

DATA SHEET

PH 0694355

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JAN 3 1979
DATE ENTERED	MAR 9 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Henry W. Smith House

AND/OR COMMON

George Ehrman House

LOCATION

5 mi (8 km) W of Kokomo

STREET & NUMBER

R.R. 1, Box 315

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Kokomo *Ind.*

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

STATE

Indiana

VICINITY OF

CODE
018

COUNTY

Howard

CODE
067

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

See Continuation Sheet

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Howard County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Kokomo

STATE

Indiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Henry Smith House is located in the countryside five miles west of Kokomo, Indiana. It is a modest red brick structure on a fieldstone foundation, whose original roof was probably of slate or wood shingles. Although its style can be denoted as Italianate, the building incorporates features which are survivals of other architectural modes. The house is a rectangular mass five bays long and three deep, with a crossed pitched roof which forms prominent gables on all four elevations. This gable treatment and the roof pitch used are similar to those of contemporaneous Gothic Revival examples; however, the use of a bracketed cornice rather than bargeboards under the eaves mandates the Italianate designation. An earlier classical vocabulary is recalled in the orderly placement of the windows, whose six over six double-hung sash are set into shallow reveals with simple flat limestone lintels and sills, as in the Federal style of at least two decades before. Elements of more recent fashion are seen as well; the entrance, centrally located in the main (south) facade, is a wide opening with pilasters and sidelights flanking a solid leaf, with a rectangular transom above. A similar scheme is used for a second floor doorway directly above, which opens onto the porch roof. These doorways open from central halls connected by the prime interior feature, a wooden spiral staircase. These plan and entrance features are elements lately used in the Greek Revival style, though they have much older classical precedents. In one last principal feature, the porch, with its stylized square Tuscan columns, bracketed cornice, and picketed balustrade (this last is now missing), the full measure of the transition to the picturesque era of mid-century can be seen. The juxtaposition of symmetrical rectangular arrangement of classical elements beneath a prominent gable and projecting porch produces pictorial interest without the loss of classical allusions.

There are a few features of the house that are not original, but they are minor. These include the porch balustrade which replaced the pickets mentioned above, the concrete steps at the entry, and the asphalt shingles of the roof. None of these items are serious, and all are easily correctible. The original outbuildings, a smokehouse and a milkhouse, are intact. The house is in good physical condition and is of local and state significance.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1859

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Henry W. Smith

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The architectural significance of the Henry Smith House lies in what it exemplifies both the enduring appeal of classical elements and the ingenuity used in combining them in new ways to create pictorial interest. The design serves to illustrate the transition from an era of classical restraint to one of romantic imagery. The ability to express either while using familiar classical vocabulary explains the appeal of the Italianate style.

Besides its architectural significance, as an interesting transition between styles, the house has local significance for its associations with Henry Smith. The builder, Henry W. Smith, was a transplanted Virginian who achieved some local prominence as a Democratic politician and promoter of roads. Smith was born in Madison County, Virginia, in 1817 and was descended from early settlers who had owned large plantations. His father died when Henry was 12 years old. Henry Smith studied in subscription schools and lived with his mother until he reached the age of 20. In 1837 he left for Kentucky, where he worked on an uncle's farm. In 1840 he married and began farming for himself by renting and later buying a farm where he stayed until 1853. He sold that farm and bought 160 acres from Joel Grantham in Howard County, Indiana. Of the land purchased from Grantham, only 30 acres were cleared. By 1898, Smith had acquired over 600 acres, despite the fact that he had given over 300 to his children. Over 200 acres had been cleared, ditched, and tilled.

In Indiana Smith became active in local politics. His father had been an active Democrat, and his wife's slaveholding connections may have reinforced his predisposition to that party. In any case, after voting for William Henry Harrison in 1840, he became a regular Democrat and served as township trustee and pike commissioner. He was one of seven men mentioned as active promoters of the Kokomo and Pete's Run gravel road--the second gravel road completed in the county. The road organized in 1869, was completed in 1871 at a cost of \$33,000, ran 11 miles toward Burlington and Delphi, and became a free road after a prosperous period as a toll road.

Smith's sons followed in his footsteps. The son born in 1857, attended the state university and Butler College, successfully launched a general store at Burlington, returned to run his father's farm until 1898 when he reentered business, and was active in the Prohibition party. An older son, born in 1841, attended Kokomo Normal for one term, bought land in 1864, and was active in local politics.

Another son, Newton B. Smith, became a Kokomo attorney, and three more became farmers.

Although the size of the Smith farm has been reduced since 1898, the center of the property, including the Smith House remains in the hands of the descendants of Henry Smith

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Blanchard, Charles, ed. Counties of Howard and Tipton, History and Biography. Chicago: Battery & Co., 1883
- Biographical and Genealogical History of Cass, Miami, Howard and Tipton Counties. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co. 1898.
- Morrow, Jackson A. History of Howard County, Indiana. 2 vols; Indianapolis: Bower & Co., 1910.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Kokomo West

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 56,54,4,0 4,48,08,8,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the historic property is a square. The northeast corner is located at the intersection of a line 25 feet east of the house and a line 25 feet north of the house. The north boundary extends 400 feet west along the line 25 feet north of the

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Agnes L. Smith and Carlisle F. Smith

ORGANIZATION

DATE

December, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

814 West Mulberry Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Kokomo

STATE

Indiana

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE [Signature]

DATE

TITLE Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 3-7-79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: Amy B. Franklin

DATE 3-6-79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

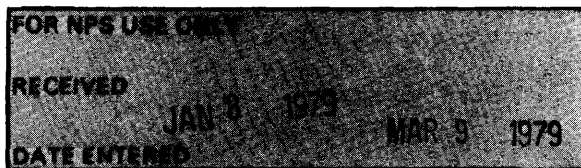
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Agnes L. Smith ✓
814 West Mulberry Street
Kokomo, Indiana

George and Eva Ehrman ✓
R.R. 1, Box 315
Kokomo, Indiana

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Verbal Boundary continued:

house for 400 feet from the northeast corner. The line then runs south 400 feet, east 400 feet, and north 400 feet to the northeast corner.