

**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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: 18799 Peach Road

City or town: Culver State: IN County: Marshall

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,


I hereby certify that this x 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 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

XA \_\_\_B xC \_\_\_D

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
|   | <p>4.21.2016</p> |
| <p><b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b> _____ <b>Date</b></p> <p><b><u>Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology</u></b></p> <p><b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p> |                  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p> |   |
| <p>_____<br/><b>Signature of commenting official:</b></p>                                      | <p>_____<br/><b>Date</b></p>                                      |
| <p>_____<br/><b>Title :</b></p>  | <p><b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b></p> |

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

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**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

| Contributing | Noncontributing |            |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>5</u>     | <u>0</u>        | buildings  |
| <u>1</u>     | <u>0</u>        | sites      |
| <u>1</u>     | <u>1</u>        | structures |
| <u>1</u>     | <u>0</u>        | objects    |
| <u>8</u>     | <u>1</u>        | Total      |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: animal facility

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: agricultural field

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY: Greek Revival

OTHER: English Barn

OTHER: I-House

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE

walls: WOOD: Weatherboard

roof: ASPHALT

other: CONCRETE

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The Norris Farm and Maxinkuckee Orchard has several buildings that date from the time the house was constructed on the property in 1855 through the farm's development for agricultural purposes. This includes the growth of the property into a dairy farm and an orchard. The site, with its long farm lane and remnant orchard, contributes to the significance of the property. The house is a good example of I-house design and the Greek Revival style. There is an English barn with a dairy barn addition, milk house that is attached to a garage, and a bull shed that demonstrate the development of the farm for agricultural purposes. Two connected apple storage barns, which relate to the property's development as an orchard, are also located on the property. There are a total of five contributing buildings, one object (a sundial), one structure (fencing), and the site which are also contributing. There is one non-contributing structure, the foundation to a former greenhouse, which is visible south of the house.

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## Narrative Description

The Norris Farm, which was also known as the Maxinkuckee Orchard in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, is located in Union Township, Marshall County, Indiana. The original farm established by Ransom H. Norris consisted of 80 acres at the intersection of Peach Road and 18B Road, approximately one-half mile east of the village of Maxinkuckee on the east shore of Lake Maxinkuckee. A cabin, no longer extant, was first constructed on the site in the late 1830s. As the farm was developed, a large house and barn were built in the middle 1850s. In 1901, Norris established an orchard on the farm and additional buildings were constructed to support both the operation of a dairy and the orchard.

### Farm/remnant orchard, 1855-1955. Contributing (site)

#### Photograph 0020

Near the center of the 80 acre farm, Ransom Norris constructed a long farm lane from Peach Road west into the center of the property. The lane has an axial relationship to the front of the farmhouse which faces east. The lane is tree-lined and has concrete fence posts that separate the lane from tilled agricultural ground north and south of the lane.

The house sits on a slight hill and the lane curves around the north side of the house to the barn and garage behind the house. About 1908, Ransom's son, Schuyler Colfax Norris, planted several specimen trees that are non-native to northern Indiana around the farmstead. These include a large ginkgo tree in the northeast corner of the farmstead (right side of photo 0007), two large yellowwood trees on the north side of the house (foreground of photo 0005), a persimmon tree behind the house, and several large spruce trees around the periphery of the farmstead. The yellowwoods and ginkgo are particularly important features of the site due to their size and characteristic branching qualities.

The site west of the farmstead, consisting of about two acres, is mostly composed of remnant orchards from the time the Norris family established the Maxinkuckee Orchard in 1901 until it ceased production in 1970. The trees are quite old and unpruned, and compete with reforestation. The balance of the larger farm consists of cultivated land, woods and a wetlands area in the southwest corner of the property. Of the original farm, the site consists of approximately seven acres.

### I-House/Greek Revival, 1855. Contributing

#### Photographs 0004-0007, 0012-0018, 0021-0022

The two-story house has side gables and an original one-story rear wing with later additions. The foundation is composed of fieldstone and the structural frame is oak hewn timbers that are pinned together with wood pegs. The walls are covered with clapboards, corner boards, and a wide cornice board at the top of the walls. The house has its original 4/4 wood windows which are paired together under a window crown with drip moldings. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles with "1855" laid out in the shingles (c. 2000) and has two lightning rods with glass insulators. The two-story part of the house has cornice returns on its side gables and the one-

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story part of the house has a hipped roof with a shed roof over the north porch and enclosed back porch.

The front façade has a slightly-off-centered but balanced arrangement of windows and door (photos 0006-0007). The façade is divided into three bays with the entry and front porch located just north of center on the wall. The porch has a wide set of concrete steps leading to a concrete porch floor with a fieldstone foundation. Fieldstone knee walls with concrete caps flank the stairs. The flat porch roof is supported by piers composed of small fieldstones with concrete caps on the outside corners of the porch. The porch ceiling is covered with beaded boards. The porch was constructed in c. 1911 and replaced the original porch. The three-part entry has its original four-panel wood door and side-lites, which are divided into three vertically stacked panes of glass with a wood panel in the bottom. The door and side-lites are enframed by four Doric pilasters that support an entablature with a tall frieze board and cornice. A metal storm door is over the entry door. A pair of 4/4 wood windows is located on either side of the center entry and three pairs of matching windows are on the second floor. The north façade of the two-story part has a 6/6 wood window just west of center on each the first and second floor (photo 0005). The south façade (photo 0006, 0018) has a wide wood window with a transom composed of art glass centered on the first floor; the window has a wood storm window divided into four panes of glass. A 4/4 wood window is located near the east side of the second story. A brick chimney and fireplace were once centered on the south façade, but were removed and the wide window installed c. 1911. The windows have simple, thick wood sills and simple trim boards. The front façade's window hoods have drip mold on trim that extends down each side of the window while the north and south facades of the original house have very simple hoods composed of a piece of cornice molding and cap.

Additions were made to the south and west sides of the rear wing during the early 1900s. See photo 0004 for west façade/rear wing. The first addition was made to the south side of the wing to create a porch c. 1900. The porch was enclosed in 1918 for living space. It has a centered wood door and storm door, both with full windows, and pairs of 6/6 wood windows that flank the door. The west façade has a 6/6 window near its south end and a small 1/1 window centered in the wall. The north half of the west façade is covered by the reconstructed, enclosed porch. The porch has a concrete foundation, rows of wide 1/1 metal windows, a metal door in its south wall, and a shed roof. A kitchen was also added to the west side of the rear wing c. 1918. An expansion of the west porch was built off its northwest corner at this time; it was reconstructed in about 1998 using the same footprint and roofline. The north façade of the rear wing is the original 1855 exterior wall. It has a porch, c. 1930, with a wood floor, concrete foundation, and a post at the northwest corner. The porch has a shed roof and a wood door with a wood storm door; both doors have full windows. A wide 1/1 window is west of the porch. A 1/1 window is west of the wide window. The latter window was located in the meal room. Windows in the later parts of the house have simple wood sills and trim with a thin cap board for a hood.

The interior has oak floor joists were sawn with a vertical band saw and features oak and poplar floors, walls and ceilings covered with plaster. There are original two-panel wood doors with porcelain knobs and wood baseboards and simple wood casings around windows and doors.

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The arrangement of interior spaces in the two-story part of the house is fairly simple although a bit different from a traditional I-house. There are two rooms on the first floor (photos 0014-0015), divided by what would have been a central stair hall. However, because of the circulation required for the original wing, the wall dividing the stair from the living room to the south was placed adjacent to the stair instead of forming a true stair hall. This moved wall along with a small wall perpendicular to it at the bottom of the stair, form a small entry vestibule immediately inside the front door. The original parlor is located to the north of the stairway and a living room is to the south. A fireplace was once centered in the south wall of the living room, but was removed c. 1911.

The staircase is black walnut and features a newel post and balustrade around the staircase opening on the second floor (photo 0017), and a wood handrail on the north wall of the staircase. There are four rooms on the second floor within the footprint of the I-house. There is a bathroom and bedroom in its south side and a bedroom in its north side (photos 0016-0017) in the two-story part of the house. The bathroom was carved out of the bedroom c. 1930. A small sitting room is off the east side of the stair hall's second floor, and a door to the attic over the rear wing is off its west side.

The rear wing is composed of several rooms. There are a dining room (photo 0021), meal room, and two bedrooms that were part of the original 1855 wing. The dining room and the meal room (a term used by generations of the family) run along the north part of the wing, with the meal room and closet forming a small extension to the wing's west end (left side of photo 0012). The two bedrooms run along the south side of the wing with the westernmost bedroom opening to the enclosed porch on the south side of the house (photo 0013, 0022) and the other opening into the living room. The dining room now opens into the kitchen that was constructed on the back (west) wall of the original wing in c.1918. The southern enclosed porch (c.1918) also attaches to the kitchen. Newer c. 1980 wood parquet floors are located in the kitchen and bedroom that opens onto an enclosed porch on the south side of the house. The adjacent enclosed southern porch has a plywood and batten ceiling. The reconstructed enclosed porch (c.1992) is off the west side of the meal room.

A few light fixtures and wood doors in the house date to c. 1920-1950. The kitchen cabinets and floors were installed c. 1992. Several pieces of furniture that were built or owned by the original owners are also located in the house.

Garage & Milk House annex, c. 1915 & c. 1925. Contributing

Right side of photo 0003 and left side of photo 0003, photo 0009

A two-car garage with a concrete foundation and hipped roof is located southwest of the house. The garage has vertical board siding, exposed rafter tails, and asphalt shingles cover its roof. The garage has a pair of rolling wood doors on a track on its north façade. The garage has wood windows divided into four panes of glass; two are located in its west façade and one is located in its east façade. A wood door is located in the south side of the east façade.

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In about 1925, a gable-roofed milk house was constructed on the northeast corner of the garage c. 1925 as part of the establishment of a dairy herd on the farm. The milk house has a concrete foundation and vertical board siding. The roof, which is covered with asphalt shingles, has exposed rafter tails. The building's gables face north and south. The building is divided into two rooms; the north room is the milk cooling room and the south room is the milk can washing room. A wood door on the west side of the north façade leads to the milk cooling room. A wood door on the south side of the west façade leads to the milk can washing room (photo 0009). The building has four wood windows divided into four panes of glass. Two windows are located in the east façade, one window is centered in the south façade, and one window is located in the west façade. The milk cooling room has a large basin with concrete walls into which milk cans were placed and cooled with water pumped from a well located in the washing room. The washing room has a smaller basin with concrete walls in which milk cans were washed. A small corner cabinet is located above the basin in the southeast corner of the room. Belt-driven steel wheels are located in each room to pump water into the basins. These were driven by storage batteries before rural electrification was extended to the farm.

English Barn, c. 1905/c.1925. Contributing  
Photos 0002, 0008, 0010

An English barn was built northwest of the house c. 1905 using hewn timbers from the original c. 1855 homestead barn that was located northeast of the house (photo 0002). The three-bay barn has side gables, vertical board siding, wood windows divided into four panes of glass, and its roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The east, or front façade of the barn has a pair of centered rolling wood doors and two windows north of the doors. Two small hay hatch doors are located at the top of the east façade. The north and south facades' have two windows on the first floors and the gables have a sawn picket design that extends below the gable line. The south gable has a 6/6 wood window and the north gable has a hay door with a hay hood and track extension from the roof. The fascia board and rafter tails are sawn at the eaves with an ogee design. The first floor of the barn has a center thru-bay and side bays with animal pens and storage. The barn's frame is retrofitted from wood-pinned mortise and tenon construction to a combination of pinned and nailed joinery. The roof truss is formed from two angled members in each bent that support purlins that extend the length of the barn.

A gambrel-roofed addition was placed on the west side of the barn c. 1925 to support the establishment of a dairy herd on the farm (photo 0008). The addition has vertical board siding, wood windows divided into four panes of glass, flared eaves, and asphalt shingles cover its roof. The south façade of the addition has a row of seven 4 lite windows and the north façade has three 4 lite windows and a dormer with a shed roof and wood window divided into six panes of glass. The west façade has two 4 lite windows in each its first floor and attic and two Dutch doors on the outside corners of its first floor. A shaft, covered in wood, is centered in the west façade and was once connected to a silo.

The dairy barn addition's first floor has wood pens with stanchions along its north and south walls (photo 0010) and a center aisle that extends to the west wall from the thru-bay of the English barn. The addition's floors are concrete and the walls and ceiling have white-wash. A



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metal tub used for collecting milk is located on a track that extends around the perimeter of the pens. A haymow is located in the attic which is balloon-framed with gambrel trusses.

Bull Shed, c. 1925. Contributing

A bull shed with a gable roof is located west of the barn. It has a concrete floor, vertical board siding, wood windows divided into four panes of glass, and its roof is covered in asphalt shingles. The building is composed of a pen with a service hall on its east side. It has a wood door on the south side of its east façade, a rolling wood door centered in its south façade, and a window in each of its north and west facades. The south side of the roof is deteriorated and partially collapsed, but the overall condition of the building is fair and it contributes to the historic use of the farm as a dairy operation.

Apple Storage Barn, 1935 & 1955. Contributing

Photos 0001, 0011

A barn with vertical board siding, exposed rafter tails, and a gambrel roof with flared eaves, and covered with asphalt shingles, is located southwest of the garage and milk house (photo 0001). The building has a concrete basement with ventilation shaft wells along the east and west walls. The building has wood windows divided into four panes of glass. The east façade has a wood platform and a pair of wood doors near its north end. A pair of windows is located north of the doors. The north façade has a row of four windows in its west half and a door centered in its gable wall. The west façade has a row of four windows near its north end. The south façade has an opening that leads to a second storage barn built in 1955. The building's floor is covered with wood and the walls and ceilings are covered with fiberboard. A basement and attic staircase is located in the northeast corner (photo 0011) and a work area with a table is located in the northwest corner of the building. A freight elevator was placed in the southeast corner of the building in 1955 to provide access to the basement. A large ventilation pipe extends from the basement through the first floor and attic, through the roof, in the center of the building.

A second apple storage area was constructed south of the first barn in 1955. The two apple storage areas are joined by a small, enclosed breezeway with a gable roof. The second area and breezeway have Dutch lap wood siding, exposed rafter tails, and their gable roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. The second area has a basement whose walls are composed of concrete blocks. The basement has ventilation shaft wells along its east and west walls. The east façade has three wood windows that are divided into four panes of glass. The south façade has a large rolling wood door in its east half and an attic door that is covered with metal centered in its gable wall. The area's floors are covered with wood and the walls and ceilings are covered with fiberboard. A large ventilation pipe extends from the basement through the first floor and attic in the center of the area, but no longer extends through the roof.

Pasture and orchard fencing, c. 1925. Contributing (structure)

In about 1920, likely as part of the development of a dairy herd, the Norris family installed fencing around much of the farmstead and orchard. The fencing was composed of metal wire fastened to four-sided, tapered concrete posts. The concrete was formed around metal pipe and had a pyramidal-shaped top. Larger concrete posts were formed for gate and corner posts. Extant posts line the farm lane and extend along the north and south sides of the farmstead.

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Some posts are located south of the bull shed and helped to define the orchard. The posts, of which maybe a hundred or more are extant, compose a contributing structure.

Sundial, c. 1910. Contributing (object)

Foreground/right side of photo 0007

A bronze sundial on a marble base, and set on a short pier composed of small fieldstones, is located in the northeast corner of the front lawn. The sundial was set by Ransom Norris's son, Marvin Norris, in about 1910. The stonework is similar to the stonework of the house's front porch piers.

Greenhouse foundation, c. 1914. Non-contributing (structure)

The concrete foundation of a former greenhouse is located south of the house. The greenhouse was built c. 1914 to support the truck farm operation by the Norris family. This function of the farm was discontinued by the 1920s. Because the building is no longer extant, and only the foundation remains visible, the structure is considered non-contributing.

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## 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.)

- 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

AGRICULTURE

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**Period of Significance**

1855-1955

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**Significant Dates**

1901

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**Significant Person (last name, first name)**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

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**Cultural Affiliation**

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**Architect/Builder (last name, first name)**

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**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins with the construction of the first contributing resource, the farmhouse, in 1855 and concludes in 1955 when the last contributing resource, the addition to the apple storage barn was constructed on the property.

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**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

N/A

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion A for its relationship to agriculture. The collection of buildings relating to early 20<sup>th</sup> century farming, including the establishment of a dairy herd and orchard, are significant to this region particularly as it relates to the orchard since the region was an important area for fruit production. The property is also significant under criterion C because of the style and type of house on the farmstead. The house, built in 1855, is a good example of an I-house constructed in the Greek Revival style.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

ARCHITECTURE

I-House Form

The Norris farmhouse has a typical I-House form with an original rear wing extension. I-Houses received their name from where they were most popularly constructed in the Midwestern states of Illinois, Iowa, and Indiana. The form has earlier roots to British folk forms that were common in pre-railroad America. These are found in both the South and midland areas, often in log construction. Their popularity in the Midwest was due in part to their larger size being more desirable for spending long confining winter months indoors.<sup>1</sup> The form is related to the smaller hall-and-parlor plan. The true I-House form is two rooms wide separated by a central stair hall, one room deep, and two stories in height with a side-gabled roof. Some modified examples were constructed as partial or two-thirds I-Houses. The I-House form was popular from about the 1820s through the 1880s. They were popular both in developing urban areas and rural areas; in rural areas they were often a second generation building taking the place of small cabins as was the case with the Norris farmstead.

Common features of I-House construction are a symmetrical arrangement of door and window openings on its front façade, single-story front porch, and chimneys at one or both gabled ends. Many also have a rear wing, either original or an early addition, which is typically a single story and was used for the kitchen. A central stairway was also typical, dividing the two rooms on both levels. I-Houses were often stylized with prevailing architectural trends; common are Federal and Greek Revival examples, though the largest numbers of I-Houses were constructed in simple folk vernacular or Folk Victorian styles.

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<sup>1</sup> McAlester, pg. 96

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The Norris farmhouse has a balanced front facade with window openings around a three-part entry (photo 0007); while not symmetrical, the façade still reads as an I-House due to the formal, regular pattern of bays. A chimney was once located on the south gabled end of the house, but was removed when the fireplace was no longer necessary for heating the home. A single-story porch is centered on the front façade; it replaced an earlier porch c. 1911. The first and second levels are divided by a central stair hall and staircase that begins at the front door and ends at a landing on the second level (photo 0017). Additions were made to the original rear wing of the Norris farmhouse during the early 1900s. The wing contains a dining room, kitchen, and bedrooms.

The house has a high degree of architectural integrity on both the exterior and interior. Original wood siding is present on both the I house and wing. The facades, particularly those of the two-story part, contain the original fenestration pattern, windows and entry. The Greek Revival cornice and cornice returns, along with simple corner boards remain. Although it replaced the original porch, the stonework on the front porch piers is an unusual Craftsman feature (seen in photo 0006) and mirrors other stonework around Lake Maxinkuckee which also feature stacked small fieldstone in retaining walls, landscape and porch walls, and piers. While there have been some interior changes, many considered historic, the interior also shows high integrity. The room divisions are largely intact to their original plan, especially in the two-story part. Important interior and exterior architectural features of the house include the wood floors, window/door trim, and the black walnut stairway. Some historic light fixtures and wood doors also remain.

### Greek Revival Style

The Norris farmhouse is an example of the Greek Revival style in most of its principle architectural features. Greek Revival was the dominant style of American domestic architecture between about 1830-1850 during which its popularity led it to be called the “National Style”. The style was particularly common in areas of rapid development during the 1830s-1850s. There was increasing interest in classical buildings in the United States at the close of the 18<sup>th</sup> century based on Roman and earlier Greek examples found through archaeological investigations. As a young democracy, Americans sought to find precedents to establish their democratic ideals in the form of its architecture. Rome and particularly Greece, provided these precedents because of their early experiments in democracy.<sup>2</sup> Two factors enhanced the Greek influence in the United States: the Greek War for Independence during the 1820s and 1830s and the American War of 1812. The Greek War found sympathetic citizens in the United States and the American war with the British in 1812 lessened the interest in British architecture.<sup>3</sup> The Greek Revival style seemed only appropriate for a nation undergoing a new experiment in governing, called democracy, that had philosophical roots based on Grecian models of governing.

Many features of the Greek Revival style mimic these earlier examples. Treatments near roof lines of porches and the main house emulate the classically ordered entablature of Greek

<sup>2</sup> McAlester, pg. 182, 184

<sup>3</sup> McAlester, pg. 182

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buildings with trim boards creating the architrave, frieze, and cornice. These are usually visually supported by corner pilasters or physically supported by simplified Doric columns on porches. The cornice detail may or may not return across the face of the gabled ends. Where the cornice returns cross the entire gable it creates a triangular pediment; often a broken cornice return is located on the gabled end suggesting the pediment but not fully articulating it. These features are usually present for door surrounds as well. Doors frequently had side lites and/or transom windows and were typically centered on the front façade. Door and window openings were also typically symmetrically arranged. Windows were commonly some configuration of double-hung windows with multiple panes in their sashes. The most common window detail in Greek Revival is a simple flat hood with a piece of trim at its top implying a narrow cornice. Small pediments and hoods with “ears” are also common.

The Norris farmhouse is an excellent example of the Greek Revival style applied to a farmhouse and possesses many of the key elements of the style. The house has a cornice board at its eave line which continues on the face of its side gables with heavy cornice returns (photo 0006). This is visually supported by simple corner boards. The front entry is divided into three parts with its original wood door and side-lites. The entry is enframed with pilasters with Doric capitals that support a large frieze board with cornice. The principle facade has window openings that are symmetrically arranged with 4/4 double-hung windows. While the front façade windows were dressed with more sophisticated drip mold hoods in the Gothic Revival style, the side facades have simple flat hoods with a trim piece creating a small cornice line at their tops (photo 0006).

Marshall County has a handful of comparable houses to the Norris House. One that is notably similar to the Norris House is the Lewis and Sarah Boggs House, located at 9564 14<sup>th</sup> Road in Center Township. The c. 1855 I-house also has Greek Revival details and features 4/4 windows with window hoods with drip moldings. The front façade has two doors and four windows on the first floor and six windows on the second floor; the side gables have two windows on each floor. The house has its original porch and an original rear wing with fewer additions than the Norris House. The Norris House has a more formal entry and its windows are paired together on the front façade. Another example of the Greek Revival style is located in adjacent Green Township; the one-story central-passage house at 12171 19B Road was built in c. 1850 and features return cornices, wide corner pilasters, and a front porch with a full pediment. This house has a slightly more formal presence due to its porch and true symmetrical front façade, however, the heavy cornice and other trim details are similar to that of the Norris House.

Examples of either I-houses or buildings designed in the Greek Revival style are uncommon in Union Township. While there are a few vernacular I-houses, mostly in the town of Culver, the most similar example to the Norris farmhouse is the Allegheny House, located at 16921 18B Road in the nearby village of Maxinkuckee. It was also built in 1855 and is an example of I-House construction with simple Greek Revival style details however, much of the facades’ details and its siding are covered with wood shingles. It has a formal front façade with a central entry and windows arranged into six equal bays. The house has a one-and-a-half story addition on its west-facing side gable, but generally still reads as an I-House due to its front façade and east-facing side gable. The Norris House, though, reads as an I-House from all of its primary facades and retains its historic siding and trim.

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## AGRICULTURE

The Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard demonstrates three aspects of agriculture through the original development of the farm for cultivation through the establishment of an orchard and later a dairy herd. The prosperity procured from the early development of the farm by the Norris family through the 1840s and 1850s is evidenced by the substantial nature of the farmhouse built in 1855. In 1901, the Norris family established a commercial orchard on the property which grew to cover considerable acreage in the remaining first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. By the 1920s, the family also had made a substantial investment in establishing a dairy operation on the farm.

The surviving agricultural buildings located on the Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard contribute to the significance of the property. The apple storage barns, dairy barn addition, and the milk house annex to the garage are examples of buildings in which innovation in agricultural development are demonstrated through their floor plans, built-in features, and general methods of construction. The buildings, particularly the apple storage buildings, are examples of the specialized building types found on family farms that produce orchard crops or raised dairy cows. The buildings provide architectural context as a building type that is tied to changes in agricultural science.

### Cultivation

Ransom Norris established the farm in Union Township, Marshall County, just west of where his father had settled in 1838. Ransom built a log house south of the present house and began to clear land for agricultural purposes during the 1840s. By 1880, Ransom had expanded his farm to include 200 acres, mostly cultivated, with the exception of a low wetlands area in the southern 40 acre parcel south of the farmstead. Ransom constructed a substantial farmhouse in 1855, and a barn northeast of the house (no longer extant). Ransom also constructed a sorghum mill (no longer extant) north of the farmhouse in which he produced sorghum molasses for both wholesale and retail markets. Advances in agriculture, including machinery and best-farming practices, benefited the expansion of farms throughout the Midwest during the second half of the nineteenth century. The construction of railroads between the 1850s and 1880s throughout Marshall County permitted farmers to ship their harvests to larger markets which made the occupation of farming more profitable.

The county's first settlers of European descent came in the mid-1830s and cleared small sections of land and raised corn initially. Within a few years the corn crop was largely converted to wheat as farming practices grew from mere sustenance for the family to raising products to sell. The crops were sown by broadcast method and harvested with a sickle. Five men could harvest about a half-acre of wheat per day. Corn, wheat, rye, and beans were commonly among the first crops produced in the county. Corn typically yielded 25-50 bushels per acre. Wheat was frequently a failure but in favorable years produced 14-18 bushels an acre. Buckwheat was a favored crop by the early farmers due to its quick maturation and it required less labor to produce



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than other grains.<sup>4</sup> The 1840 census of Marshall County indicates that 327 heads of households were engaged in farming; all other professions accounted for only 74 other heads of households. Clearly farming was common. In 1856, a year after Ransom Norris built the farmhouse, the total number of bushels of corn produced in the county was 240,303 and 94,863 bushels of wheat.<sup>5</sup>

During the 1850s, Indiana established the State Board of Agriculture and the first state fair was held. County agricultural fairs also began to be established throughout the state. In 1862, the Morrill Act was passed by Congress which provided for the establishment of agricultural colleges in each state. The Grange, founded in New York in 1867, was a fraternal organization that saw its first Indiana chapter established in 1869 in Vigo County. It promoted the social, cultural, educational, and economic advancement of its farmer-members. Purdue University was founded in 1874 in response to the Morrill Act. Agricultural experiment stations were developed from these colleges in order to carry out research in connection to agricultural practices. In 1874, the Indiana State Board of Agriculture began to publish the *Indiana Farmer*, a publication which touted the latest trends in farming practices. Combined, these organizations contributed to the advancement of farming practices in Indiana.

About 1865, farmers in Marshall County began to realize the soil was becoming less productive at which time they began to grow clover and timothy to replenish nutrients lost by the previous years of production. In 1872, the county's farmers formed the Agricultural Association of Marshall County. It led to the establishment of the county fair and was principally financed by shares purchased by area farmers. About the same time a monthly newsletter was established for the county's farming community. The *Farmer's Monthly* began publication in 1876; its editor was H. V. Reed and it had a subscription of 700 households.<sup>6</sup> No well-planned system of draining the land was initiated until 1876 when open drains were established across wetlands and dredging began on the county's streams and rivers. By 1879, the county produced 2,339,300 bushels of corn, 1,123,105 bushels of wheat, and 202,800 bushels of oats. Almost 109,000 acres in Marshall County were under cultivation for the two primary crops of wheat and corn. A listing of livestock by the county assessor in 1879 reveals 7,029 horses, 14,608 cattle, 9,312 sheep, and 24,632 hogs.<sup>7</sup>

In about 1905, Schuyler Colfax Norris, Ransom's son, dismantled the early homestead barn north of the farmhouse and reused the hewn heavy-timber frame to construct a new English barn behind the farmhouse (photo 0002). The barn features three bays with a central drive-thru bay, granary, and animal pens on the first floor and a haymow on the second floor. All of these features represent the best livestock husbandry practices of the time. The barn's haymow features a projecting hay hood and hatch on the north façade, and a hay track that extends out from the mow under the hood. While the Norris family diversified with truck farming and orchard development, the land was still being cultivated for crop production and livestock. Between 1900 and 1920, the era known as the "Golden Age" of agriculture, the value of farm property grew rapidly due to progress in farming technology. Horse-drawn equipment was

<sup>4</sup> McDonald, 1908, pg. 165, 167

<sup>5</sup> McDonald, 1881, pg. 93

<sup>6</sup> McDonald, 1881, pg. 69

<sup>7</sup> McDonald, 1881, pg. 93, 94

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replaced with power-driven machinery and larger amounts of land could be more easily and efficiently cultivated.

A description of the then current state of agriculture in Marshall County is given in McDonald's 1908 History of Marshall County. In it he generally distinguishes the better productivity of farms in the eastern half of the county from those in the western half. Marshall County is generally divided in half by better quality loamy soils in the east from sandy soils in the west. The Norris farm tends to fall under the more sandy soil types, though its position near the southern edge of a glacial moraine provided a mix of loam and sand to the soils. McDonald states that Marshall County farmers were in a fairly prosperous condition although those in the eastern part were more prosperous than those in the western part. The houses, though often small, were nearly always painted and barns were of a sufficient size to shelter livestock and machinery, and many silos were constructed across the county. As a rule, he states, houses were "smaller and not so good on the sandy soils" and often there may be a dwelling but no barn. The value of farmland was \$65-100 per acre in the east as opposed to \$30-40 per acre in the west. Seventy-five percent of the county's land was under cultivation by 1908; however much of the western lands were not cultivated.<sup>8</sup> Draining and dredging of land was essentially complete by 1908 with the exception of some of the muck lands in the north central part of the county. These also would soon be drained and a lucrative mint crop established.

Corn and wheat were still the principal crops of Marshall County in the early part of the 1900s. They accounted for 15-25% of cultivated lands by each of these crops (a combined total of as much as 50%). The average yield of corn was increased to 35 bushels an acre and wheat to 10 bushels an acre. Buckwheat cultivation gave way to winter wheat due to cold temperatures and invasion of the Hessian fly. Clover was also important in Marshall County by this time; it accounted for over 15,000 acres each year. The seed crops were shipped and clover and timothy were baled and shipped to eastern American markets. Some minor crops were also grown, most notably cucumbers which grew exceptionally well on sandy soils and were popular on smaller farms. There were seven salting stations in the county which purchased cucumbers from the farmers. McDonald noted that "except on sandy land every farmer keeps one or more milch cows". The farmers sold the milk to one of the many creameries operated in Marshall County. The 1900 census of Marshall County shows the value of dairy production at \$163,028. There was a new tendency for farmers to invest in livestock or dairy production due to the principal of more livestock meant more manure that could be used on the land to produce richer soils.<sup>9</sup>

#### Maxinkuckee Orchard

When Ransom Norris's estate was settled at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, his son, Schuyler Colfax Norris, received 26 acres which included the farmstead buildings for which he paid \$200.00. Schuyler purchased an additional 20 acres from his brother to bring his farm's total acreage to 46 acres. One of the first improvements to the farm Schuyler undertook was the establishment of a nine-acre commercial orchard in 1901. Eight acres were planted to apple trees and one acre was planted to a mixture of pear, peach, plum, and cherry trees. The orchard was known as the

<sup>8</sup> McDonald, 1908, pg. 75

<sup>9</sup> McDonald, 1908, pg. 76, 77

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“Maxinkuckee Orchard” taking its name from the lake and village west of the farm. Ransom Norris had planted a small orchard in 1851, but the produce was used for private family consumption. Another improvement on the property was the establishment of a truck farm in about 1914 for raising produce for local sales. Truck farms were large vegetable gardens developed to serve a community population through direct sales at farm markets or out of the back of trucks through house-to-house deliveries. A greenhouse was built south of the house to raise plants during the early growing months that would then be set out in the truck farm once the plants reached a certain maturity. The Norris family took the produce from both the orchard and truck farm around Lake Maxinkuckee to sell to vacationers and summer residents.

In 1922, Schuyler’s son, Everett Norris purchased 52 acres abutting the south side of his father’s farm from his uncle Harvey Norris, to make much of the original Ransom Norris farm complete again. In 1928, Everett set out 11 more acres of apple trees of different varieties than the ones set out by his father. Between 1929 and 1930, six more acres of apple trees were established bringing the total number of acres planted in the orchard to approximately 26 acres. For several years produce was harvested from the original Schuyler Norris orchard until the orchard set out by Everett Norris began to come into production.

Up until 1935 the Norris family utilized the English barn for sorting and some storage of apples. In 1935, the family constructed a cool air storage apple barn according to specifications by Purdue University (right side of photo 0001, photo 0011). This permitted the family to provide apple storage to local families who could not store apples themselves but would order produce in the fall and then retrieve apples as needed throughout the winter months. The building has a concrete basement with ventilation wells and a large ventilation pipe that extends through the roof from the basement. The main floor was used to conduct the business of the orchard, including sorting and sales. A second apple storage area was constructed south of the apple barn in 1955 (left side of photo 0001). Large-scale raising of apples ended in 1965, but the Norris family continued to sell apples in smaller quantities until 1970 when Everett Norris’s health no longer permitted him to work. Remnant orchards exist on the west side of the property (photo 0020).

The Norris family sold their produce locally. The family employed local workers to pick apples and pick up “drops”, those apples that had fallen off the tree onto the ground. The rate was three cents for a bushel picked during the 1930s. Harvest was typically started by about the 20<sup>th</sup> of September, which functioned well for farmers who wanted extra income prior to the harvest of their corn and beans which fell later during the season. Typically the apples were all picked by the end of October, and sorting was completed after Thanksgiving. Everett Norris’s daughter, Phyllis, recalls that the local orchard owners would somewhat set their prices together and that her father had preferred to be closed on Sundays, but kept his orchard open since the other orchards were open.

Schuyler Norris experimented with some grafting to create his own nursery stock. One experiment included grafting a pear tree to a sycamore tree. Everett Norris received his nursery stock from Starke Brothers, a nursery in Ohio. The apples grown at the orchard included the summer varieties of Yellow Transparent, Duchess, Maiden Blush, and Alexandria. Small

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varieties of apples included Rambo, Northern Spy, Rhode Island Greening, Spitzenburg, and Yellow Delicious. Their standard apple varieties included Jonathan, Baldwin, York Imperial, Grimes Golden, Red Delicious and Double Red Delicious, and Stayman Winesap. The orchard also included cherry, plum, and pear trees and a large strawberry patch under Everett Norris. Beginning in about the 1920s, the family also sold apple cider. Originally the Norris family took apples to the cider press at the Leiters Ford mill until it burned in 1944, then the family went to Fribley's in Bourbon or Rochester which also had cider presses.

#### *Other orchards of the Lake Maxinkuckee Region*

The Lake Maxinkuckee region has a rich history of orchards as recorded in a Marshall County Historical Society Quarterly written by Phyllis Schoonover in 2002. The lake, the second largest natural lake in Indiana, is thought to provide some protection from late frosts and freezes which could do damage to the fragile buds of fruit tree blossoms. The topography, near the south edge of a glacial moraine, is undulating with hills and ravines with the lake nestled at the base of mostly steep banks. All but one of the six commercial orchards historically located in Union Township were established on the east side of Lake Maxinkuckee. The Benedict, Bigley, Maxinkuckee, Mow (no information is available), and Vonnegut Orchards were located on the east side of the lake while the Banks Orchard was located southwest of the lake. While the 1930 federal census of Union Township, Marshall County lists Alva Savage as a manager of an apple orchard, possibly for the Vonnegut family, Everett Norris was not listed. By 1940, the census also listed Everett Norris and Walter and Rosalie Vonnegut as orchardist managers. Of course there were other orchards during this time, but the other owners were not listed with this as their occupation.

The Benedict Orchard, c. 1890-1958, seems to have been the first established in the region. It was located northeast of the Maxinkuckee Orchard and was sprayed with pesticides by Everett Norris in exchange for hog butchering by Ernest Benedict who owned the orchard. Benedict raised older varieties of apples including Wolf River and Winter Banana. The orchard was cut down in 1958 and nothing remains.

The Banks Orchard was established in 1915, but due to the mostly sandy conditions of the soil southwest of the lake, the trees had to be heavily fertilized. The Banks family took their produce to Chicago and Benton Harbor, Michigan markets, but ultimately Fort Wayne Storage was the primary market to which they sold their produce. The Banks Orchard featured apple varieties that included Red and Yellow Delicious, Grimes Golden, and King David. During the 1940s the orchard was open for self-picking. The orchard was razed in 1957.

Clemens Vonnegut purchased a 140 acre farm on the east side of Lake Maxinkuckee in 1910 and worked with Purdue University to establish an orchard. The Vonnegut family, wealthy business owners in Indianapolis, had summer homes on the east shore of Lake Maxinkuckee. The *Indianapolis Star* carried an article in its September 21, 1920 issue concerning the orchard and described Mrs. Clemens Vonnegut as a leading orchardist and manager of the Vonnegut orchards. A portion of the orchard continued into the 1940s, but was largely converted to the Culver Academies golf course during the 1930s. The part of orchard that was not converted to golf course use has reverted back to forest and is located on the north side of 18<sup>th</sup> Road. The

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only remnant of the orchard is a foundation of field stone that appears to be from a caretaker's cottage in the northwest corner of the former orchard. The foundation sits on a knoll and faces southeast toward the former orchard. The orchard operation ceased, for unknown reasons, during the 1940s, likely due to the purchase of the property by Culver Academies.

Bigley Orchard was established in 1928 on the north side of 18B Road in the village of Maxinkuckee by John Bigley and his father, Guy. The Bigleys began by planting apple and peach trees and later expanded the orchard to cover 65 acres at its largest and raised over fifty varieties. The orchard produced between 20 and 30 bushels of apples annually with their largest markets in Kentucky. They constructed their first cold storage building in 1946 and expanded it in 1972 (extant); they also used the basement of a former brick schoolhouse located on the east end of their property for apple storage (also extant). The orchard closed in 2000.

#### Norris dairy operation

Following the trend to establish dairy herds in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Schuyler Norris made further improvements to the farm that aided the dairy operation including a dairy barn addition, milk house annex to the garage, and fencing. A gambrel-roofed livestock barn was constructed on the west side of the English barn in about 1925 (photos 0008, 0010). The barn's first floor has livestock pens lining its north and south sides (photo 0010) with a center aisle that aligns with the drive-thru bay of the English barn. Again, best practices for animal husbandry were employed in the construction of the barn. The livestock area features concrete floors, stanchions, white-washed walls and ceilings, and sufficient daylighting on the north and south walls. A track, with a milk basin suspended by chains, is located on the ceiling around the outside perimeter of the pens for the collection of milk. A silo was centered on the west façade of the dairy barn addition. Though it is no longer extant, a shaft remains on the exterior wall and a door on the first floor provided access to the silo for feeding the dairy herd.

The design of the livestock barn addition is essentially an adaptation of the Wisconsin dairy barn model for small-scale dairy production. Barn designs that allowed for a more efficient use of labor, storage, and general operations appeared frequently in farm journals of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Round and polygonal barns, gambrel-roofed barns, and other designs encouraged farmers to rethink traditional barn-building practices. During the late 1800s the University of Wisconsin responded to its state's growing dairy industry by developing a sanitary and efficient dairy barn design that reflected its origin with the name "Wisconsin Dairy Barn". The barn became popular for large-scale dairy operations during the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century throughout the Midwest. The barns feature gambrel roofs constructed with lumber-framed trusses for unimpeded storage of hay, hay hoods, hatches, and tracks, and a first floor plan similar to the Norris barn addition that features stanchions with connecting aisles and tracks for milk collection.

A milk house annex was built on the east side of the garage behind the house in about 1925 (left side of photo 0003). The milk house is divided into two rooms; one room has a concrete basin that was filled with well water to keep the milk cool and the other room was used to wash milk cans in a small concrete basin (photo 0009). Marvin Norris, a brother to Everett Norris who inherited the farm from his father and developed the dairy operation, invented the milk cooling

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system in the milk house. This included the construction of a windmill with an airplane blade that was once located off the back porch (no longer extant) which converted wind energy into power that charged storage batteries to run a generator to aid the pump system for cold water. This was the only source of power on the farm until rural electrification in the 1930s. Part of the improvements of the farm for livestock production was the erection of fencing installed around much of the perimeter of the farmstead and on either side of the farm lane to the county road. The fencing was fastened to tapered concrete posts; larger tapered gate and corner posts also composed of concrete were used to add rigidity to long stretches of fencing (photo 0019).

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### Developmental History/Additional historic context information

#### NORRIS FAMILY

John and Lydia George Norris of Vermont, were the first generation of the Norris family to live in Union Township, Marshall County. John Norris established a farm in the southeast corner of 18B and Peach Road, east of the current Ransom Norris farm, in 1838. John and Lydia's son, Ransom Harvey Norris, purchased land west of his father and established his own farm on which he first built a log cabin a little south of the present house, and then in 1855 he built the present farmhouse. Ransom married Mary Lewis and they had seven sons: Schuyler Colfax, Harvey Ransom, George, Gilson, Bert, William, and Nelson. Harvey Ransom married Louisa Adler and established a family farm on the southeast shore of Lake Maxinkuckee. They first built a cabin and then constructed the Maple Grove House in 1886. The house served as a resort on the popular lake with rooms for rent from 1890 through 1915.

Schuyler Colfax Norris was born in 1858 at the family farm, and died in the same house in 1925. He became a school teacher early in his life, and then pursued the ministry and became a pastor at the age of 23. He continued to preach the remainder of his life, though he retired from full-time ministry in 1911 due to his health. Schuyler married Sarah Uncapher in 1877 and they had three sons: Palmer, Marvin, and Maynard. Sarah died in 1890 and Schuyler married Anna Woolley in 1892. They had one son, Everett, who was born in 1896. Schuyler returned to work the family farm in 1911 until his death in 1925; he is buried in nearby Poplar Grove Cemetery. Schuyler also filled temporary vacancies in the pastorate of two churches, the Methodist Episcopal Church at Maxinkuckee and the Green Oak Methodist Episcopal Church, and was elected Union Township Assessor in 1918.<sup>10</sup>

After Schuyler's death, Everett Norris continued to live at the farm until his death in 1991. Everett married Eva Hinshaw in 1917 and they had three children: David, Joan, and Phyllis. In 1918, the farmhouse was divided to permit both generations of the family to live at the farm. Little changes occurred to the house architecturally, although the porch on the south side of the house was enclosed to become a living/dining space for the older generation.

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<sup>10</sup> History of Marshall County, 1836-1986 pg. 329

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The Norris family sold their milk to the Chicago Pure Milk Association which would pick up milk by tanker truck and haul it from area farms to Chicago. The Association encouraged clean farming projects and sponsored a "Neatest Farm Contest" during the mid-1930s. They also conducted surprise inspections of their members' farms, which included fence row, cooling facilities, and dairy barn inspections. Winners received plaques in either junior or senior categories, of which the Norris dairy operation received plaques two years in a row, but not top honors. A milk strike in 1934 by the 18,000 members of the Pure Milk Association resulted in large quantities of milk being dumped from tanker trucks bound for Chicago. A reduction in the price paid per gallon caused dairy farmers to either stop selling their product or participate in the active destruction of milk bound for market. The Norris family participated in the strike by refusing to sell their milk.

Everett served as a Marshall County Councilman from 1938-1950 and he and his wife were members of Poplar Grove Methodist Church which played an important role in family life for generations. Phyllis Norris married James Schoonover and returned to the farm after her father's death. The Schoonovers purchased the farm in 1986 and are the present owners of the property which received a Hoosier Homestead Award in 1976. The present farm is composed of 98 acres of which 45 acres are cultivated for row crops and the remaining acreage is wooded or orchards that have reverted to forest.

## UNION TOWNSHIP-LAKE MAXINKUCKEE HISTORY

The first settler of European descent in the township was John Anderson who came in 1835. Several other families came the following year and settled in the region of Lake Maxinkuckee and northeast of the lake. The township was organized in 1840 and was split off of Green Township to the east. Up until 1838, two Native American Indian reserves, whose boundaries extended to the present eastern boundary of Union Township, existed east of Lake Maxinkuckee. The reserve lands included the property occupied by the Norris farm. Lake Maxinkuckee, the second largest natural lake in Indiana, had already become a resort destination for vacationers by the end of the 1850s. The Allegheny House, the first inn, was built c. 1855 in the village of Maxinkuckee a short distance east of the lake. By the 1870s, the lake began to have summer cottages and other resort hotels constructed on its shores. The village of Maxinkuckee, though never formally platted, had several stores, a school, post office, church, hotel, and several residences. Maxinkuckee was the closest village to the Norris farm and was where the Norris children attended school and the family received its mail. The town of Culver, originally known as Union Town, then Marmont, was platted in 1844 on the west shore of the lake and has grown to be the most populated community in the township.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested  
 previously listed in the National Register



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- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 099-560-50021

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** 7 acres

Use the UTM system

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 16 | Easting: 553290 | Northing: 4561782 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 4. Zone:    | Easting :       | Northing:         |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning on the west side of Peach Road approximately 860 feet south of the intersection of 18B Road and Peach Road, face west and begin a parallel line approximately 95 feet north of

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the north wall of the farmhouse. Continue west 950 feet then turn south and continue in a line parallel with the north wall of the farmhouse 300 feet. Turn east and continue in a line 950 feet to the west side of Peach Road, then turn north and continue in a line with the west side of Peach Road 300 feet to the place of beginning.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the Norris Farm and Maxinkuckee Orchard include all of the resources that contribute to the significance of the property during its use for agriculture and includes a roughly two acre portion of the site once used for an orchard, of which a few remnant trees remain. The site is part of a larger 40 acre parcel under the same ownership, but has excluded excess agricultural land and only focuses on the farmstead site that when squared off with the road and the array of buildings, includes the remnant orchard. Other remnants do not exist on the remaining land.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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city or town: Plymouth state: IN zip code: 46563  
e-mail: kwgarner@kwgarner.com  
telephone: 574-936-0613  
date: November 13, 2014

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
Name of Property

Marshall County, IN  
County and State

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest toward apple storage barn

1 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest toward English barn

Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

Marshall County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

2 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
City or Vicinity: Culver  
County: Marshall State: Indiana  
Photographer: Kurt West Garner  
Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast toward garage and milk house annex

3 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
City or Vicinity: Culver  
County: Marshall State: Indiana  
Photographer: Kurt West Garner  
Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking east toward rear wing of farmhouse

4 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
City or Vicinity: Culver  
County: Marshall State: Indiana  
Photographer: Kurt West Garner  
Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
Name of Property

Marshall County, IN  
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast toward north façade of house from lane

5 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest at south façade of farmhouse

6 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west from lane at front façade of farmhouse

7 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

Marshall County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 6, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast at dairy barn addition on English barn

8 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 6, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast in milk house washing room

9 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: November 6, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest in dairy barn addition first floor

10 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

Marshall County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

City or Vicinity: Culver  
County: Marshall State: Indiana  
Photographer: Kurt West Garner  
Date Photographed: November 6, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  
Looking northeast in 1935 apple storage barn first floor

11 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
City or Vicinity: Culver  
County: Marshall State: Indiana  
Photographer: Kurt West Garner  
Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  
Looking northeast in farmhouse rear wing toward meal room

12 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
City or Vicinity: Culver  
County: Marshall State: Indiana  
Photographer: Kurt West Garner  
Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  
Looking east in enclosed porch in farmhouse rear wing

13 of 22.

Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
Name of Property

Marshall County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southwest in living room, first floor of farmhouse

14 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking west in parlor toward dining room, first floor of farmhouse

15 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014



Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
Name of Property

Marshall County, IN  
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northeast in north bedroom, second floor of farmhouse

16 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking southeast in landing, second floor of farmhouse

17 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Looking northwest toward south façade of house

18 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
Name of Property

Marshall County, IN  
County and State

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  
Fencing, looking northeast from barnyard area

19 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  
Orchard remnant, looking southwest from barnyard area

20 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:  
Dining room, looking southwest toward kitchen

21 of 22.

Name of Property: Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard

City or Vicinity: Culver

Norris Farm-Maxinkuckee Orchard  
Name of Property

Marshall County, IN  
County and State

County: Marshall State: Indiana

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 19, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Enclosed porch area, looking northwest toward kitchen

22 of 22.

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.