

115-177001

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 12 1975
DATE ENTERED	MAY 12 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
The Colonel William Jones House
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *W of Gentryville on Troy-Vincennes Rd*
Old Boonville-Corydon, or Troy-Vincennes Road NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN
Near Gentryville, ^{vic} Jackson Township CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8th
STATE Indiana CODE 18 COUNTY Spencer CODE 147

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" 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 Mr. & Mrs. Wm. A. Cook 11-7-78 KTP
Mrs. Marvin Karch (and other heirs to George B. Bullock estate)
STREET & NUMBER
4005 Herrmann Road
CITY, TOWN
Evansville VICINITY OF STATE Indiana

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Spencer County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Rockport STATE Indiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
DATE
April 1971 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Library of Congress
CITY, TOWN
Washington, D.C. STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Colonel William Jones house was built in 1834 of bricks burned on the site. This L shaped five room, one story, Federal style structure is of bearing wall construction with the bricks laid in header bond. The house faces South over a valley that once had Col. Jone's store and about a dozen log cabins forming a small community along the road. The low gable roof has plain cornices with short returns and two chimneys at either end located on the ridge but inside the walls. The front of the house has four windows, two on each side of the centered door. There are also two very small windows high on the gable ends. The windows are six over six sash with finished limestone lintels and sills. The door has transom and side lights and is framed by a porch added about 1887 with square pillars, a gable roof, and a full pediment.

Through the front door there is a central hall with a room on each side. The rest of the L is formed by two rooms entered from the west room of the main section. The main section has fireplaces at each end that have cupboards extending to the ceiling on each side. All rooms are decorated with a cornice. The house has had few alterations since 1887, when the family that now owns it bought it. A rear porch has been removed and some front steps with a porch have been added. The house is in need of considerable repair. A wall on the rear section is bulging, the roof is in bad shape, the wood work needs renovation, and the interior has been damaged by the leaking roof so it needs replastering in all sections. The house has electricity, but no plumbing, There is also a early barn near the house that is in poor condition.

The woodwork and decorations around the fireplaces are intact and much of the original paint survives.

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 checked="" 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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1834, the Colonel William Jones House is one of the very early houses remaining in Spencer County, Indiana and is certainly one of the first brick homes built in that area. It is a fine example of Federal Style architecture executed in the modest way of the frontier by using materials from the ground on which it was built. At one time this was the most impressive house in a community of log cabins and belonged to one of the prominent men in the area.

Colonel William Jones was a leader in a gathering of pioneer cabins called Jonesboro. He had lived in the area for at least ten years doing such things as running a general store, the Post Office, and organizing flatboat trips to carry salt-pork to New Orleans before constructing this house. The store he ran was 2-1/2 miles from the Lincoln home in Indiana that is now the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial. Local legend, backed with some evidence, has it that Abraham Lincoln clerked at the Jones store as a young man, perhaps getting some of his interest in politics from reading the newspapers that Colonel Jones subscribed to. Lincoln is also said to have spent the night in this house after making a speech in nearby Gentryville when he was in Indiana campaigning for Henry Clay in 1844.

The Jones house is all that remains of a community that once stood in southern Indiana and that, combined with its architecture and Col. Jones prominence in the area, make this a significant structure.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. "The History of Warrick, Spencer and Perry Counties", Goodspeed, Chicago, 1885, pp.295, 366, 375, 383, 392
2. "Lincoln and His Neighbors", by Mrs. Elizabeth Ehrman, written for the Spencer County Historical Society, chapters "Colonel William Jones" and "Lincoln Rides to Rockport".
3. "Jonesboro in 1830", by Arietta S. Bullock, written for Spencer County Historical Society, 1938

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 19.6220 421.8250
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

UTM REF

B [] [] []
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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

Mrs. Marvin Karch

ORGANIZATION

DATE

January 15, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

4005 Herrmann Road

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Evansville

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

[Handwritten Signature]

TITLE

Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

February 3, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

5/12/75

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

5/9/75

[Handwritten Signatures: Ernest A. Crumley, Ronald M. Swenberg]