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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Milford, Marshall M., House  
other names/site number Milford-Miller-Kerkhove House, 075-025-080012

2. Location

street & number 414 East Main Street N/A not for publication  
city, town Attica N/A vicinity  
state IN code IN county Fountain code 045 zip code 47918

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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.  See continuation sheet.

Richard Hartig for J. M. Redmon 11-15-88  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Alvares Byers 1/26/89 Entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwellingDOMESTIC: multiple dwelling

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC: FederalGreek Revival

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: sandstonewalls BRICKSTONE: limestoneroof ASPHALTother METAL: iron

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Milford House is a two story brick structure located in a old residential section of Attica, Indiana. The house was built in three sections. A two story east wing with simple Federal style detailing was built in 1845, a west wing with Greek Revival elements was added in about 1855 and a one story kitchen wing was added to the north later in the 1800s.

The eastern section of the house, constructed in 1845, is characterized by simplicity. The south elevation of this section together with the south elevation of the west wing form the main facade of the house, which faces Main Street (photo 1). The east wing is set back several feet from the west wing. Both sections rest upon a locally quarried coursed rubble sandstone foundation. The east wing is composed of four bays. There is an entrance with three windows to the east on the first floor. The second floor has three windows in alignment with the first level fenestration. All windows on the 1845 wing are six-over-six double hung sash with flat wood lintels and limestone sills. The main entry for this section is plainly treated. The entry has a single leaf paneled Christian door with a two-light transom.

The east wing has a wood entablature with dentils and a plain frieze. This feature may have been added when the west wing was built in c.1855. Both portions of the house have low pitched hip roofs.

The east wall of the east wing has two windows, one on each story (photo 5).

A block-like addition was added to the west of the original home in 1855. The addition is in the Greek Revival style, and has an asymmetrical composition (photos 1 and 2). The west section has a dressed stone water table. The main facade (south elevation) has three bays. The main entry is to the east. It is flanked by wood Doric pilasters. A door with six panels is divided from the sidelights by slender Doric pilasters. The door has a three-light transom. All windows on the south and west walls of this section are six-over-six double hung sash with segmental pediment lintels of stone and stone sills. Above the main entry, a long six-over-six window (with larger panes) extends to the floor for access to the porch balcony. The other four windows are more typically proportioned. They are evenly spaced with two on each story.

 See continuation sheet

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1845

c.1855

Significant Dates

1845

c.1855

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Marshall Milford House is eligible for the National Register for its outstanding architecture. This imposing residence is architecturally significant because it provides a unique combination of Indiana's earliest building styles. The east wing of 1845 represents the vernacular Federal style while the west wing of c.1855 is in the Greek Revival style. Each section is an excellent example of its style, with fine detailing and high integrity on the exterior and interior. Because of the outstanding architecture of the home, it was included in the state's earliest architectural catalog, Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century. The Milford House was also the home of a prominent Attica citizen.

The Milford House is significant in the context of Early Nineteenth Century Architecture in Attica, Indiana, 1825-1860. Attica was platted in 1825, in the same year Fountain County was established by State decree. The town's later development was tied to the construction of the Wabash and Erie Canal. Traffic on the Wabash River probably also contributed to the prosperity of Attica. The canal was first proposed by an 1827 act of Congress which donated a right of way for the project. The canal was to start in Toledo, Ohio. In Fort Wayne, Indiana the canal was to link the Maumee and Wabash Rivers. The proposed canal was to parallel the Wabash River to the southwest from Fort Wayne to Logansport, Lafayette, and Terre Haute. Construction on the canal west from Fort Wayne started in 1832. The Wabash and Erie canal reached Lafayette in 1842, and Attica by about 1845.

The construction of the canal is related to the architectural history of the Wabash Valley. Canal and river traffic brought the wealth, goods and exchange of ideas which allowed residents of the area to construct fashionable structures. Examples of Federal and Greek Revival architecture are relatively common in southern and eastern Indiana, but without the stimuli of river and canal trade, few if any, examples of these styles would have been built in Attica from 1840 to 1860. With the extension of railroads to Attica in 1858, the town was soon

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Beckwith, H. W. History of Fountain County, Indiana. Chicago: H. H. Hill and Iddings, 1881. p. 195.

Esarey, Logan. A History of Indiana. Indianapolis: Hoosier Heritage Press, 1970. (reissue of 1918 original) pp. 356-360 and pp. 385-393.

Hill, Herbert R. "Vestiges of Canal Boom at Attica," Outdoor Indiana Vol. 36, No. 3, 1971. pp. 26-29

Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. Fountain County Interim Report. Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 1988.

Peat, Wilbur D. Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1962, p. 50.

See continuation sheet

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

**Specify repository:**

Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property Less than one acre.

**UTM References**

A 

1	6	4	7	9	2	0	0
Zone				Easting			

4	4	6	0	0	4	0
Zone			Northing			

C 

Zone			Northing			

B 

Zone			Northing			

D 

Zone			Northing			

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Lot 4 and part of Lot 3 in McDonald, Spears and Company's Addition to the town, now city, of Attica, Fountain County, Indiana.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

This is the historic property boundary.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Diane Hemming Kerkhove

organization -

street & number 109 Royal Drive

city or town League City

date 4/22/88

telephone 713/554-2764

state TX

zip code 77573

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The front porch was altered in about 1965. It was originally identical to the west portico (photo 2). The porch entablature was extended to the east, over the east wing main entry. The square columns were replaced with decorative aluminum posts, and the east iron balustrade was cut apart and rebuilt with new railings placed between the original ornate rails. This allowed the balustrade to be extended to the south. The porch floor was rebuilt with brick. The west wing has an entablature identical to that of the east wing, but the west wing entablature has an architrave, the east wing lacks this detail.

The west elevation of the west wing has three bays (photo 2). A blank wall space separates two vertically aligned windows to the south. Just to the north of the center of the west elevation, one finds an entry-window group identical to the south entry and balcony window. This doorway is sheltered by its original entry portico. The wood portico rests on a stone base with stone steps. Two stocky square Doric columns and pilasters support the architrave, plain frieze and molded cornice of the entablature. The portico has a cast iron balustrade. Two vertically aligned windows are located north of the entry and balcony.

The north elevation of the west wing is sparsely detailed (photo 4). An unornamented side door is reached by a short stone staircase. The windows of this elevation are six-over-six double hung sash with wood lintels and stonesills. One first floor window is located just north of the center of the elevation. Two windows are symmetrically placed on the second story. A flush chimney is found on this elevation.

The rear or north facade clearly shows the extent of a one story addition to the eastern wing of the house (photo 4). The addition has segmental arched openings with header voussoirs and limestone sills. Two transomed doors are placed east of two windows on the north elevation of this addition. The windows are six-over-six double hung sash with rectangular upper sashes, and wood infills to match the segmental arch. There is a two story square chimney in the addition.

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The addition extends one bay to the east of the 1845 wing (photo 5). On this side, the addition has a parapet with a simple entablature. There are two windows on the east wall, and one door faces south from this part of addition.

The interior of the Milford House reflects the various building campaigns of the structure. The east wing contains simple, flat woodwork, while that of the west wing exemplifies the classic features of the Greek Revival style.

The east wing has vernacular Federal detailing. The east staircase was added in about 1920, when the former owners divided the house into two units. The Colonial Revival dog-leg stair case with square newels and balusters blends well with the original Federal elements of the east wing (photo 7). This section has wide wood floors on both stories. Wall openings and details are identical on both stories. Baseboards are plain and wide, with a double ogee molding on the upper edge. Openings are trimmed with very simple architrave surrounds (phot 9). Windows have wide, plain apron boards. Interior doors have single vertical panels (photo 10). Mantelpieces in the east wing have simple, handsome woodworking (photo 11). The first floor mantle has thin paneled Doric pilasters upholding a wide entablature. The entablature has an architrave with a wide cyma reversa molding, a plain frieze and a molded cornice.

The west wing has a side hall plan with a double parlor occupying the west half of this section. An original two flight staircase provides a separate circulation plan for this section (photo 12). A turned newel post is the most decorative feature of this staircase.

The trim of the west wing differs between the first and second floors, which is a common practice in houses of this period. Wood floors and wide plain baseboards are found on both stories. The first floor doors and windows have pedimented, shouldered architrave surrounds (photo 14). First floor doors have a six paneled (Christian door) design. The window surrounds extend to the baseboard and have a horizontal panel below the sill (photo 14). The double parlor is separated by a wide opening with double doors (photo 15).

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The northwest room of the first floor has cupboard and fireplace on the north wall (photo 16). The cupboard has woodworking similar to that of the east wing opening surrounds. The marble mantelpiece is probably a later (c.1870?) replacement. It has a round arched archivolt opening, paneled spandrels and a cartouche-scroll keystone. The mantle has an ornate, pierced coal grate.

The second floor at the west wing has several bedrooms and a hall to the east. The door and window surrounds are similar to the moldings used in the east wing, but they are not as wide. Doors on the second floor have four panels.

The interior of both units maintain much of their original integrity. A few changes were made when individual units were constructed, particularly the addition of a kitchen in the west unit and a staircase in the east unit, but these alterations did little to disrupt the original elements of the house.

A one story, frame, two car garage was constructed on the property during the late 1950s or early 1960s (photo 6). The historic Milford property, therefore, has one contributing building (the house) and one non-contributing building (the garage).

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subordinated economically to Lafayette. The date of 1860 was selected as the end point for this context for this reason.

The context of Early Nineteenth Century Architecture in Attica is represented by a number of properties. The Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory has identified thirteen buildings which could qualify for National Register listing under this context.

Most of these buildings are side-facing, gabled, I-house structures or temple front designs. The Hatton House, 402 South Perry Street and the Robinson House, 503 South Brady Street, are examples of Greek Revival style I-houses. The Peacock House, 307 South Brady Street, is an example of a temple-front residence with a wide Greek Revival entablature. In contrast, the Milford House has a townhouse plan to both the 1845 and c.1855 wings of the structure. This townhouse form is seen in the blocky massing, use of a low hip roof and side hall plan of the house. The residence is the only example of this house type in Attica. Also, the Milford House is the only building in the context which represents both the Federal and Greek Revival styles.

Registration requirements for the context relate mainly to the date of construction and integrity of the property under consideration. Buildings which have a date of 1825-1860 and have retained enough exterior and interior details to be recognized as good examples of Federal or Greek Revival architecture would qualify under the context.

The Milford House clearly qualifies for listing under this context. The house has high integrity on both the exterior and interior. The details of the residence, such as the pedimental shouldered surrounds of the interior west wing, are fine examples of craftsmanship of the period. Although the front porch is missing its original columns, the exterior has retained a high level of integrity.

The house was built for one of the earliest and better known citizens of Fountain County, Marshall M. Milford (1816-1874). Mr. Milford came to Indiana from South Carolina, with his father, Judge Robert Milford in 1827. Marshall was a civil engineering and law student, being admitted to the bar in 1841. The next year



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he married Maria Bartlett, by whom he had seven children.

Mr. Milford was a prominent attorney. His popularity and character was such that he was frequently sought for political opportunities, for which he always declined. In 1870, he asked that his name be withdrawn for congressional nomination, an office for which he would most probably have been unanimously elected. Mr. Milford lived here till his death, which occurred during a court case in the nearby Williamsport Courthouse (in Warren County, Indiana).

The ownership of the house stayed in possession of the Milford inheritants until it was sold to a decendant's cousin and her husband in 1931, Isabel and Howard Miller.

Mr. Miller was a well-known attorney, also. Mrs. Miller owned and operated a dress shop in Attica for several years. The Millers raised their two children in this house. The family was a prominent one in Attica; their active social life included entertaining Governor Shricker and Artist Eugene Savage.

Having been a student of art, Isabel maintained that interest by giving lessons and doing many paintings. She is best known for having painted the courthouse murals at Covington, Indiana, along with her mother and Eugene Savage, a well-known artist. This was done in 1938-39, and later she helped restore them.

In 1972, Fred and Diane Coffing purchased the house. It now belongs to Diane and her present husband, Larry Kerkhove.

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The historic property boundary could be described as follows:  
Lot numbered four (4) in McDonald, Spears and Company's Addition to the town, now City of Attica, Indiana; lot numbered three (3) in McDonald, Spears and Company's Addition to the town, now City of Attica, Indiana, except fifty (50) feet of even width off of and from the west side of said lot. The vacated alley lying between lots three and four in McDonald Spears and Company's Addition to the town, now city, of Attica, Indiana is also included.

The boundary could be specifically described as follows:  
Beginning at a point on the northerly line of lot three (3) in McDonald, Spears and Company's Addition to the town, now City of Attica, Indiana, fifty feet east of the northwest corner of said lot, thence easterly along and with the north line of lots three and four in McDonald, Spears and Company's Addition to the said town, now City of Attica, Indiana, 98½ feet to the northeast corner of said lot four; thence northerly at right angles with said first described line, three rods, thence westerly, parallel with the northerly line, three rods, thence westerly, parallel with the northerly line of said lots three and four, 98½ feet, thence southerly three rods to the place of beginning.