

FINAL

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME	
COMMON: Centerville, Indiana	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Various			
CITY OR TOWN: Centerville			
STATE: Indiana	CODE: 18	COUNTY: Wayne	CODE: 117

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Various			
STREET AND NUMBER: Not applicable			
CITY OR TOWN: Not applicable	STATE: Not applicable	CODE:	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Recorder's Office, Wayne County, Indiana			
STREET AND NUMBER: Court House Square (4th & Main Streets)			
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond	STATE: Indiana	CODE: 18	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Centerville Historic Site Survey			
DATE OF SURVEY: In Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Historic Centerville, Inc.			
STREET AND NUMBER: P.O. Box 74 (Moore House)			
CITY OR TOWN: Centerville	STATE: Indiana	CODE: 18	

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" 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

1. Centerville, Indiana is a planned urban community centered about a town square, bounded by two axial streets, Main Street (The National Road) and Main Cross Street (now Morton Avenue) which intersect at the southwest corner of the Town Square. From 1817 to 1873 the Town Square was occupied by the Wayne County Court House, Jail and Public Offices. The plat of Centerville shows that the community was planned in accordance with 18th century planning ideals, patterned after models of the Roman "castra" suggested by Vitruvius.

2. Main Street and Main Cross Street are lined with rows of two story brick three bay terraces and detached terrace houses, fronting on the National Road and the old Brookville Pike. Seven of the extant terraces of two or more units have interior service courts accessible from the street through archways penetrating the facade of the terrace, which are locally called "archway houses." Some of the more significant terraces, all dating from the period 1825-45, are as follows:

(a) Morton's Row (107-11 S. Morton Ave.) a four unit terrace with two archways (one terrace unit has been demolished);

(b) Lantz' Row (210-14 W. Main) a three unit terrace containing a saddle shop, a wagon maker's shop and a Masonic Lodge in addition to dwellings;

(c) Archway row (130-32 E. Main) a long two unit terrace across from the old County Jail.

3. Centerville also has several distinguished Federal-style and Greek Revival detached terrace houses and country houses, reflecting the wealth of the community in the 1825-45 period:

(a) Oliver P. Morton House (1848) (Main & Willow Grove Rd.) 3 bay 2 story gabled detached terrace house, owned by Governor Morton from 1855 until 1865, Greek Revival style.

(b) Tarkington Homestead (ca. 1830) (S. Morton Ave.) A five bay 2 story brick country house once owned by Rev. Francis Tarkington, founder of Indiana Yearly Meeting of Methodist Church.

(c) Jacob Julian House (1857) (Plum & 1st Street) 2 story L shaped late Greek Revival town house with fascinating ornamental ironwork of local manufacture and Downing-style garden.

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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries) Item (7) Description continued:

4. Since Centerville was a major overnight stage stop on the old National Road, it has many taverns of the 1830-50 period:

(a) The Mansion House(1837) (200 block E.Main) Originally a four section inn, the main block is a three story 3 bay large Federal town house. The service wing has been partially destroyed. It was a two story brick Federal style structure. The Mansion House originally occupied a half block.

(b) The Jones House(ca.1830) (West Side of Square) A two story Federal Style 6 bay structure, used as a tavern for 40 years. Catered to lawyers.

(c) The American House(1836-39) (Main & Morton) Built by Samuel Hannah as deluxe hotel for National Road Trade. A very sophisticated Greek Revival 3 story 5 bay structure.

5. The 26 block old district of Centerville contains approximately 115 structures of historical and/or architectural value, most of Centerville's structures being in a fair state of repair. There are approximately 60 Federal style structures standing in the old part of town, approximately 40 Greek Revival survivors, and the remaining early structures are Italianate or composite style buildings. Three of Centerville's structures are of National Importance(NPS Standards): The Mansion House, The Morton House, The Lantz' Row; several structures are of state or regional importance, the balance being of local importance.

6. Several distinguished structures have been destroyed:

(a) Wayne County Court House(1833) (Town Square). A three bay 2 story brick Greek Revival temple front(astylar) structure destroyed by fire in 1917. Attached to court house were the public records offices(also burned 1917).

(b) Whitewater Academy(1828-47) a three part Federal Style 2 story academic building with tetrastyle portico on main block, destroyed by fire in 1893.

(c) George Julian House (ca.1825) large 2 story country house of Federal style destroyed for gas station in early 1960's.

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. Architectural significance: The Mansion house, an 1837 inn, if restored, would reflect the best design available in the 1830's for a major stage stop and drover's inn on the National Road. The main block and kitchen wing are well-proportioned late Federal Style buildings. The drover's wing, which extends to the west and forms one arm of the court-yard, if properly restored would represent a highly sophisticated organization of space consistent with the best in hotel architecture of the period, save for such highly developed buildings as the Tremont House in Boston.

Centerville's continuous row-type architecture, including the seven remaining arch-way houses, are an architectonic whole forming the balance of Centerville's Federal style buildings. These row houses, in the main, are simple, quietly elegant and trimmed in the manner appropriate to middle class buildings of the period of 1825-45. The composition of these terraces taken together is of national significance.

Further discussion of such interesting structures as the Lantz home and wagon shop complex of three Federal style town houses used for commercial and residential purposes during the National Road era, or of the O.P. Morton home would consume more space than this brief summary allows. The summary under item 7 indicates that the old part of Centerville contains 115 structures of some architectural or historical importance, excluding dependencies and outbuildings.

2. Historical Significance: Centerville is one of Indiana's very earliest chartered towns. It was the county seat of Wayne County from 1817 through 1872, as stated before. It was also the major stage changing point on the National Road for travelers bound for Cincinnati from Indianapolis, and a lay-over point for east and west bound stages on the National Road. Centerville was the home town of a number of persons famous in Indiana history and the town in which many Hoosiers of note were educated.

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Item 8 Continued: (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

(a) Famous Residents of Centerville:

(1) Oliver P. Morton, governor of Indiana 1861-67
U.S. Senator 1867-77, one of original organizers of Republican Party,
friend of Lincoln.

(2) Lew Wallace- educated at Whitewater Academy in
Centerville, spent several years during 1840's in town; subsequent-
ly Maj. Gen. U.S.V. in Civil War, Governor of New Mexico Territory
and Author of Ben Hur.

(3) Ambrose Burnsides - apprenticed to local tailor
John E. Dunham in 1840, appointed to West Point in 1847 from Cen-
terville. Later Maj. Gen. U.S.V., Commander of Army of Potomac
1863, inventor of Burnside's repeating carbine.

(4) Samuel K. Hoshour - Pioneer Indiana Educator,
along with Shortridge, master of the Wayne County Seminary in
Centerville 1840-49.

(5) James Raridan - U. S. Congressman 1836-40
prominent Whig politician, friend of Henry Clay. Clay visited
his home during 1842 tour of Indiana.

(6) Governor James B. Ray - Governor of Indiana -
1825-31, resided with his brother Martin M. Ray, a Centerville
lawyer, at some time prior to 1825.

(7) John S. Newman - Businessman and lawyer, president
of the Whitewater Canal Co. in 1847 until its dissolution, presi-
dent of the Indiana Central R.R. Co. 1857, Merchants National Bank
of Indianapolis, 1860 until his death.

(8) George W. Julian - U. S. Congressman 1849-51,
1861-1871 - Early abolitionist and Free Soiler, Free Soil Vice-
Presidential candidate in 1852, one of the Congressmen responsible
for impeaching Andrew Johnson.

(9) Samuel Hannah - Quaker merchant and businessman,
first President (1851) of Indiana Central Railway, State Treasurer
1846-1849, one of the commissioners appointed to locate the
Michigan Road from Indianapolis to Michigan City, Indiana.

(b) Famous events associated with Centerville:

(1) Completion of National Road through eastern
Indiana 1832.

(2) Establishment of Whitewater Academy (County
Seminary) 1827, one of Indiana's earliest secondary schools;

(3) Butternut raid on Wayne County Jail, May 8, 1863.

(4) Visit of Henry Clay to Wayne County, guest of
James Raridan, 1842.

(5) Battle over removal of County Seat to Richmond,
1873.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

H. Young, History of Wayne County, Indiana, Cincinnati, 1872
History of Wayne County, Indiana (Interstate Publishing Co., Chicago, 1872

H. C. Fox ed., Memoirs of Wayne County and the City of Richmond, Indiana, Madison, Wisconsin, 1914

W. Peat, Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century, Indianapolis 1962

W. E. Spahr, History of Centerville, Indiana, Richmond, 1966

A. J. Whallon, Centerville, A National Road Town, Richmond, 1970

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (See Map One for greater details)

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	89° 49' 24N "	85 ° 00' 03W"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	39° 49' 24N "	84 ° 59' 43W"				
SE	39° 48' 54N "	84 ° 59' 43W"				
SW	39° 48' 54N "	85 ° 00' 03W"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Sixty (60) Acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Not applicable			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Thomas J. Reed, Secretary (Chairman Development Committee)

ORGANIZATION: Historic Centerville, Inc. DATE: Dec. 10, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER: P.O. Box 73 (Dunham House)

CITY OR TOWN: Centerville STATE: Indiana CODE: 18

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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: John R. Playd

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: 5-2-71

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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