

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED DEC 20 1977  
DATE ENTERED NOV 21 1978

**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 Dietrich - Bowen House

AND/OR COMMON  
Governor Bowen House

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
304 North Center Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
2

CITY, TOWN  
Bremen

VICINITY OF

STATE  
Indiana

CODE  
018

COUNTY  
Marshall

CODE  
099

**CLASSIFICATION**

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

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Otis R. & Elizabeth A. Bowen

STREET & NUMBER  
4750 North Meridian Street

CITY, TOWN  
Indianapolis

VICINITY OF

STATE  
Indiana

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Marshall County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER  
500 Block North Center Street

CITY, TOWN  
Plymouth

STATE  
indiana

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Marshall County Register of Historical Sites

DATE  
1974

FEDERAL STATE  COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN  
Plymouth

STATE  
Indiana

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input 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 Dietrich-Bowen House is a brick turn of the century structure located on the major north-south street in Bremen, Indiana.

Constructed in 1900, the structure is frame with brick veneer resting on a fieldstone foundation. The two and a half story block is basically rectangular in shape with irregular projections. The building has two chimneys, one with a central location and the other set flush on the east side. A large verandah with a gable roof over the main entrance extends across much of the west and north facades. A dormer gable with an overhang breaks the lines of the truncated hip-slate roof. The above features as well as circular turrets with conical roofs at the northwest and southwest corners indicate a Queen Anne architectural style. The southwest turret has an unusual second story porch with railing and pillars. All porch supports consist of iron grill work.

The south facade has an entry under a small porch with a gable roof. The east (rear) side has an entry and a one-story brick and wood ell with a metal roof.

Bays are placed irregularly. The one-over-one doublehung windows have limestone lintels and sills. The south elevation includes a circular window, and gable ends at the north-western and southeastern corners have palladian windows.

The structure includes a basement, first and second floors, and a finished third floor which at one time served as a ballroom. The interior retains the original woodwork and many of the original light fixtures. A number of first story rooms have parquet floors. Double sliding doors have unusual wood designs with wood lattice work in the doorways.

Relatively few alterations have been made to the structure. In the early 1950's rotted wood columns supporting the verandah and porch roofs were removed and replaced with iron grill work. In 1954, the kitchen and bathroom were remodeled, and at that time a back porch was enclosed with wood siding.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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 1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bowen House is notable both for its architectural merit and its past and present owners.

Locally the house is important as a surviving example of the Queen Anne style of architecture. The irregular projections, circular turrets, and porches with gable roofs are the predominate features which indicate the Queen Anne style. The fact that original exterior features and interior woodwork and fixtures have been preserved with only minor alterations makes the house valuable as an example of craftsmanship which existed at the turn of the century.

The structure derives historical significance from its associations with the Dietrich family and Governor Otis R. Bowen.

The Dietrich family was important in the commercial development of Bremen. John Dietrich, the family patriarch, came to Bremen from Switzerland in 1853. He found a happy combination in serving the town as a cabinet maker and undertaker. By 1861, he was able to establish a small merchandising operation. His timing was excellent. Bremen had been platted in 1851, and the Dietrich business prospered as the town grew and developed. The Dietrichs also benefited from the national growth of manufacturing and trade after the Civil War.

Born in 1859, Peter E. Dietrich attended Bryant and Stratton's Business College in Chicago prior to 1884 when he became a partner in the family business. By the 1880's the Dietrichs had a sizeable dry goods and grocery establishment in the Dietrich Block Building in Bremen's commercial area. As their scope of activity broadened into the surrounding rural area, they added grain sales to their operation.

Although the Dietrich brothers continued the partnership after their father's death in 1889, they divided the business in 1905. Peter left the merchandising field to become a banker. The house which he constructed in 1900 was a fitting residence for a prominent citizen of Bremen.

Dietrich sold the house in 1922 to Frank L. Thomas. Dr. Otis R. Bowen acquired it from the Thomas family in 1953. Before he was known in the state politics, Bowen, as a medical doctor, was important to the community. Bowen used the house as a residence and medical office until 1973 when he took office as Governor of Indiana. He was Speaker of the Indiana House of Representatives for four of the twelve years that he served in the General Assembly. His term as Speaker is longer than that of any other man in Indiana history. In 1972, Bowen became only the second medical doctor in history to be elected as the State's Chief Executive. His re-election in 1976 again made history because he became the first Indiana Governor since 1852 to succeed himself.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deed Records

McDonald Daniel. A Twentieth Century History of Marshall County, Indiana. 2 vols

Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1908

History of Indiana: Special Edition for Marshall County. 2 vols. Madison, Wisconsin:

Brant Fuller and Company, 1890.

Standard Atlas of Marshall County Indiana. Chicago: George A. Ogle & Co., 1908

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	6	5	7	1	3	2	5	4	5	8	8	7	0	0
ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING						

B 

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Richard A. Gantz, Ass't. to the State Historic Preservation Officer

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Dept. of Natural Resources, Div. of Historic Preservation 8-19-77

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

202 North Alabama Street

(317) 633-4948

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Indianapolis

Indiana 46204

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE December 9, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

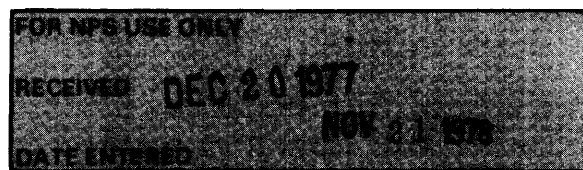
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**



CONTINUATION SHEET

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The Bowen House is an excellent preservation of the Queen Anne style of architecture in Bremen. It is equally important for its historical associations with the Dietrich and Bowen families.