

8-7-72 (file)

FINAL

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Indiana	
COUNTY: Vigo	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Condit House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Indiana State University, 629 Mulberry Street

CITY OR TOWN: Terre Haute

STATE: Indiana	CODE: 18	COUNTY: Vigo	CODE: 167
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Indiana State University

STREET AND NUMBER: 629 Mulberry Street

CITY OR TOWN: Terre Haute

STATE: Indiana

CODE: 18

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Vigo County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Terre Haute

STATE: Indiana

CODE: 18

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Indiana

COUNTY: Vigo

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Condit House, an engaging 1860 example of Italianate architecture, is the residence of President and Mrs. Alan C. Rankin on the campus at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana. The University has "grown around" the house, and in 1965 President Rankin, with the concurrence of the University trustees, requested the privilege of restoring the lovely brick home for use as the President's residence. The restoration work was done in 1966, 1967, and 1968.

The historic house was built by Mr. Jabez Hedden for Mr. Lucien Houriet, a jeweler and watchmaker. In 1863 it was purchased by the Reverend and Mrs. Blackford Condit and remained in the Condit family until 1962 when the property was bequeathed to Indiana State University by Miss Helen Condit, the last survivor of the family.

Indiana State University -- then Indiana State Normal School -- opened for classes in January, 1870, in a building across Mulberry Street from the Condit residence.* History records that in the latter part of the nineteenth century Condit House was "a frequent gathering place for the culturally elite of the city." The distinguished Caleb Mills, early educator known as the "father of the Indiana public school system," was Blackford Condit's father-in-law and often was among the illustrious guests at Condit Houses.

The restoration project, which included rebuilding and enlarging the rear wing, gave careful attention to preservation of the architectural authenticity of the house. Bricks from the removed wing were carefully re-used, along with doors, window frames, lintels, sills, shutters, ornamental wood porch trim, and cast iron grilles and gratings.

Architects for the project were James Associates, Indianapolis, Indiana, represented by H. Roll McLaughlin, A. I. A.

The house is unusually well preserved in its original flavor. The warm brick facade is formal and symmetrical, giving the residence a studied sophistication. An exceptional feature is a deep projection, or pavilion, at the center of the facade, surmounted by a classic pediment. On either side of the pavilion, tucked into the angle of the entrance, is a small one-story porch. An iron balcony adorns the pavilion.

The house is crowned with a hip roof and projecting eaves and two great chimneys. The eaves are richly bracketed, with small attic windows alternating with the brackets. The pavilion is gabled with a triangular peak. There are three tall windows across the front at the upper level and a centered first-floor doorway with a tall window on either side. Twin wooden doors invite the visitor into a small entrance hallway. The front foyer is entered from the outer hallway through a second set of tall doors, these

* The address was 629 Mulberry Street. Today, the street is closed and the house faces the main Quadrangle of the University although the numerals "629" still appear above the front door.

(continued)

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Blackford Condit House, now the residence of the president of Indiana State University, has had a remarkably interesting and significant relationship with education for all of its long history of more than a century.

When the house was built at 629 Mulberry Street in 1860 its first and closest neighbors were the professors and students at the Vigo County Seminary directly across Mulberry Street. In 1863 the Blackford Condits purchased the property and the house gained distinction as a gathering place for the culturally elite. Blackford Condit, a Presbyterian minister, was married to a daughter of Caleb Mills, recognized as the "Father of Education" in Indiana. Mr. Mills and other educational pioneers of the state were frequent guests at Condit House.

In the mid-1860's the Indiana General Assembly selected as the site of the state's first school for the training of teachers, the seminary property across Mulberry Street from Condit House. The Indiana State Normal School opened its doors there on January 6, 1870.

In succession, the Normal School became Indiana State Teachers College, then Indiana State College, and then, in 1965, Indiana State University. The campus grew and surrounded Condit House; the enrollment surged upward until in 1972 more than 18,000 students are served by ISU.

At her death in 1962, Miss Helen Condit, the last survivor of the eminent pioneer family, bequeathed Condit House to the University. For several years thereafter Condit House served as the Alumni Center of the University. Upon assuming office in 1965, President Alan C. Rankin with concurrence of the Trustees requested the privilege of restoring and remodeling Condit House for use as the President's residence. The program was carried out, and in February, 1968, President Rankin and his family moved into Condit House.

So it is that Condit House, a treasured landmark in the center of the Indiana State University campus, again hosts educational and political leaders, professors and students, artists and musicians -- guests of the president of a great university still dedicated to educational pioneering.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(listed on attached sheets)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39°	27'	50" N
NE	° ' "	° ' "		87°	24'	30" W
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/6 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Indiana	18	Vigo	167
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Dr. Alan C. Rankin, President

ORGANIZATION: Indiana State University DATE: August 7, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Terre Haute STATE: Indiana CODE: 18

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Indiana	
COUNTY	
Vigo	
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(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

paneled with luminous frosted glass cut with a delicate design. From the foyer the open stairway leads to the high ceilinged upstairs hall.

Original fireplaces and mantels are beautifully preserved in the drawing room, the parlor, the President's study, and in several upstairs rooms. A sculptured ceiling medallion is preserved in the drawing room.

The removed rear wing included a dining room and kitchen on the first floor and servants' quarters upstairs. Numerous similarities of construction noted by the architects between the rear wing and the main part of the house led them to conclude that "for purposes of historical record...the removed wing was an 'original' part of the house." The restructured rear wing features a deep bay in the dining room and in the master bedroom directly above. A commodious east foyer leading to the dining room may be entered from the central foyer or from a side porch (plans call for a carriage entrance to be constructed later). The kitchen, also in the restructured wing, is designed for presidential hosting as well as family use.

Decorations and furnishings throughout the residence maintain the character of the architecture. The front bedrooms upstairs are furnished as guest rooms with heirlooms from two prominent pioneer Terre Haute families, the Hulmans and the Bindleys.

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Indiana	
COUNTY Vigo	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

No. 8 - SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Condit House is known and cherished by all who have attended Indiana State and serves as an architectural bond to the culture of the past. The lovely home is remarkable as a fine example, beautifully restored and preserved, of residential architecture of 1860. However, the primary significance of Condit House lies in its intimate relationship with education. It defies the imagination to assess the total impact of those whose lives have been touched by Condit House, upon the development of education in Indiana; in the nation, and indeed, worldwide.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Indiana	
COUNTY Vigo	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

No. 9 - Major Bibliographical References

- Indiana State University Alumnitems, Vol. XVII, No. 3, January, 1962, P. 1,
Miss Condit Passes.
- Indiana State University Alumnitems, Vol. XIX, No. 6, April, 1964, P. 1,
Alumni Center Becomes Reality.
- Indiana State University Alumnitems, Vol. XXII, No. 1, September, 1966, P. 6,
Condit House To Be Converted to President's Residence;
Alumni Office Moved to New Alumni Center.
- Indiana State University The Alumni Magazine, Vol. 26, Winter, 1972, Cover,
Condit House, Painting by James McBride.
- Indiana State University The Alumni Magazine, Vol. 26, Winter, 1972, Pp. 12-15.
The President's House.
- Indianapolis News, December 12, 1961 - Rites Planned for Granddaughter of Caleb Mills.
- Terre Haute Star, December 12, 1961 - Miss Helen Condit Dies.
- Terre Haute Tribune, December 20, 1961 - Large Bequests Made in Will of Helen Condit.
- Terre Haute Star, August 3, 1965 - New ISU Dorm to Honor Pioneer Hoosier Educator.
- Terre Haute Tribune, August 3, 1965 - Name New ISU Residence Hall for Educator.
- Terre Haute Tribune, September 12, 1965 - Photo (Condit House-Alumni Center.)
- Terre Haute Tribune-Star, November 14, 1965 - Will Dedicate Mills, Rhoads Halls at ISU.
- Indianapolis Star, March 13, 1966 - ISU May Buy House.
- Terre Haute Tribune, March 14, 1966 - Condit Home Planned for ISU President.
- Terre Haute Tribune, April 22, 1966 - ISU Officials Approve \$8.5 Million on Projects.
- Terre Haute Star, April 23, 1966 - ISU Construction Bids Due May 24.
- Terre Haute Tribune, August 18, 1966 - New Facilities Accommodate Expanding ISU.

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Indiana	
COUNTY Vigo	
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(Number all entries)

No. 9 - Major Bibliographical References (continued)

- Terre Haute Star, August 19, 1966 - New Facilities Accommodate Expanding ISU.
- Terre Haute Tribune, September 11, 1966 - ISU Condit House Home of President.
- Evansville Press, November 28, 1967 - ISU First Lady Plans to Change Absentia Status.
- Terre Haute Star, April 12, 1968 - Remodeling Complete on Old Condit House.
- Terre Haute Star, May 3, 1968 - Hold Open House (photo).
- Indianapolis Star, May 12, 1968 - Century-Old House New Home for ISU President.
- Terre Haute Tribune-Star, November 3, 1968 - ISU Staff Members Greeted at Condit House-
President's Residence.
- Terre Haute Star, February 5, 1969 - Plan Membership Tea (photo).
- Terre Haute Star, February 20, 1969 - Mrs. Rankin Entertains (photo).
- Terre Haute Tribune, February 20, 1969 - Legislators' Wives Tour Indiana State University.
- Terre Haute Tribune-Star, June 1, 1969 - Frat Builds Condit House Garden.
- Terre Haute Star, September 6, 1969 - ISU President's Reception Today at Condit House.