

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
JUL 17 1975
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED OCT 29 1975

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 John O'Ferrell Store

AND/OR COMMON ~~The~~ Olde Store (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER West & Second Streets

CITY, TOWN Mongo

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 4th

STATE Indiana

VICINITY OF
CODE 18

COUNTY LaGrange

CODE 087

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Carroll & Esther Van Buskirk

STREET & NUMBER West & Second Streets

CITY, TOWN Mongo

VICINITY OF

STATE Indiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. LaGrange County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER Detroit Street

CITY, TOWN LaGrange

STATE Indiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

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

In 1832 John O'Ferrell designed and built a general store to serve the small community of Mongo, Indiana. The two story wood frame structure has a hand made appearance, yet it is unified and elegant in proportion and overall character. It is a Greek Revival mode with classically lined wooden corner posts, lintels and slipsills. The peak of the asphalt sheathed roof is 30 feet above the ground. A boxed cornice was applied to the medium gable roof with a blind, semi-circular window accenting the pediment. The 3 bayed front facade is comprised of single glazed double hung windows with shutters on the upper floor. A door on the upper floor lent access to a balcony which was replaced by the present shed roof type porch, in 1930. The lower story has larger wondows surrounded by engaged columns and the main entrance of solid wood doors.

The building rests on a stone and brick foundation which also forms the walls for the full basement. Hand hewn oak beams and posts comprise the structural system.

Several additions to the original building on the south, east and north sides were built during its history, but the exact dates are not known. It is thought by the owner that they were probably all built by the turn of the century.

The main floor consists of a large showroom with three rear entrances leading into the respective additions. The second floor originally housed the family's living quarters, however these have been removed and the entire floor is used for storage purposes, as is the attic. Elegant butternut moulding probably added in the 1850's surrounds the ceiling of the first floor. A wood burning furnace on the first floor used instead of fireplaces has since been replaced by a gas furnace in the basement.

Although some of the exterior materials are deteriorating, the structure is basically sound and remains a handsome focal point for the community of Mongo.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1832

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John O'Ferrell

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Olde Store, formerly the John O'Ferrell Store, was one of the first commercial structures in LaGrange County and a focal point in the early events and history of Mongo.

John O'Ferrell designed and built the Greek Revival structure in 1832 after doing business for nearly two years from a wagon. It was used as a general store and a post office with an inventory of about \$400. In 1836, O'Ferrell was supposedly run out of town for "treating the whites as unscrupulously as the Indians". O'Ferrell was also one of several perpetrators of an Indian scare known as the "Gage and Langdon War". This occurred during the Black Hawk War of 1832 when many settlers in Mongo feared an Indian attack. Drusus Nichols purchased the store and a nearby distillery greatly increasing their worth. The store then changed hands many times before becoming the acquisition of the present owners.

Throughout its history the store served as post office, distillery outlet (largely sold to the Indians in exchange for furs) and even as an informal courtroom during its history. The building is a good example of 19th century construction techniques and has unusual architectural refinement for early small town Indiana construction.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Illustrated Historical Atlas, LaGrange County 1874
 Counties of LaGrange & Noble-Historical & Biographical, by Weston A. Goodspeed-printed
 Chicago F.A. Battey & Co. 1882
 Illustrated Atlas LaGrange County-Columbian Souv. 1893 by LaGrange Publishing Co.
 History of LaGrange County 1936 Rose Marjorie Wodell

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 6	6 4 3 1 9 0	4 6 1 6 0 9 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Esther Van Buskirk

ORGANIZATION

The Olde Store

DATE

1/28/75

STREET & NUMBER

West & Second Streets

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Mongo

STATE

Indiana

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

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

Joseph D. ...

TITLE

S.H.P.O.

DATE

7/11-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

10/29/75

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

OCT 28 1975