were navigable, but some settlers traveled upstream on the Wabash River. From the east, the National Road, which was surveyed through Indiana in 1827, extended westward from Cumberland, Maryland, to Terre Haute. Many of the early roads, including the National Road, were nothing more that a path chopped through the woods for years.

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[1] Parke County Historical Society. History and Families, 1821-1989, Parke County, Indiana. Rockville: Turner Publishing Company, 1989.

The following except from Travel Accounts of Indiana 1679-1961 provides some insight into the life of pioneers like the Finneys.

"After supper I had a talk with the head of the household on a bench outside the cabin, in the course of which, among other things, I learned that he was a native of North Carolina, and that after marrying he had started with his wife for Western Pennsylvania. He was not inclined to stop in Virginia. He had had, he said, enough of a slave State, where a poor white man was not considered as good as a black one. He remained in Pennsylvania for five or six years, until the people became too thick for game, when he moved to Ohio, spent some years in the eastern part of the State, as many more in the western, and thence had come to Indiana."

Certainly many Quakers left the south because of their aversion to slavery, but, as the above narrative suggests, others left seeking a place where they would not have to compete against the large landowner who had free labor to perform his work.[2]

The Finneys may represent a type of pioneer family who continually tried to improve their situation by seeking better farmland in areas newly opened for settlement. Finney was born in North Carolina; his father had been born in Delaware, and the Finney children were born in Tennessee, North Carolina, and Indiana.

Joseph Finney did not come to Parke County until he was in his early 40s. By this time, he may have established farms in other places, sold them, and acquired a modest amount of wealth. After purchasing 80 acres of good land in Parke County, he was able to build a house that was more substantial than the typical pioneer cabin. Having the advantage of several nearly-grown sons, he developed a farm in only 20 years that was valued at $3,000 by the U.S. Census of 1850. This was a significant amount for the time.

Joseph Finney's service in the War of 1812 may have also contributed to the family's prosperity. As a veteran of that conflict, he would have been entitled to apply for 160 acres of bounty land in Illinois, Missouri, or Arkansas. Part of the

[2] Hugh McCulloch. "Indianapolis to South Bend, La Porte, and Fort Wayne, May 1833." in Travel Accounts of Indiana 1679-1961. Shirley S. McCord, Compiler. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, 1870.)

reason Congress designated these states for the soldiers was to encourage settlement of the west. Finney may have sold his rights to his bounty land.

Unlike many pioneer cabins which were dismantled to supply building materials for outbuildings after the family could afford a larger more comfortable house, the Finney house survives. With its large kitchen, separate bedroom, and sleeping loft, it must have been considered one of the better houses of rural Penn Township during the early and mid-19th century.

One other pioneer-era house was identified in the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory in Parke County. This is a log house on the Ward-Stark-Reese Farm, located on County Road 25 in Annapolis.

Architecture

As was the case with most pioneer houses in Indiana, the Finney house is a log house. It is derived from the Continental log houses common in the 18th century among Pennsylvania Germans and described by Henry Glassie in Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States.[3] The most common plan had a central chimney, three rooms, and one or two stories high. The kitchen extended the depth of the house and contained a large fireplace, usually flanked one side by winding stairs that accessed a loft or upper story. The other side of the house was partitioned into two rooms, the front room being a parlor, and the rear, usually smaller room, being a bedroom. The front door of the house entered directly into the kitchen.

The structure of these houses was based on traditions of the heavily forested areas Northern Europe, where timber was readily available. German immigrants brought to Pennsylvania and other states, their technique of building with hewn logs, as well as notching techniques, to Pennsylvania and other Mid-Atlantic states. From there, these building techniques traveled with migrants to the South and West.

Continental log houses existed in the same region as houses of English immigrants such as hall-and-parlor and I-houses, with interior, gable-end chimneys. According to Common Houses in America's Small Towns[4], German

[3] Henry Glassie. Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968.
[4] John Jackle, et al. Common Houses in America's Small Towns. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1989.

continental plan houses were modified in the 19th century with English variations, such as the gable-end chimney. Migrants from Pennsylvania to the Carolinas introduced variations of the house type.

The Finney House is a classic example of a German Continental log dwelling with an English-influenced interior gable-end chimney. Joseph Finney's North Carolina origins would have exposed him to this house type.

On the exterior, the Continental log house, a double-pile house with an off-center entry, would be distinguished from hall-and-parlor, a single pile house type with a central entry. Continental plan houses with end chimneys are similar in appearance to two-thirds double-pile I-houses.

Because of the large number of settlers in the southern half of Indiana who migrated from the Carolinas, it is likely that Continental log houses were once a common house type. The type, however, has not been widely identified in historic sites and structures inventories. This scarcity might be explained by the preference for other house types as pioneer log houses were replaced in favor of larger dwellings. The I-house, in particular, was overwhelmingly popular in the mid-19th century. Built after a family had achieved some measure of prosperity, and generally with more leisure than the initial pioneer cabin, these later houses were more substantial, evidenced by the fact that many survive today. Often after the construction of this second house, the pioneer log house was dismantled and its materials prudently re-used for an outbuilding.

The Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory for Parke County was conducted in the late 1970s and is out of date. At the time the county was surveyed, a classification system for vernacular buildings had not been developed, and it is not known the extent and type of pioneer houses that survive. Based on inventories of other counties, it is likely that these houses are very rare.

At least two other two-story log houses associated with the pioneer era in Indiana have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These are the Solomon Fussell House in Madison County, built in 1832, and the Thomas Faith House in Davies County, also built in the early 19th century.

Andreas, A.T. Atlas Map of Parke County, Indiana. Chicago: A.T. Anreas, 1874.

Beadle, J.H. 1880 History of Parke County, Indiana. Chicago: H.H. Hill and N. Iddings, Publishers, 1880.

Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records, Land Patent Details (http://www.blm.gov).

History of Parke and Vermillion Counties, Indiana. Indianapolis: B.F. Bowen, 1913.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana Historic Sites and Structure Inventory for Parke County, 1978.

Jackle, John A., et al. Common Houses in America's Small Towns. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1989.

Madison and Coyne Genealogy (http://worldconnect.genealogy.rootsweb.com).

McCord, Shirley S. Travel Accounts of Indiana 1670-1961. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, 1970.

Parke County Historical Society. History and Families, 1821-1989, Parke County, Indiana. Rockville: Turner Publishing Company, 1989.

Portrait and Biographical Record of Montgomery, Parke and Fountain Counties, Indiana. Chicago: Chapman Brothers, 1893.

Standard Atlas of Parke County, Indiana. Chicago: George A. Ogle and Company, 1908.

U.S. Census of Population, 1850, 1860

Weaver, G.H. and Vickrey, E.S., "Schools of Penn Township." n.d.

Verbal Boundary Description

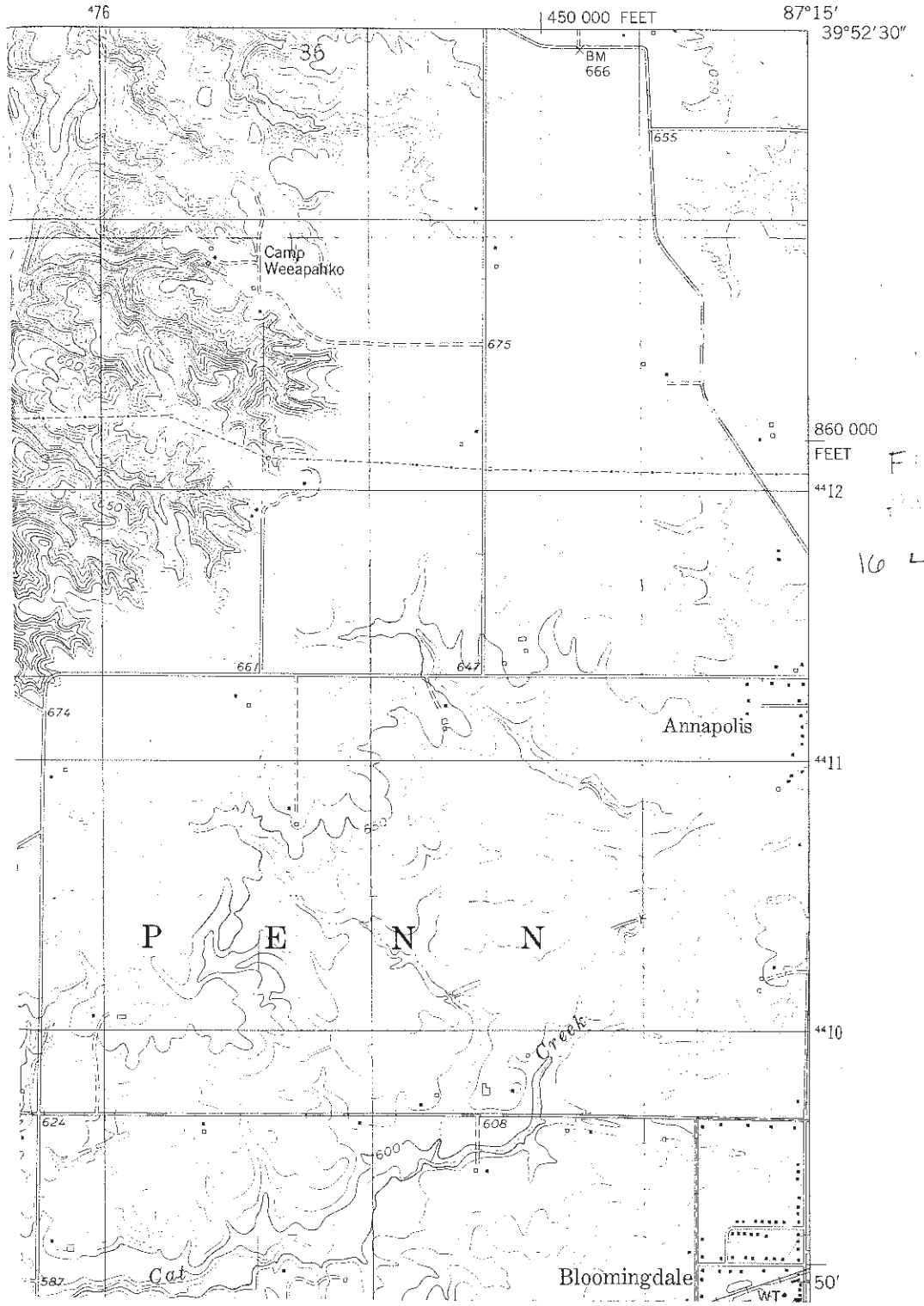
Beginning at a point 400 feet east of the west boundary of Section 2, Township 16 North, Range 8 West, and 100 feet south of the north boundary of the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 2, Township 16 North, Range 8 West; thence east 200 feet; thence south 200 feet; thence west 200 feet; thence north 200 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The boundary is sufficient to include the Finney House, the only extant structure on the history Finney Farm.

MONTEZUMA QUADRANGLE
INDIANA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

3563 I NW (WALLACE)



FINNEY HOUSE

16 476760 4412020