

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

611

# 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: McDonald, James and Lucinda, House

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)

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Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

## 2. Location

Street & number: 500 East Jackson St.

City or town: Attica State: IN County: Fountain

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

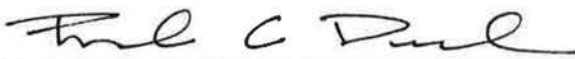
I hereby certify that this  nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  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  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

\_\_\_A \_\_\_B C \_\_\_D

	<u>7.21.2016</u>
<hr/>	
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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

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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:)

*Jon Edson H. Beall*  
Signature of the Keeper

*9.12.16*  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

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

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

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

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>3</u>	<u>0</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

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**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

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

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

foundation: BRICK  
walls: BRICK  
WOOD: Weatherboard  
roof: ASPHALT  
other: STONE: Limestone

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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 James and Lucinda McDonald House is located on a hill on the east side of Attica in Fountain County, Indiana. The formal two-and-a-half-story house was built in about 1855 in the Greek Revival style by local merchant, James D. McDonald, for his family. The house, which is surrounded by lawn and several mature shade trees, has a commanding presence on a large lot on Jackson Street. A cut-stone terrace wall extends out from the house to the east and is considered a contributing structure. A gravel drive leads from the street to a small one-car garage, c. 1915, located in the northeast corner of the lot. The house and garage are considered contributing buildings.

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## Narrative Description

The McDonald House site is located on a hill that overlooks the city of Attica from the east. McDonald owned a substantial amount of property on the east side of the town, which over time he platted as part of the town. The house has an imposing presence along Jackson Street, just east of where it merges with Main Street and forms a wedge-shaped park donated by McDonald to the city in 1852. An 1869 birds-eye drawing of Attica shows a number of buildings around the McDonald House, with little development around his estate. A large barn was northeast of the house and a smaller barn was located east of the house. A small building that appears to be two stories tall was located directly north of the house. None of these other buildings are extant. An agreement between the city and the McDonalds in 1873 and 1875 regarding egress through the property for a water line mentions a wood house, stable, and milk house. A small garage was built in the general area that the smaller barn was located. The 1869 image depicts the main house and rear ell off-set from each other when in reality their west walls are flush. The house's wrap-around porch is also shown on the map. The way in which the map depicts the McDonald House, it is clear that McDonald was as concerned about the west façade, since it looked down over the town, as he was about the south (front) façade when the house was designed. This may also be why the more formal rooms of the house are loaded on the west side of a central hall.

The front of the house faces slightly southwest and is aligned parallel to Jackson Street. For purposes of this document, the facades will be referred to as the south (or front), north (or back), west, and east. The garage also faces slightly southwest and its facades will be referred to in a similar manner.

### McDonald House, c. 1855

#### *Exterior, photographs 0001-0004*

The two-and-a-half story brick house is a large example of the double-pile house type with a rear ell on the west side of the north façade. The foundation is of brick, except for the east wall of the ell, which is of cut stone. The house has 6/6 wood windows with stone sills and lintels. The second story of the south and west façades have pairs of large wood casement windows divided into three panes of glass with transoms. A wood entablature with frieze-band windows is at the top of the walls. The entablature has rows of dentils and a combination of wood and metal windows. The truncated hip roof of the main house and the saltbox style roof of the ell are covered with asphalt shingles.

A porch with second floor balcony is located across the full width of the front façade and the west façade of the main house, not including the ell. The porch has a concrete floor and wood ceiling that is supported by rows of slender Ionic wood columns. The columns date to a porch remodel in c. 1970. The porch, as it appears in Wilbur Peat's Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century (1962), had turned post posts and ornate metal railing panels for the balcony. The metalwork has largely been removed from the balcony, but is on site. Also shown in the Peat photograph is a wood balustrade around the top of the flattened center deck of the main roof.

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The front façade is divided into five bays with a centered entry bay (photos 0001-0002). The entry bay has entries on the first and second story, but it reads as one assembly intersected on the second story by the balcony. The entries are divided into three parts with a broken (three-part) transom and wood panels in the bottoms of the side-lites. The entries have six-panel wood doors. The entry surrounds are composed of Doric stone pilasters and entablatures. The entablature of the second story entry is taller and has rows of dentils. Each of the other bays have a 6/6 window on the first story and a pair of casements on the second story. The casements have painted stone window hoods with drip-molds and ears, a detail that is not repeated on the rest of the facades. There are five frieze band windows on the front façade.

The west façade is divided into two parts: the main house and the rear ell, which is flush with the façade of the main house (photo 0002). The west façade of the main house is divided into three bays with an entry bay on its north side (right side of photo 0002). The entry bay matches the entry bay centered on the front façade. The other two bays have 6/6 windows on the first floor and pairs of casement windows on the second floor. There are three frieze band windows at the top of the main house's west façade and a chimney is just off center between the bays with windows. The west façade of the ell has a stone foundation composed of one course of limestone and the wall is divided into three bays. Each bay has a 6/6 window in its first and second story. The entablature at the top of the ell is not as tall as the main house's, but it also has rows of dentils.

The east façade of the house is also divided into two parts: the main house and the rear ell, which sets back from the main house approximately fifteen feet (photo 0004). The east façade of the main house is divided into two bays with 6/6 windows in the first and second story, near the outside corners of the wall. The window opening in the north side of the first story was converted to a door opening, but has been covered with wood. The east façade has one centered frieze-band window and two chimneys. The east façade of the ell is the low side of the saltbox roof, under which was a porch that has been enclosed (right side of photo 0004). The first story of the ell is partially below grade and its wall is composed of cut limestone. The first story has three window openings with 1/1 wood windows; the south window was removed and the opening was filled in with brick. The second story of the ell is divided into two bays by wood pilasters with Doric capitals. Each bay has been enclosed and covered with clapboards, though it is unclear if the north bay was originally intended to be an enclosed porch. The north bay has a 6/6 window centered in the north and east facades, though the east window is covered with wood. The south bay, whose wall is set in from the north bay, has a wood door in its south side and a row of three 1/1 wood windows in its north side. A small wood deck and steps lead to the enclosed porch door.

The north façade of the main house, east of the ell, has two 6/6 windows on its second story, though the east window is covered with wood (photo 0004). A wall dormer with an attic door cuts through the entablature between the windows in the attic level. The north façade of the ell has a door opening that is covered with wood on its west side and a pair of modern casement windows east of the door (photo 0003). A pair of 6/6 windows is in the east side of the first story. The second story has a 6/6 window in its west side and another 6/6 window in its east side that forms the north bay of the enclosed porch. The gable wall has cornice returns.

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*Interior, photographs 0007-0020*

The general arrangement of rooms in the house are stacked two-deep, front to back, off of a wide central hall. The main house is two-and-a-half stories tall and the rear ell is two stories and is two rooms deep. The ceiling height of the first story is lower than the second story, the reverse of typical houses of this type. The central hall is slightly narrower on the first floor, in part due to the width of the internal masonry walls on the first floor. The top floor has sloped ceilings and knee walls where frieze-band windows are located (photo 0007). A broad staircase is on the east side of the central hall. It has curved openings in the floors with railings that follow the curve on each story (photos 0012, 0013, 0015). The simple staircase has delicate turned balusters and newel posts. Sawn ornamentation in a scroll pattern follows the outside edge of the risers of the staircase, below the tread and around the opening in each floor.

The house has wood floors and plaster walls and ceilings, except where some new construction has occurred and drywall has been installed. There is a hierarchy of trim in the house with more elaborate trim in the central hall and large rooms on the west side of the house. Less elaborate trim is located in the ell, attic, and rooms in the east side of the house. The rooms in the west side of the house have taller baseboards, wider casings around windows and doors, and lintel crowns with ears. The fireplace surrounds are cast iron with arched openings and paneled fronts. The house has four-panel wood doors with porcelain knobs. The trim details on the three-part entries is repeated on the interior with Doric capitals and panels below the side-lites (seen in photo 0013).

The first story has a large room on its west side and two rooms on its east side. The north end of the large room opens into an east/west hall which leads to an entrance on the west side of the house and to the rear ell (photo 0016). A fireplace is in the west wall of the large room and the windows in the room have wood panels below them. The southeast room on the first story has a fireplace centered in its east wall with new built-in shelving north of the fireplace (background of photo 0017). The northeast room has new frame and partial drywall partitions (photo 0018). The first story of the ell has a dining room in its south end and a kitchen (c. 1980) in its north end. The dining room has a fireplace centered in its north wall and a built-in china cabinet east of the fireplace (photo 019). A wood staircase is located in the northeast corner of the ell (background of photo 0020) and basement stairs are located near its southeast corner; these spaces are located under the enclosed porch on the east side of the ell's second story.

The second story floor plan of the main house matches the first story. The two rooms on the east side of the central hall are bedrooms and the large room on the west side of the hall has a doorway that opens into an east/west hall. The large room has a fireplace centered in its west wall (photo 0009). The bedrooms also have fireplaces with closets built into the space between the fireplaces and wall the divides the two bedrooms (photos 0010-0011). The second story of the ell has a room that has been converted into a bathroom in its south end; the room has a fireplace centered in its north wall (photo 0014). An enclosed porch is on the east side of the ell; a three-part entry is located between the enclosed porch and central hall of the main house (photo 0012). It has a six-panel wood door and no transom. The north end of the enclosed porch has a

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staircase that leads down to the first floor. A small room is off the west side of the room with the staircase.

The attic or half story has a central landing off of which large bedrooms are located on the east and west sides of the house. The bedrooms have some new frame and drywall partitions near their outside edges (photo 0007). An open staircase with winding treads is on the south side of the landing (photo 0008). The staircase leads to a small attic area beneath a former widow's walk centered on top of the house roof. A small room, which has a doorway beneath the staircase, is off the south side of the landing.

#### Terrace wall, c. 1855

##### *Photograph 0005*

A wall composed of five courses of finely-tooled limestone block extends from the east side of the house toward a gravel drive approximately forty feet. The wall functions as a terrace or retaining wall for the back yard which is about four feet higher in elevation than the front yard on this side of the house. Stone steps with flanking return walls break the terrace wall near its center. The wall appears to date to the period the house was constructed. A few stones in the top course are no longer part of the wall assembly, but are laying on the ground near the wall.

#### Garage, c. 1915

##### *Photograph 0006*

A narrow one-car garage is located near the northeast corner of the property, at the end of a gravel drive that extends from the street to the backyard. The clapboard-sided garage has a steeply pitched front gable, exposed rafter tails, and asphalt shingles on its roof. The front (south) façade has a wood garage door with six windows. The west façade (facing the house) has a centered wood door with three panels and a window and two wood windows flanking the door. The south window is 8/1 and the north window is 1/1. The garage appears to date to the time the Lindburg and Scribner families lived in the home (c. 1890-c. 1965). The house is referred to as the McDonald-Scribner House in Wilbur Peat's book of Indiana residential architecture of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (1962).



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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

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

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**Period of Significance**

C. 1855- C. 1915

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**Significant Dates**

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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 in c. 1855, the estimated date James McDonald constructed the house, and ends in c. 1915 when the garage was constructed on the property. Though architecturally less significant than the house, the garage contributes to the significance of the property. The garage has specific Craftsman style elements that contribute to the architectural significance of the property. It was built by the Scribner family, who lived in the home when Wilbur Peat catalogued the house in his book of Indiana's 19<sup>th</sup> century residential architecture.

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

N/A

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**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 James and Lucinda McDonald House is an exceptional example of early Greek Revival architecture, qualifying it for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C. The house retains significant architectural integrity including its historic entablature, entries, and interior spaces. Notable features are its frieze-band windows, casement windows that double as balcony doors, fireplaces, and open staircases. The house was of sufficient architectural merit to be included in Indiana's oldest overview of historic architecture, Wilbur Peat's Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century.

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

#### ARCHITECTURE

The James and Lucinda McDonald House represents the height of the Greek Revival style when the style was experiencing significant national popularity. 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 to the United States at the close of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, based on Roman and earlier Greek examples found through archaeological investigations. Two factors enhanced the Greek influence in the United States: the War of Greek Independence during the 1820s and 1830s and the War of 1812. The Grecian war found sympathetic citizens in the United States and the American war with the British in 1812 lessened the interest in British architecture. The Greek Revival style seemed only appropriate for a nation undergoing a new experiment in governing, democracy, that had philosophical roots based on Grecian models of governing.

The style is the more dominant of two early architectural styles in Attica. Due to the wealth created in the community in the 1840s-1850s by virtue of the canal and railroad, the town's leading merchants constructed several large homes and other buildings in either the Federal or Greek Revival styles. The Federal style began to wane in popularity by the 1850s, but about six examples of the style are found in the city. However, the Greek Revival style was reaching its peak in terms of national popularity during this time and more than two dozen houses, commercial buildings, and churches were constructed in Attica in the style between the mid-1840s and 1860s.

Attica's place as a canal town on the Wabash River meant that builders and clients came from Upland South, Mid-Atlantic and New England building traditions. Accordingly, within the community, the Greek Revival style was applied to a number of different house types including about equal examples of the style on the central-passage and gable-front house types. A few examples of the style can also be found on hall-and-parlor houses. One house type that was also

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growing in popularity during this time is the I-house and at least seven examples of the style applied to I-houses can be found in Attica dating to the early 1850s-1860s. The citizens of Attica also determined that the Greek Revival style should be used on its early public structures including the Attica Presbyterian Church at 304 E. Main Street, a gable-front building constructed in 1849, and on the First Lutheran Church at 202 E. Pike Street, also a gable-front building constructed in 1858-1859.

The McDonald House can be classified as a hipped cubical type, which is found in the Deep South on plantations (with surrounding galleries), in areas around the Chesapeake Bay on the East Coast, and as far afield as New York State and Michigan (with and without front portico). Architect Francis Costigan, trained in Baltimore but known for his Madison, Indiana residential commissions, used the cube type for his grander homes in Madison during the 1840s. A version of the hip-roofed cubical house is found in early pattern books including Samuel Sloan's Model Architect of 1852. Andrew Jackson Downing also included the house type in his Architecture of Country Houses (1850), but Downing's examples often evoked what would become known as the Italianate or Italian Villa style.

The fact that pattern book authors were utilizing the form likely means it existed as a vernacular type long beforehand; for example, the hipped-roof, boxy massing of some Georgian-era houses could be a source. Due to the formality of the Greek Revival style, the cube house type provided an excellent palette on which to carry out the basic elements of the style including, typically, symmetry and a regular pattern of window bays. The house type also made possible a grand central entry and stairwell, similar to the Greek temples on which the style was based. One touch the anonymous builder or designer made stands at odds with the Greek Revival stylistic features: the stone label lintels over the front second floor windows. More properly, the hoods point to Gothic Revival (or Tudor-era) influences. To the builder/architect, they may have appeared to resemble shouldered moldings of Classical architecture; they could equally point to his interest in adding a few eclectic touches to an otherwise very stoic house. The missing (present but mostly no longer installed) cast iron railings also added relief to the mass of the house. Anthemion-themed, the railings are at once "lacey Gothic" in feeling, but are based on a Classical motif.

Given the style and house type, the McDonald House probably best compares to the Milford House in Attica. The Milford House (listed on the National Register) was built at 414 E. Main Street in c. 1847 with a second floor and wing in 1860. The house reflects a transition between the Federal style and the Greek Revival style which was carried out in the 1860 modifications. The house has a low-pitched hipped roof, regular window bay pattern, and pediments over its windows. The McDonald House is comparatively a better example of the Greek Revival style and a purer form of the house type.

The McDonald House's front facade has a formal, symmetrical arrangement of windows and entries that are divided into five bays with a central entry (photo 0001). The height of the house is accentuated by its tall windows and entries on the front façade, which give the effect of being one tall, two-story opening intersected by the wrap-around balcony. The second-story windows have wide crowns which further portray the appearance of single, two-story openings. The first

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and second story centered entries have a deeply recessed appearance between pilasters that appear to continue through the balcony. A tall entablature over the top of the second story balcony entry has the same effect of portraying the bay as one tall two-story opening in the façade. This design effect is of particularly importance due to the Greek Revival style's portrayal of temple-like architecture. The openings and subsequent equal massing between the openings, provide the appearance of a tall colonnaded temple, crowned with an entablature complete with dentils. The entablature's frieze-band windows are aligned in the same bay configuration of the window and entry openings on the first and second stories.

The west façade, though asymmetrically organized, continues some of the important Greek Revival features of the front façade, including a matching entry bay on its north side and entablature with frieze-band windows (photo 0002). The east façade has a simple symmetry with two bays of windows, one in each of the first and second stories, and two chimneys (photo 0004). The rear ell has slightly less sophisticated features of the Greek Revival style, as would be expected on a more service-oriented extension from the main house (photo 0003). It has a shorter entablature, still featuring rows of dentils, and cornice returns on its north facade, a feature of the style often applied to gable walls. Slender Doric pilasters are located on the east façade of the ell where they support the enclosed porch roof.

The general arrangement of rooms in the house and overall feel of the spaces, with tall ceilings and tall windows on the second story, contributes to the significance of the design of the home (photo 0009). The main house has a formal arrangement of rooms off the central hall, which functions as a path for vertical circulation and visual connection to all stories of the house. The central hall's axial connection to the entries on the front of the house, is continued through a back entry on the second story that has the same three-part formality of the front entry (photo 0012).

The entries and windows of the house also contribute to the level of sophistication of the Greek Revival style. The design of the entries is of particular note. The entries are divided into three parts by pairs of Doric pilasters which continue up and also break the transom window into three parts (photo 0013). The entries have their original side-lites, transoms, and six-panel doors. The entries have surrounds composed of wide Doric pilasters and entablatures with rows of dentils. The windows throughout the house are 6/6. The interior doors are four-panel with varying levels of sophistication to their header moldings. Generally, the more formal rooms on the west side of the house and the central hall have headers with ears, a feature of the Greek Revival style which is supposed to resemble thickly-framed wood piers and lintels (photo 0009). In the more formal rooms the door and window surrounds have backband molding which further accentuates the ears.

Other important architectural features of the interior include the fireplaces and staircases. The fireplace mantels are mostly cast iron with arched or lintel openings and molded fronts. Granted the c. 1855 date of the house, it seems likely that the cast-iron mantel pieces were installed later, when their availability, transport by rail, and access to coal to burn in them would be much more likely. One more-sophisticated fireplace is located in the large parlor on the west side of the second story. It has pairs of pilasters on either side of the opening and a pediment-shaped back

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above the mantel (photo 0009). Stylized anthemia extend up on each corner of the pediment. The staircases have delicately-turned spindles and newel posts, which gives the three-story staircase a sense of weightlessness (photo 0012). The outside wall of the staircase's treads and inside wall between floors is decorated with sawn scrollwork that continues into the narrow curved openings between floors. The staircase balustrade design is continued in the half-story for the attic staircase (photo 0008).

The garage (c. 1915) adds an additional layer of architectural history to the property. While none of the estate's 19<sup>th</sup> century support buildings survive, the garage adds a sense of the property's complexity. Dating from the first generation of purpose-built auto storage buildings, the Scribners commissioned this frame garage to include Craftsman style bevel corner wood siding, 8/1 wood windows, and open eaves with exposed rafter tails. The side facing the house was thoughtfully designed to resemble a small cottage. It contributes to the architectural significance of the property.

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### **Developmental History/Additional historic context information**

James D. McDonald was born to John and Eleanor Piatt McDonald in Butler County, Ohio in 1810. He migrated to the Warren and Fountain Counties area of Indiana with his brothers, Ezekiel and Joseph, by 1840. James was a merchant in the Warren County seat of Williamsport in 1841, though the nature of that business is unclear. He married Lucinda Maddox in Fountain City, Fountain County in 1842. By 1848, when their first child, George Wilson, was born they had relocated to Attica in Fountain County. When Attica incorporated as a town in 1849, James McDonald made the motion to appoint John Hale and Davis Newell chairman and secretary, respectively, and divide the town into five districts. When officers were elected in 1851, James McDonald was one of those elected to office. He was again elected in 1865 and 1866 from the second ward.

The relocation of James McDonald's business may have followed the trend between the two cities of Williamsport and Attica during the 1840s. With the completion of the Wabash and Erie Canal in 1847, business in the port city of Attica, which was settled in 1825, began to boom. Despite a side cut made to Williamsport from the canal, new stables, warehouses, and docks were being built in great number in Attica. A skirmish over the canal between Attica and the Fountain County seat of Covington downriver occurred in 1846, during which Ezekiel McDonald rallied men and set out to resolve the issue by force shortly after the canal was constructed. This would indicate the McDonalds probably settled in Attica right about the time the canal was being built. The town's population had grown by 70 percent between 1850 and 1860 due to the canal and the completion of the Toledo, Wabash, and Western Railroad through the city in 1856.

James McDonald remained in the merchant and stock trade, benefitting from Attica's place on the canal. He made his fortune in pork processing and shipment of the product on the canal to eastern markets. Hogs from the surrounding agricultural area were brought to Attica for

McDonald, James and Lucinda, House

Name of Property

Fountain Co., IN

County and State

slaughter on land McDonald owned on the Wabash River. McDonald also dealt heavily in real estate development including a downtown business block that bore his name and a plat addition to the city's east side in 1851. The latter was a partnership with his brother, Ezekiel, and James Spear that was known as McDonald, Spear, and Co. The addition included 73 lots through which a street runs that bears his name. In 1852, he donated a parcel of land that became known as "McDonald Square", now McDonald Park, in the wedge of land created from the extensions of Jackson and Main Streets east of the downtown. McDonald's house is located on a hill that overlooks the park from the east.

To what extent James McDonald divested his interest in his retail/trading business is unclear. He was listed as a merchant in the 1850 and 1860 censuses, but was listed with no income and retired in the 1870 and 1880 censuses. The 1870 census indicated McDonald's estimated wealth was \$100,000. In most of these censuses, the household included servants or laborers who lived with the family. James and Lucinda's children were George, Paul, Laura, and Francis. Both James and Lucinda died in 1890 and were buried in Riverside Cemetery, Attica.

While James McDonald dabbled in local politics, his brothers held higher offices. Ezekiel McDonald was elected state representative in 1856. Ezekiel was a partner in the stock trading and general mercantile business (McDonald, Kerr, & Coleman) in Attica during the 1850s-1870s. A business description indicated they were forwarding and commissioning merchants. Joseph McDonald became an attorney and relocated from Attica to Crawfordsville where he was elected to Congress in 1847, then elected Indiana Attorney General in 1856, and United States Senator in 1875.

The hill and ravine on which McDonald's estate was located produced a spring that became known as McDonald Springs, from which the town received its drinking water. In 1835, Levi Hollovy leased the spring from then-owner John Brady, Sr. and created a wood pipe system to bring water from the ravine to downtown. The system lasted until about 1858 when the wood pipe began to deteriorate. In 1859, the town discussed plans for a new waterworks system with the option of continuing the use of McDonald's springs or using Grant's Run for a water source. McDonald submitted terms on which he would furnish water, but no action was taken. In order to maintain the lease, a group of businessmen installed a metal pipe system, which continued until 1873. That year James and Lucinda McDonald deeded to the City of Attica just over an acre of land adjacent to their residence, including all fountains and springs on which the city established its water works system. An additional one-third acre was deeded to the city by the McDonalds in 1875 and included an agreement that a water line would be laid between the stable and wood house (east of the house) to Jackson Street. A condition of the agreement was that the city would furnish the McDonalds a pipe from the main pipe to the west side of their milk house, and free use of water during their natural lives. Today, a large part of the area that was part of McDonald's estate to the north and northeast of his homestead is part of Ravine Park, established by the city in the early 1900s.

The James and Lucinda McDonald House was purchased by the William and Sophia Lindburg family after the McDonalds' deaths. The Lindbergs were Swedish immigrants who came to the United States in 1859 and first settled in Illinois before they moved to Attica in the early 1870s.

McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
Name of Property

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County and State

The Lindbergs, who had two children, Martin and Othelia, were queensware merchants in Attica. William Lindberg died in 1900, shortly after, Othelia married James Scribner, a jeweler in Attica. The Scribner and Lindberg families lived in the house until Sophia died in 1913. James Scribner died in 1919, leaving his wife, Othelia and two sons, James and Robert. The house remained in the Scribner family, through Robert, into the 1960s.



McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
Name of Property

Fountain Co., IN  
County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Attica Birds-Eye Map, 1869. Chicago: Chicago Lithograph Co., 1869

Bauerband, Lela. The Story of Ravine Park. Attica, Indiana, 1988.

Beckwith, H. W. History of Fountain County. Chicago: H. H. Hill & N. Iddings, 1881.

Clark, Orrie. Saga of Ravine Park. Attica, Indiana, 1932.

Federal Census for Logan Twp.-Attica, Indiana: 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, and 1920

Fountain County Interim Report, Historic Landmarks of Indiana: Indianapolis, 1988.

History of Fountain County, Indiana. Dallas: Taylor Publishing Company, 1983.

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2006.

Ravine Park, Attica, Indiana. Clippings file of the Attica, Indiana public library.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Attica, Indiana: 1886, 1892, 1905, 1910

Sutherland, James. G. W. Hawe's Indiana State Gazetteer & Business Directory, Vol. I. Indianapolis: George W. Hawes, 1858-1859.

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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
- 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

McDonald, James and Lucinda, House

Fountain Co., IN  
County and State

Name of Property

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** 045-025-10041

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreeage of Property** Less than one acre

Use the UTM system

### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 16 | Easting: 479421 | Northing: 4460099 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 4. Zone:    | Easting :       | Northing:         |

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

The lot's southwest corner begins approximately 30 feet southeast of the intersection of East Jackson and East Main Streets, on the north side of East Jackson Street. Face southeast and follow a line with the north curb of East Jackson Street approximately 175 feet. Turn northeast and follow the east property line of 500 East Jackson Street approximately 200 feet northeast to the north property line. Turn northwest and follow the property line approximately 175 feet to the west property line, then turn southwest and follow the property line approximately 200 feet to the lot's southwest corner, or the point of beginning.

McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are the current lot boundaries of the James and Lucinda McDonald House and they include within them the three contributing resources on the property. Though McDonald's estate was extensively larger, there are no other resources that contribute to the significance of this property under the criterion and area of significance listed in section 8.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Kurt West Garner, KW Garner Consulting  
organization: Fountain County Landmarks/PIP  
street & number: 12954 6<sup>th</sup> Road  
city or town: Plymouth state: IN zip code: 46563  
e-mail kwgarner@kwgarner.com  
telephone: 574-936-0613  
date: December 3, 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.)

**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.

McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
Name of Property

Fountain Co., IN  
County and State

**Photo Log**

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Front and east facades of the house, looking northwest

1 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Front and west facades of the house, looking northeast

2 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Rear ell, looking southeast

McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
Name of Property

Fountain Co., IN  
County and State

3 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: East façade, looking southwest

4 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Stone terrace wall, looking west

5 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
Name of Property

Fountain Co., IN  
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Garage, looking northeast

6 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Top floor, west bedroom, looking southeast

7 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Landing and attic staircase, looking south from second story staircase

8 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
Name of Property

Fountain Co., IN  
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: West room of the second story in the main house, looking northwest

9 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Northeast bedroom of the second story, looking east

10 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Southeast bedroom of the second story, looking east

11 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
Name of Property

Fountain Co., IN  
County and State

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Staircase and central hall of the second story, looking north toward rear ell

12 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Staircase and central hall of the second story, looking south toward front entry

13 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Converted bathroom in second story of the rear ell, looking north

14 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner



McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
Name of Property

Fountain Co., IN  
County and State

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Staircase and central hall of the first story, looking north

15 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: West room of the main house, first story, looking northwest

16 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Southeast room of the main house, first story, looking east from central hall

17 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
Name of Property

Fountain Co., IN  
County and State

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Northeast room of the main house, first story, looking east at new construction

18 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Dining room in rear ell, first story, looking northeast

19 of 20.

Name of Property: James and Lucinda McDonald House

City or Vicinity: Attica

County: Fountain State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

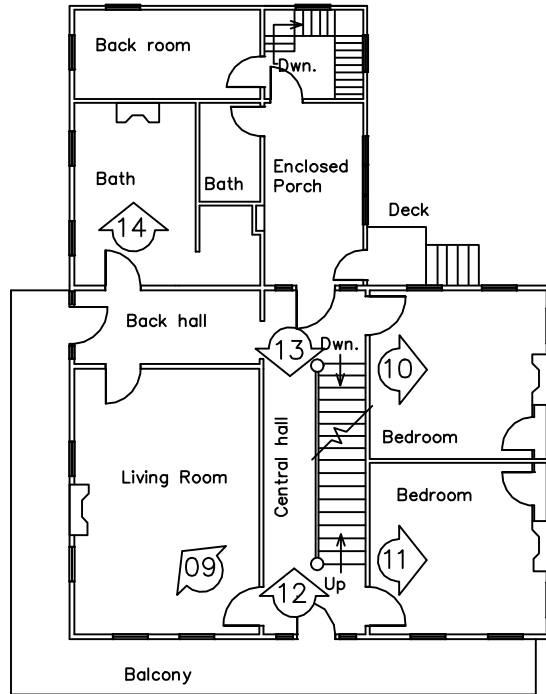
Date Photographed: May 27, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera: Kitchen and rear service stairs in rear ell, first story, looking east

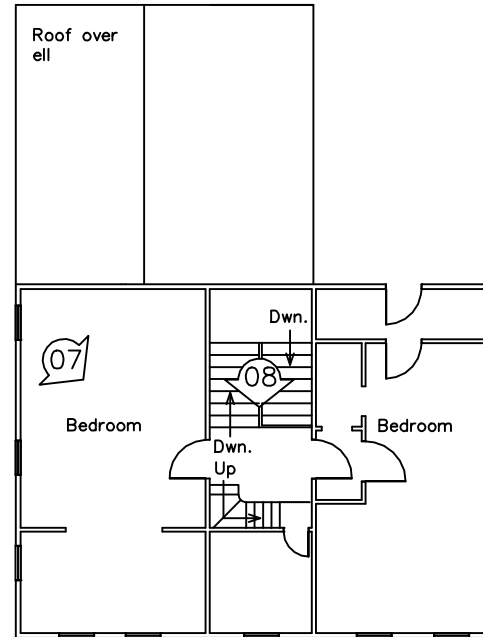
20 of 20.

**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.



Second Story



Top Story



00 = Photograph

James & Lucinda McDonald House  
 500 E. Jackson St., Attica  
 Fountain County, IN  
 Second and Top Story Plans

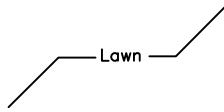
James & Lucinda McDonald House  
 500 E. Jackson St., Attica  
 Fountain County, IN  
 Site & First Story Plan  
 Less than 1 acre/ 3 contributing resources



Boundary

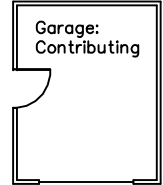
00 = Photograph

03

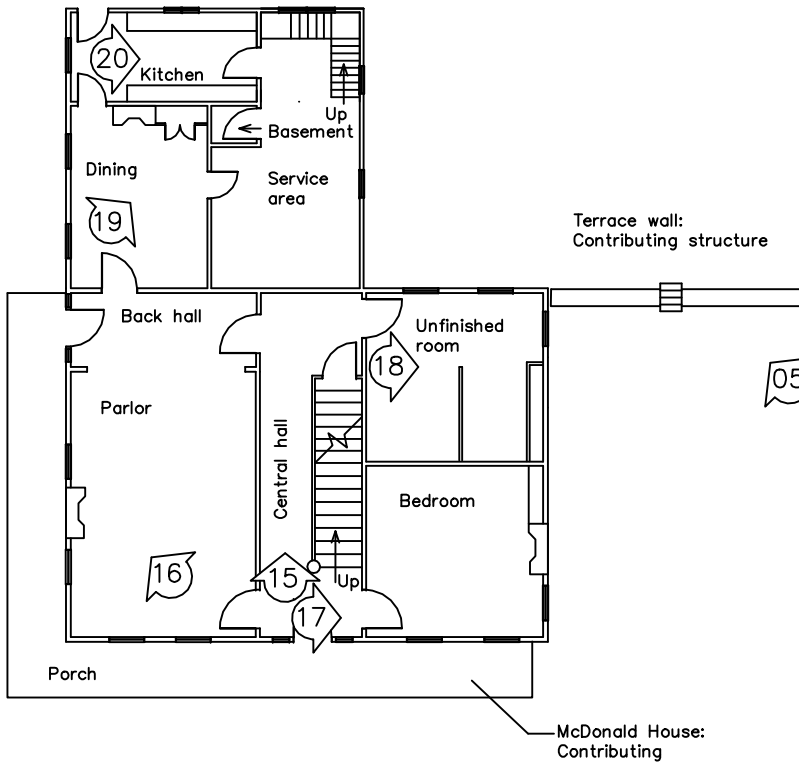


04

06

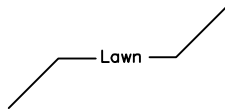


Drive



05

02



01

E. Jackson Street

JAMES AND LINDA  
 McDONALD HOUSE  
 NATIONAL REGISTER  
 OF HISTORIC PLACES  
 ATTICA  
 Fountain Co. IN  
 NAD 83 UTM  
 16 479421 4460099



































































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY McDonald, James and Lucinda, House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: INDIANA, Fountain

DATE RECEIVED: 7/29/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/18/16  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/02/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/13/16  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000611

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 9.12.16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

# DNR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources



Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology • 402 W. Washington Street, W274 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739  
Phone 317-232-1646 • Fax 317-232-0693 • dhpa@dnr.IN.gov • www.IN.gov/dnr/historic

July 21, 2016

Dr. Stephanie Toothman  
Keeper of the National Register  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20005

RECEIVED 2280

JUL 29 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

Re: James and Lucinda McDonald House, Fountain County, Indiana

Dear Dr. Toothman,

Enclosed is a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the James and Lucinda McDonald House, Fountain County, Indiana. The Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board reviewed the application and voted to recommend its approval to the National Register of Historic Places.

The enclosed disc contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the James and Lucinda McDonald House (Fountain County, Indiana) to the National Register of Historic Places.

Please address any questions you or your staff may have about this nomination to my National Register staff members, Paul Diebold or Holly Tate.

Sincerely,

Cameron F. Clark  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CFC:PCD:pcd

enclosure: nomination package