

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 **Brown, Samuel, House**

other names/site number **The Brick** 133-542-05542

2. Location

street & number **1558 East County Road 1100 North** N/A not for publication
city or town **Roachdale** N/A vicinity
state **Indiana** code **IN** county **Putnam** code **133** zip code **46172**

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 **[Signature]**
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

Date **4-26-06**

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

Signature of certifying official/Title
State or Federal agency and bureau

Date

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined not eligible for the National Register
 - removed from the National Register
 - other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
 DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling
 DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19th c.: Greek Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: STONE
 walls: BRICK
 roof: ASPHALT
 other:

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT _____

Period of Significance

c.1841 _____

Significant Dates

N/A _____

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A _____

Cultural Affiliation

N/A _____

Architect/Builder

Unknown _____

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major 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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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Samuel Brown House, Putnam County
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Property Setting

The Samuel Brown House is on County Road 1100 North southwest of Roachdale, Indiana. The property is in east central Franklin Township, Putnam County. The property encompasses approximately 2 acres and contains a house and a small barn. The house was built on a flat stretch of lightly wooded land, about forty yards south of the road (Photo 1). A creek runs northeast to southwest about sixty yards behind (south) the house. The flat stretch of land drops off steeply to the creek. There is a driveway west of the house, which makes a loop in front of the barn (Photo 2). These structures are somewhat isolated; few if any neighboring structures can be seen. The original section of the house is parallel to County Road 1100 North, and an addition extends south, perpendicular from this original section. This house is one of the best, earliest examples of a farm in the township and retains much of its original setting. The surrounding fields are lightly wooded or are in agricultural use.

House Exterior

The Samuel Brown house is a one story brick house constructed in the Greek Revival style. The house has a side gabled roof and a stone foundation. The overall massing of the house is an "L" shape. Originally, the house had a small room projecting from the south elevation at the southeast corner. This room has been encompassed in the larger, later addition, though the exterior brick walls are exposed as an interior feature (Photo 3). The north elevation faces County Road 1100 North and has four windows symmetrically placed on either side of the central front entry (Photo 4). Each of these five opening was originally capped with a row of rowlock bricks, but has been replaced with three concrete blocks, giving the appearance of limestone caps. The foundation is largely below grade, and is not a noticeable feature of the façade. The exterior brick is laid in common bond. The four windows in the north elevation have been replaced, using the same configuration as the original four over four double hung. A small stoop was constructed at the front door, probably sometime in the 1950s or 60s. The front door has paired, tall thin windows on the upper two-thirds, with two panels below. There is an eight-light wood storm door shielding the front door. There is a flat white fascia board just above the window caps, running the length of the façade. The house has a tan asphalt shingle roof, with short chimneys rising above the peak at either end.

The west elevation has no window or door openings (Photo 5). There are four small holes in the brick – there are several such holes around the house and their purpose is unknown. The cornice returns have been replaced with a single flat board, to give the appearance of cornice returns. There is a small porch extending south from the roofline, covering an entrance to the south addition (Photo 6). The addition extends southward and was added to the house during the last fifty years. The addition is sided with vinyl and vertical wood paneling. This addition replaced an older, smaller frame addition that burned in the 1940s. Though this addition is out of character with the Greek Revival style of the older portion of the house, it is largely hidden, as it extends behind the original part of the house.

The south elevation of the original brick house is under the small porch connecting the addition to the original house. There is one window opening, which is the same as the windows in the north elevation, including the replacement of the window cap with concrete blocks. The addition composes the remainder of the south elevation.

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The east elevation is the same as the west elevation, with the exception of a single window at the south edge of the façade (Photo 7). This window is the same as the other windows in the house. The addition covers an original brick extension. The original extension and a small nineteenth century frame addition can be seen in a 1927 photograph of the house. The current addition stands where this frame addition originally stood; the frame addition burned in the 1940s. The 1927 photograph also shows an Eastlake style porch that had been added to the north façade but has since been removed.

The current addition is wood frame construction and is clad in wood and vinyl siding. There are a variety of windows used in the addition, none of which match the configuration of the original windows for the house. There is a small porch in the southwest corner overhanging a door in the south elevation. There is a small enclosed porch that extends along the east elevation of the addition. The gabled roof features a singly shed dormer on the east side.

House Interior

Though the floorplan has been altered, the original layout is still evident. The house originally had three rooms, one on either side of the front entry separated by a central hall, with one room extending south from the eastern room (Photo 8). A restroom now fills the central hall and the addition encloses most of the south façade of the house (Photo 9). The eastern room was a family room and the western room and the southern wing were bedrooms. The addition housed a kitchen, family room and two bedrooms upstairs. The walls and ceilings of the original house are plaster and the walls and ceilings of the addition are sheet rock, except where the original brick walls of the house remain exposed (Photo 3). The original rear entry of the house is now the restroom door. The remaining original woodwork is walnut. Much of the woodwork and interior features of the house have been replaced or altered, including the fireplace mantles and surrounds.

Barn/Granary

This structure is not original to the property, but likely dates to the late nineteenth century (Photo 10). The largest portion of the building was originally used a corncrib, but has since been converted to general storage. The barn is one story with a gable loft space. The exterior is clad in vertical wood siding of various widths and a metal roof. There is a large sliding door in the north façade with a typical door and large sixteen light window to the right.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Samuel Brown House is significant under Criterion A as a representation of a settlement era house in Putnam County. The house is one of only three Franklin Township houses of the era and may be the oldest house, retaining integrity, in the township.

Putnam County was created in 1821 by the Indiana General Assembly, though settlement in the county had begun shortly after Indiana became a state in 1816. Settlement in the county began primarily in the southwest and spread to the northeast. The National Road, constructed through Indiana between 1827 and 1834, created easier access to settlement opportunities in Putnam County. The early economy of the county was heavily agricultural, as was typical in Indiana at the time. The east-west Indianapolis-Terre Haute Railroad came to Putnam County in 1852 and the north-south Louisville, New Albany, and Chicago Railroad in 1854. These, along with subsequent rail lines, gave rise to expanding communities and industry throughout the county.

James Gordon first settled Franklin Township, located in the center of the northern edge of the county, in 1824. Most of the early settlers of Putnam County came from the Upland South region of Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky. Among these were Samuel Brown and his father Isaac, who arrived in the township from Tennessee in 1829. According to the History of Putnam County, Franklin Township was "inhabited by an enterprising class of farmers who, improving its natural advantages, have placed it in the front rank of the townships of Putnam." Samuel Brown was certainly among these farmers.

Brown was prosperous and acquired additional lands as he was able. The 1879 Illustrated Historical Atlas of Putnam County describes him as one of the "largest land owners and prominent farmers in this county; came here poor, but, at the time of his death, owned over 1,000 acres of land." These claims are supported by the 1850 Agricultural Census: Brown was listed as owning 260 acres in Franklin Township, and in the 1860 census as owning 560 acres, making him the second largest landowner in the township. Brown owned additional land outside the township. The land composing the current property was first granted in 1829 to Lewis Ball, and Brown acquired the property in 1833. He acquired an adjacent piece of land in 1841, and it is this property where the house stands today (the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 23).

Though the specific date of construction is unknown, the house was likely erected between 1841-60. Samuel Brown died on October 19, 1865 so the house was definitely constructed prior to that date. However, given his prosperity and the fact he had a wife and children, it is probable that he would have had a substantial dwelling erected soon after he began his farming operations in earnest. As with most rural homes at that time, Brown likely built the house himself with the help of neighbors and family, firing the bricks on-site, and cutting nearby oak trees for necessary wood framing (repairs to the interior of the house in 2000 revealed timber floor joists with the bark intact). The house is a very simplified Greek Revival structure, reflecting the utilitarian design of a farmhouse of this period and the unavailability of high style ornamentation in this remote area.

The Samuel Brown house remains as the best example of a settlement era farmhouse in Franklin Township. Its unusual siting, far from the county road, reflects its early date. The house is a central passage dwelling, a type associated with the Upland South. The likely date of the house, c. 1845, places it in the late period of settlement, before railroads were firmly established. There is one other Outstanding rated, settlement era, Franklin Township farmhouse (the Lockridge Farm) listed in the Putnam County Interim Report. This house is wood frame construction, one and a half stories, and identified as a Gothic Revival house. The fact that this house was constructed in the more ornamental Gothic Revival style points to the fact that it was constructed

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after the Samuel Brown house. Not only is the Brown house likely the oldest farmhouse in the township, it is the only brick settlement era house in the township that has retained its integrity. Countywide there are approximately twenty-five settlement era homes retaining architectural integrity, including log cabins and one and two story structures. As in Franklin Township, many of these homes are wood frame structures.

The granary structure to the south of the house is not original to the property, having been constructed sometime in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. Though this structure has been altered, it is evidence of the agricultural nature of this property. The granary structure retains enough of its architectural integrity to contribute to the significance of the property's agricultural provenance. Behind this structure are the remains of the barn foundation.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

1850 Federal Agricultural Census, Putnam County, August 1850.

1860 Federal Agricultural Census, Putnam County, June 1860.

1879 Illustrated Historical Atlas of Putnam County Indiana, J.H. Beers & Co., Chicago, 1879.

History of Putnam County, The Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1887.

Putnam County Interim Report, Indiana Department of Natural Resources & Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1982.

Interview with Lora Scott, Samuel Brown descendant and Brown family genealogist, September 20, 2004.

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BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

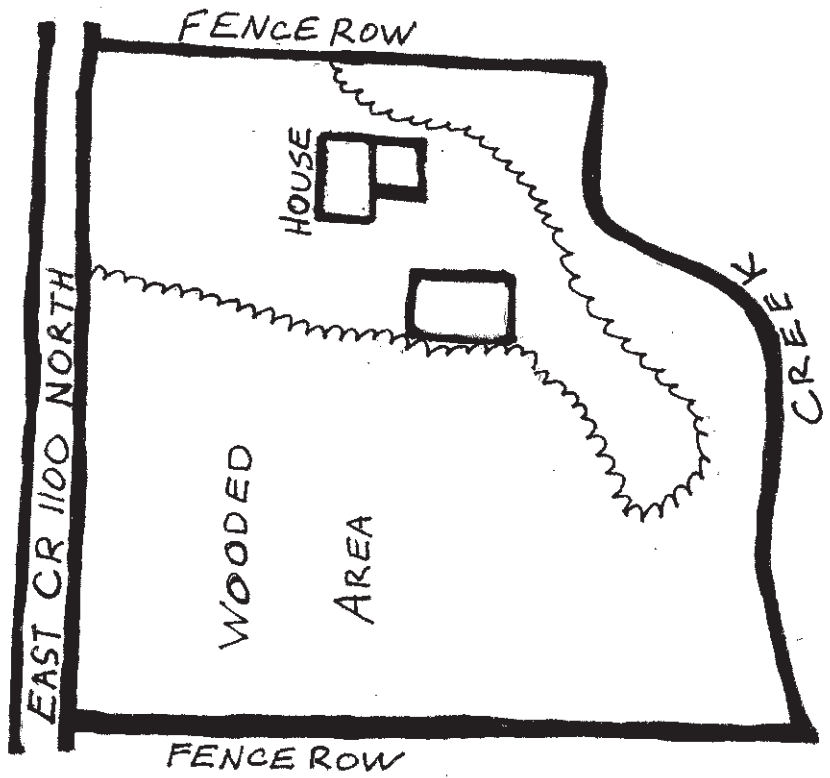
Beginning at the northwest corner of the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 23, Township 16 North, Range 4 west in Putnam County, Indiana and subject to the existing rights of way for County Road 1100 North; thence east 425 feet; thence south 523 feet, thence west 425 feet; thence north 523 feet to the point of origin.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

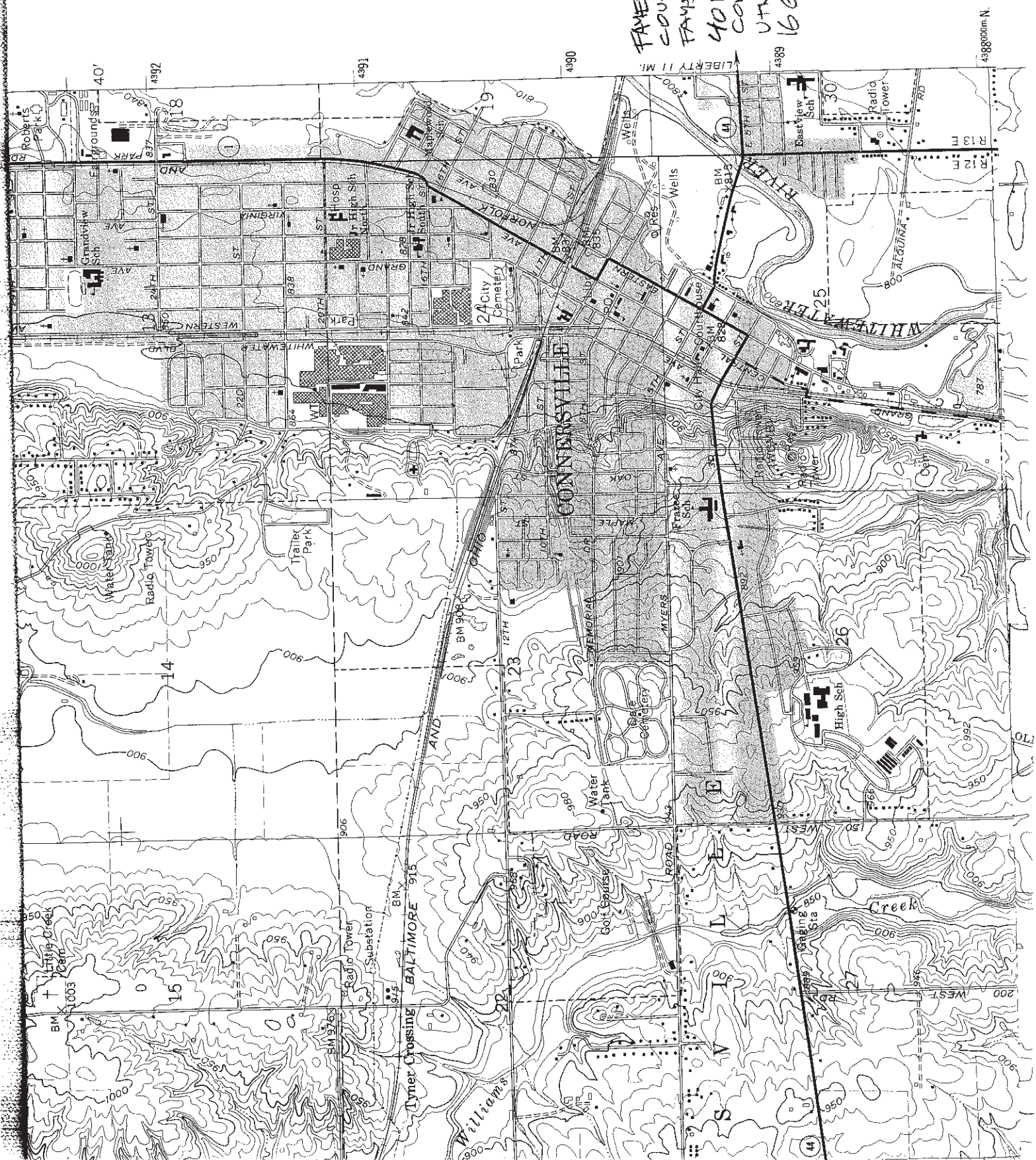
The boundary encompasses the core of the original Samuel Brown farm. Though the only substantial structure remaining from the original Samuel Brown farm is the house, the site includes a contributing nineteenth century granary and the ruins of a nineteenth century barn.

Samuel Brown House

Site Map



FAYETTE COUNTY
COURTHOUSE
FAYETTE CO. 7 IN
401 CENTRAL
CONNEESSVILLE
UTM
16 657160 438730



438900m. N.