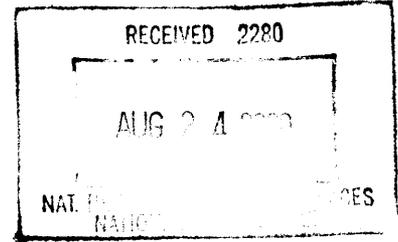


**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form**

1143



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name Dearborn County Asylum For The Poor  
other names/site number Dearborn County Home 029-619-35047

**2. Location**

street & number 11636 County Farm Road N/A  not for publication  
city or town Aurora  vicinity  
state Indiana code IN county Dearborn code 029 zip code 47001

**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 36CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]  
Signature of certifying official/Title  
Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
State or Federal agency and bureau

8/8/00  
Date

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- 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]  
Signature of the Keeper

9/22/00  
Date of Action

Name of Property

County and State

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
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Institutional Housing

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Institutional Housing

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: Limestone

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A-G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

c. 1882 - 1950

Significant Dates

1882

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Pattison, Alex B.

Platt, Seth

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Documentation checkboxes: preliminary determination, previously listed, eligible by National Register, designated landmark, recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey, recorded by Historic American Engineering Record.

Primary location of additional data:

- Location checkboxes: State Historic Preservation Office, Other State agency, Federal agency, Local government, University, Other.

Name of repository:

Dearborn County Courthouse

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreege of Property 9

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	6	6	6	9	8	8	0	4	3	3	5	1	0	0
Zone	Easting							Northing						

3 

Zone	Easting							Northing						

2 

Zone	Easting							Northing						

4 

Zone	Easting							Northing						

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Barth D. Hendrickson, Project Manager  
organization Claire Bennett Associates, Landscape Architect date 12/31/98  
street & number 429 East Vermont Street, Suite 211 telephone 317-951-0000  
city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46202

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Dearborn County Commissioners  
street & number 215 West High Street telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Lawrenceburg state IN zip code 47025

**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. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1

Dearborn County Asylum for the Poor

Dearborn County, IN

**Summary and General Description:** The Dearborn County Asylum was built in 1882 in the late Victorian style. It is located on 350 acres of rolling farmland about one mile west of the village of Manchester, Indiana on County Farm Road, a narrow country road. Although a few modern buildings have been built on the County Home property, the original rural setting of the late 1800s is largely intact. The Asylum is surrounded by open fields, with some under cultivation and some used for haying. Behind the Asylum buildings, the ground slopes down to a manmade pond with a wooded edge. County Farm Road passes approximately 150 feet from the Asylum's front door, leaving room for a pleasant front yard scattered with mature shade trees (photos #1-3, #6).

The cruciform Asylum building was designed by Architect Alex B. Pattison and constructed by Seth Platt. This 64-room building has a sound foundation of dressed limestone. The two and one half story walls are constructed of brick and mortar. The Asylum roof is built in a gable-end style.

**Asylum Exterior:** The main facade of the Asylum faces County Home Road to the south (photo #5). Like all the exterior walls of the Asylum, the main facade is constructed of brick and mortar with a foundation of dressed limestone. The brick walls are mostly free of ornamentation, with the exception of a double row of brick voisoirs over every window opening and panels of angle-set brick over each ground floor window on the south facade and southern wing (photo #16). The double doors of the main entrance dominate the main building facade (photo #15, 18). A small concrete stoop serves the main entrance. Transom windows decorate the facade above the double doors, flanked on either side by 2 double hung wood sash windows (4 total). Eight additional double hung wood sash windows pierce the walls of the southern facades of the two building wings. These windows replaced the original six over six lights on the entire ground floor of the Asylum. The main facade's ground floor windows are mirrored on the second story by the original six over six lights, with an additional two four over four lights centered over the main entrance. Two more windows of the same kind are aligned over the main entrance on the third floor. Decorative details on the main facade include boxed cornice returns with double corner scroll brackets, which are repeated on all facades of the building (photo #17). The gable-end roof is made of asphalt shingles and features metal box gutters. Although there is some evidence of previous 4" round down spouts, they are not now present. The roof is crowned with a detailed wooden cupola, complete with its original bell (photo #20-21).

A special note should be made of the Asylum building chimneys. Currently there is only one chimney present, a rather plain brick one located on the northwest part of the roof. However, historical photographs show a total of eight chimneys, some of which were decorated with brick bands (photo #54). Current conditions suggest that the building's exterior has remained largely unchanged since 1882, although replacement aluminum gutters have been installed. Perhaps the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

## Dearborn County Asylum for the Poor

Dearborn County, IN

most major change has been the removal of the wooden shutters shown at every window in turn-of-the-century photos (photo #54).

The eastern facade of the Asylum has eight double hung wood sash windows and two doors on the ground floor. One door is centered in the east face of the eastern wing. The other door is on the eastern face of the north wing. Both doors have transom windows over them, although they are not as elaborate as the main entrance. Again, the windows on the second floor are arranged directly above those on the first floor, but the upper windows are six over six lights. One upper window appears to be missing on the north wing facade, but there is no evidence of a window being filled in or replaced in any way. One six over six light is centered over each of the two doors. Another six over six light pierces the third floor wall of the east face of the eastern wing. A balcony-like iron fire escape is attached under the center second floor window (photos #8-10).

The rear facade of the Asylum faces north (photos #12-13). It has ten double hung wood sash windows and one door on the ground floor. The door and its plain transom window are centered in the north face of the northern wing. The ten original second floor windows are six over six lights arranged directly over the first floor windows. Another six over six light is centered on the third floor of the north wing facade. The north end of the north wing appears to have originally had a porch attached to it, with the ground floor door opening onto it. A porch door centered on the second floor has been replaced with a more modern double hung window. Although the porch roof appears to have been supported by fourteen wood joists still visible on the wall, post placement is unknown. Directly in front of the ground floor entrance, a hinged wooden door covers steps leading to the Asylum cellar.

The west facade of the Asylum is very similar to the east facade (photo #14). It has eight double hung wood sash windows and two doors on the ground floor. One door is centered in the west face of the western wing. The other door is on the western face of the north wing. Both doors have transom windows over them, although they are not as elaborate as the main entrance. Again, the windows on the second floor are arranged directly above those on the first floor, but the upper windows are six over six lights. One four over four light is centered over each of the two doors. Another six over six light pierces the third floor wall of the east face of the eastern wing. A balcony-like iron fire escape is attached under the center second floor window.

**Asylum Interior:** The main entrance to the Asylum is a set of double doors facing County Home Road to the south. Just inside the doors, a large inset stone lists the names of the architect, the builder, the county commissioners at the time, and the building date. The basic plan of the asylum is 64 rooms laid out on two and one-half floors in a symmetrical cruciform shape. The rooms of the Asylum are double-hung along two main corridors, which also contain the building's three stairways (photo #22). There is one in the east wing, one in the west wing, and one in the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3

## Dearborn County Asylum for the Poor

Dearborn County, IN

Although the Youth Encouragement Services (YES) Home currently uses the ground floor of the Asylum, rooms are described here in their original function during the operation of the Asylum. The north and south wings of the ground floor of the Asylum contain common areas for residents, kitchen and dining areas (photo #25), and utilitarian rooms, such as rest rooms (photo #27), the building office, and storage. The house manager's suite is also in this area. The east and west wings contain resident's rooms, each approximately 12' x 15' (photo #26). Alternate resident rooms show evidence of a flue, used for a heating stove. Each room has a transom window above the door. The majority of the original door hardware is still in use (photo #24, 33).

The ground floor's long hallways are enclosed by load-bearing walls made of brick with 2-3" of plaster applied to the surface of the brick. The plaster is detailed with scoring to simulate 18" x 24" blocks. Non-load-bearing walls throughout the ground floor are made of wood stud and wooden lathe with horse hair plaster. All ceilings are plaster over wood lathe. Floors are wood tongue and groove, although they have been covered with vinyl tile in the hallways and various other rooms. Each hallway terminates in an exterior door.

The second story contains two large meeting rooms in the south wing, which were originally designed to be able to be joined together for use as a chapel (photo #28-30). The rest of the second story is filled with resident rooms, similar to those on the first floor. There are a total of 38 of these resident rooms in the Asylum, divided between the first and second floors. Construction methods and materials on the second floor match those of the ground floor (photo #23, 31-32, 34).

The attic of the Asylum is a large but unfinished space, lit by windows at the end of each building wing. The walls are exposed brick, and the wooden rafters are exposed overhead as well (photo #35).

The Asylum's cellar has several storage rooms divided by wood or stone walls, depending on load-bearing function (photo #36,39). The majority of materials appear to be in good condition. There is an intact but unused coal chute and bin in the west wing of the cellar (photo #37). A stairway leads to the exterior door just outside the north facade of the north wing (photo #38).

**Smokehouse:** The small contributing smokehouse building sits behind the Asylum on its north side. Although its construction date is unknown, it appears to be of the same era as the Asylum building. It is a very simple building of approximately 17' x 25', with brick exterior walls on a limestone foundation. There is one diamond-shaped decorative vent, made from brick voids, in each gable end wall. There is one door in the south wall facing the Asylum (photo #40). Although it is a modern steel door, it appears to have replaced a somewhat larger door. Wood framing around the larger door opening appears to be original. There is also one boarded-up window in the east wall. There are two large holes in the east and north walls, which have also been covered with boards. A few other places on the walls appear to have been patched or

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 4

---

**Dearborn County Asylum for the Poor**

**Dearborn County, IN**

reinforced with concrete. The smokehouse roof is corrugated metal. There is one brick chimney along the roof's ridgeline (photo #41-43).

The smokehouse interior is very small, and so dark that photography is quite difficult. There are no interior walls and the exterior walls and ceiling are unfinished. A rough wooden framework was constructed in the smokehouse, apparently to use it for storage of hay and lumber. The smokehouse is currently used to store heating oil for the Asylum.

**Garage:** The noncontributing garage building is also located north of the Asylum, to the west of the smokehouse (photos #44-47). It is approximately 20' x 50' and made of concrete block with an asphalt tile roof. The garage has five garage doors and various windows, all of which are in fairly poor condition. It is currently used for storage by the YES Home.

**Covered Patio:** The noncontributing covered patio sits to the west of the Asylum (photos #48-53). It is a painted wood frame structure with an asphalt shingle roof, built over a concrete patio. The covered patio contains several picnic tables and is used by the YES Home as a picnic shelter.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5**Dearborn County Asylum for the Poor****Dearborn County, IN**

**Summary:** The Dearborn County Asylum for the Poor is a locally significant building due to its place in the culture and history of Dearborn County. The history of Indiana's county asylum system and of the Dearborn County Asylum reveal the importance of this building's preservation. Although poor asylums were once a common feature in Indiana, few remain today. The Dearborn County Asylum's architecture is further distinguished by its lack of substantial renovation since its construction and by its structural integrity. It is a unique testimonial to the ethics and way of life of a bygone era.

**Indiana's County Asylums:** County asylums for the poor are a piece of Indiana's social history that is quickly disappearing. They were a part of Indiana's government from the very beginning, provided for in the state's first constitution in 1816. Although the asylum system may seem harsh now, it was a great step forward in caring for Indiana's indigent poor. Before statehood, territorial laws provided for public wards to be apprenticed or indentured. Apprenticeships were usually used for the care of children. They bound a child into the care of an adult for a specific time period, generally until the child became a legal adult. During this time, the children were to be taught a trade to allow them to support themselves as adults; boys were usually taught to be farmers and girls were taught housekeeping. In contrast, adult public wards were indentured for year-long periods to the lowest bidders at public auctions. The bidder was paid weekly and was expected to provide food, shelter, and clothing for the ward in return. Although a county office was created to supervise this system and charged with assuring that paupers were not mistreated, there were many cases of abuse.

The asylum system arose both from concern over this mistreatment of paupers and out of a desire to make poor relief more economical. The labor of public wards was directed toward the cost of their care in English union workhouses of the time, and the American asylum system took this as their model. Their farm setting allowed the residents to make a substantial contribution to their living expenses. Some asylums were nearly self-sufficient financially, and many produced enough surplus products to sell. The first asylum in Indiana was founded in Knox County in 1821. By 1831 all county commissioners were authorized to create asylums. Eventually every county in Indiana had one.

Early asylums sheltered any kind of person who did not fit into regular society and its financial obligations. Since there were no social welfare or pension programs at the time, this included anyone who couldn't work or find someone to support them: the elderly, the mentally ill, the disabled, orphans, and unwed mothers. Initially, no attempt was made to separate these groups or address their different needs, and asylums were essentially dumping grounds for society's unwanted. As time went on, public policies on the destitute became somewhat more enlightened, and other institutions were established to better meet the needs of the deaf, the blind, the mentally ill, and the orphaned. However, county asylum conditions were still extremely poor. The Board of State Charities was formed in 1889 to supervise and improve the asylums. In 1899 this governance was further refined by making individual county asylums accountable to the Board of Charity in each county.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 6**Dearborn County Asylum for the Poor****Dearborn County, IN**

The asylum system became less and less feasible financially in this century. Their population became mostly the elderly poor as state facilities for other indigent groups became bigger and more specialized. With the implementation of social programs such as Welfare and Social Security, less of the elderly were forced to resort to the asylums. At the same time, agriculture was becoming more mechanized and required less unskilled labor. By 1997, only 31 of the original 92 poor farms remained, with a statewide total of 300 residents. Some counties, including Dearborn, have given their asylums more modern missions, such as group homes for troubled youths or shelters for battered women.

**Dearborn County Asylum History:** The first Dearborn County Asylum for the Poor was founded in 1833 on 50 acres in the northwestern part of the county. By 1853, the county had decided that the asylum needed better land and more room. The original farm was sold, and the current asylum site near Manchester was purchased. A second asylum building was erected in that same year. In 1882 the third and final asylum building was built. Fourteen years later, the Dearborn County Asylum was considered one of the best in the state and was practically self-sufficient financially.

Life in the Dearborn County Asylum was reasonably comfortable by the standards of the day, though governed according to strictly institutional rules. The sexes were almost entirely separated in their daily lives, with the Asylum divided into a men's side and a women's side. There were even separate dining rooms for each gender. However, certain common rooms were located in the center of the building for use by both genders. Asylum residents worked at farming or housekeeping as their physical and mental health allowed. While two sitting rooms in the Asylum were designed to be joined together for use as a chapel, there are no reports of religious services having been held. A physician was kept on retainer to care for the sick. The land for the Asylum was chosen in part for its remote location, with the idea of keeping the residents away from outside traffic and the temptations of towns. The remote, institutional nature of Asylum life must have deeply affected morale. Several visitors to the Asylum in the early 1900s remarked on the melancholy disposition of the residents.

These same visitors, including local newspaper reporters and government supervisory agents, paint a picture in their reports of conditions within the Asylum. Conditions seem to have varied widely, perhaps due to changing management. Some reports describe the Asylum as being clean, well-supplied, and relatively comfortable, while others describe deteriorating facilities and filth. A common complaint in these reports is that the water and heating systems of the Asylum lagged behind the times, with bathtubs, indoor plumbing, hot water, and a more modern lighting system being specifically recommended over the years.

In addition to the residents, a superintendent and a matron (generally the superintendent's wife) managed the Asylum, with the matron supervising the household and her husband running the farm. A few outside farm hands and domestic workers were also employed by the Asylum.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 7

## Dearborn County Asylum for the Poor

Dearborn County, IN

Although the majority of residents were more or less mentally sound, in the early 1900s there were usually one or two violently insane residents imprisoned in a building described as the old stone house. Conditions in this house were described as terrible by most visitors. Apparently the building was primitively constructed, with no toilet facilities or water. This building still stands on the Asylum site. More recent sources refer to it as the smokehouse, implying that it was later used for a more appropriate purpose.

Although the Asylum was never fully self-supporting, it was a productive farm in the early part of the century. Roughly 250 acres were in cultivation, with the remainder being wooded or in pasture. Crops grown included oats, wheat, and potatoes, and there was also a large vegetable garden and orchard. A substantial barn, now demolished, housed the Asylum's livestock, which included sheep, dairy and beef cattle, hogs, and horses. At one point, the horses powered a small grist mill near the barn that was used to grind feed for the livestock. Most of the farm's products were used to feed the residents, and substantial storage areas for these foodstuffs remain in the Asylum's cellar. Surplus farm products, especially lambs and wool, were sold at market with the proceeds helping to support the Asylum.

Although the Asylum was designed to house fifty residents, the number of people actually living there varied between thirty and forty during the peak periods. By 1894, the majority of these were elderly, with smaller numbers of blind, deaf, and mentally ill residents, and a few orphans passing through on their way to orphanages or adoption. This trend continued throughout the Asylum's operation, as other state institutions opened to care for specific groups and as social services improved. Eventually the Asylum housed impoverished elderly people exclusively, and was known locally as the Old Folks' Home. The aging of the average resident dramatically affected the feasibility of operating the Asylum as a farm, and eventually led to its discontinuation. The land was then leased to a local farmer.

After a long twilight period of dwindling resident numbers, the Asylum officially closed in September of 1980. Approximately one year later, the Youth Encouragement Services (YES) Home opened in the Asylum building, where it continues to operate. The YES Home acts as a foster home to children and teenagers under 18 whose parents are unable to care for them. The 350 acre County Farm property is currently used for several purposes. Much of the land originally farmed has returned to forest, with only fourteen percent of the farm being leased for cultivation by a local farmer. A small portion of the tillable land is enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program. Over 200 acres of the County Farm property is forested and serves informally as a recreational area for the people of Dearborn County, 4-H, and the local Boy Scouts. The County operates a garage and an animal control center elsewhere on the property.

**Architecture of the Dearborn County Asylum:** While the primary significance of the Asylum is its social and historical importance, its architecture also makes it worth preserving. The Asylum building is a prime example of 19<sup>th</sup> century institutional construction, making it very

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 8

---

**Dearborn County Asylum for the Poor**

**Dearborn County, IN**

similar in style to factories, schools, and college buildings built up to one hundred years earlier. According to the Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory Interim Report for Dearborn County, there are 6 other outstanding buildings of this style in Dearborn County. Among them, the Asylum is one of only two institutional buildings, with the remainder being houses or farms. Clearly, it is a unique and high-quality example of Late Victorian architecture.

The most significant feature of the Asylum's architecture is its integrity of style and of structure. This 118-year old building has not been substantially remodeled since its construction. Both the building's interior and exterior remain in a condition very similar to that of the Asylum in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The building is also structurally sound, which will enable it to remain unchanged in style. The similarity of the current Asylum building to its original appearance strongly supports the cultural significance of the building detailed above. Little imagination is required to picture life in the Asylum in its prime.

The Asylum is constructed of stone, wood and brick, traditional materials in keeping with its Late Victorian style. Its scale and detailing are also in keeping with its style and construction date. Although the Asylum is rather plain due to its institutional nature, it does present several interesting architectural details. The building's exterior features hand-made metal box gutters and a highly ornate cupola with the original bell intact. A highlight of the building's interior is the stair railing on the three staircases. The building's six over six windows, still in use on the entire upper floor and in the attic, date from its 1882 construction. While it is known that the Asylum was designed by Alex B. Pattison and built by Seth Platt, no other information is available about these two men and their possible significance to Dearborn County.

While the smokehouse's main value as a contributing building is its cultural value in helping recreate the original farmyard and in its grim history as the Asylum's mental ward, it is also valuable for its traditional architecture. Its primitive style is appropriate for a type of small outbuilding that frequently burned down in its role of preserving meat. It is a simple one-room building of brick roofed with corrugated metal. The main existing architectural details of the smokehouse are the brick void vents in both gable ends of the building.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   9   Page   9  

---

The Dearborn County Asylum For The Poor

Dearborn County, IN

Statement of Significance Bibliography

Brown, John A. (1948) 'The Changing Philosophy on County Homes', *Public Welfare in Indiana*, vol. 58: pp. 3, 37.

Dearborn County Commissioners Records, Book 1. Page 302.6 March 1833.

Dearborn County Commissioners Records, Book 2. Page 31;34. May 1835.

Dearborn County Commissioners Records, Book 2. Page 95;143. March 1836.

Dearborn County Commissioners Records, Book 2. Page 34. Date unknown.

Dearborn County Commissioners Records, Book 4. Page 8. 1 December 1845.

Dearborn County Commissioners Records, Book 5. Page 325;349; 381; 457. 14 March 1853.

Fine, Adrian Scott. (1999) 'Undervalued "poor farms" disappearing', *Indiana Preservationist* 4: pp. 12-13.

State Of Indiana Department Of Natural Resources  
Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory #029-619-35047 (Dearborn County Asylum For the Poor)

History of Dearborn and Ohio Counties Indiana; Chicago, F.E. Weakley and Company Publishers, 1885.

Report of the Dearborn County Board of Charities, August 28, 1916.

Report of the Dearborn County Board of Charities, 1915.

The Register, Lawrenceburgh, Indiana, December 23, 1897.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number   9   Page   10  

---

**The Dearborn County Asylum For The Poor**  
The Register, Lawrenceburgh, Indiana, January 27, 1881.

**Dearborn County, IN**

The Register, Lawrenceburgh, Indiana, June 21, 1894.

Report of Indiana State Board of Charities; 1890  
Indiana Division, Indiana State Library.

Shaw, Bill. (March 31, 1997) 'Their Refuge, Their Strength', *The Indianapolis Star*: pp. C1, C8.

Stoeckel, Althea L., and Ross S. Johnson (ed.). *Delaware County, Indiana: 1827-1850, The Pioneer Period*, Ball State University, 1975.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 11

**Dearborn County Asylum For The Poor**

**Dearborn County, IN**

**Land Description**

Being a part of the Southwest Quarter of Section 30, Township 6 North, Range 2 West of the First Principal Meridian. Located in Manchester Township of Dearborn County, Indiana, described as follows:

Commencing at a concrete monument set at the southeast corner of the southwest Quarter of Section 30, T 6 N, R 2 W; thence N89° 46'20" W, along the south line of section 30, 148.5 feet; thence 00° 00'25" W, along the west line of the lands of Robert and Rose Kelley (DR.245,PG88), 1112.88 feet, to a railroad spike in the centerline of the County Farm Road and the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence with the centerline of the County Farm Road and the following six courses:

- 1) N 85°14'15" W, 85.57 feet, to a mag nail;
- thence 2) N 79°41'40" W, 98.56 feet, to a mag nail;
- thence 3) N 75°26'55" W, 102.63 feet, to a mag nail;
- thence 3) N 73°40'50" W, 201.83 feet, to a mag nail;
- thence 3) N 70°15'50" W, 198.34 feet, to a mag nail;
- thence 3) N 68°49'05" W, 196.29 feet, to a railroad spike;

thence, departing County Farm Road, N 24°46'30" E, 150.00 feet to an iron pin; N 54°53'20" E, 467.04 feet, to an iron pin; thence, N 89°59'35" E, 400.00 feet, to an iron pin in the west line of said Kelley lands; thence S 00°00'25" E, with said line, 650 feet to the point of beginning.

This tract contains 8.9808 acres from lands of Dearborn County (DR. 7, PG. 38) and is subject to a 30 feet half right-of-way of the County Farm Road.

**Boundary Justification**

The purpose of this survey area is directly related to the amount of property that the Dearborn County Commissioners are intending to lease with the building due to its current use. This area contains all systems that are necessary for the building to function.(Cont. Sheet 10 Page 2)

This 8.9 acre area will allow for the Dearborn County Asylum building to exist in its rural context on the event that development occurs adjacent to the site.

