

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **JUL 17 1986**  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Barnett, Thompson, House

and or common Barnett-Schafer House

**2. Location**

street & number State Road 25 North  
1/4 Mile North of County Road 100 North N/A not for publication

city, town Logansport X vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Cass code 017

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Dr. and Mrs. Scott W. Schafer

street & number R. 4, Box 38, Highway 25 North

city, town Logansport X vicinity of state Indiana 46947

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cass County Government Building  
Recorder's Office

street & number 200 Court Park

city, town Logansport state Indiana 46947

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Indiana Historic Sites and Structures  
Inventory, 017-366-30009 has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date June, 1984  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology

city, town Indianapolis state Indiana

## 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

The Barnett-Schafer House is a two-story, five bay, red brick rectangular structure (c. 1854) with a one-and-one-half story brick ell addition (c. 1870) extending from the rear or east elevation. The house includes a stone foundation, and stone water table which extends across the facade, only. The nine facade windows (four on the first floor and five above) are five-over-one, double-hung with plain moldings and shaped, wooden lintels, with stone sills on the first floor and wooden sills on the second floor. The present windows are probably not original and may have been added when the house underwent a major renovation in 1944. Aluminum storm windows cover second floor windows. The main (west) entrance is centered and has a rectangular, multi-light transom and sidelights which surround a multi-light door and storm door. The entrance is sheltered by a typical shed roof Victorian porch with a center gable and is trimmed with a decorated bargeboard, imbricated wooden shingles and modest spindle work detailing. The porch floor is concrete. The front porch railing and balustrade were removed in 1980 but will be replaced.

The gabled roof features several characteristics common to the Greek Revival style, including boxed cornice eaves, entablature with plain wide frieze and plain gable returns. The wide frieze board continues for about two feet along both ends of the rear elevation, then becomes narrower. An internal end chimney anchors each end of the house. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

In order to maintain balance and symmetry, three of the four windows on the south elevation are only louvered shutter facades. No windows were ever intended for these spaces. The one south window is the same as those on the main facade, as are the lintels and sills for the false windows. The south elevation of the gabled one-and-one-half story kitchen ell includes a segmental arched door surround with a single light transom, a multi-paned door and screen door, and a segmental arched one-over-one window with a stone sill. A shed roof porch with a wooden floor and spindle work shelters the entrance.

Window sash on the east or rear elevation of the original house are the same as those found on the other elevations. The plain lintels and sills are wooden. A small six-over-six center window is probably original. Entrance to the rear of the house is through a small, 1920s, shed roof enclosed porch addition covered with asphalt shingles (now a utility room), and built into the space formed by the intersection of the main house and the kitchen addition. A single wooden door is sheltered by a small awning on brackets. The rear elevation of the 1870 addition has a plain frieze, one segmental arched window with a two-over-two sash, and one segmental arched window with a one-over-one sash; both windows have stone sills. Window wells have small, rectangular single lights with segmentally arched lintels. The north facade has no bays.

The first and second floors of the main structure are planned around a central stairway and hall. Opening to the central hallway on the first floor are the stairway and dining room (originally the parlor) to the south, and the family room (originally the kitchen) to the north. East of the main entry is a hallway that leads back to an enclosed porch (added in the 1920s) now used as a utility room. East of the dining room is a doorway that opens into the kitchen (the ell addition). The kitchen has two doors with transoms; one leads south to the side porch and the other north to the utility room. There is a capped chimney still visible on the east wall of the kitchen. There is a door under the central stairway leading to the partial basement and root cellar.

The open stairway leads up to the second floor landing with the main bathroom (installed in 1944). At present, there are three bedrooms, the master bedroom to the south and two smaller bedrooms to the north separated by a central false wall (added in 1944). About two-thirds of the way up the stairwell is a landing with a door (added in 1944) which leads to a large gabled space now used as a walk-in attic.

## 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 type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" 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** 1854/c. 1870 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Thompson Barnett house is significant as a good example of a local adaptation of the Greek Revival style, and because of its association with Indiana's historic wilderness highway, the Michigan Road. The house was built by Thompson Barnett and is thought to have been designed by George Bevin, a prominent Cass County builder.

Thompson Barnett was born in Franklin County, Kentucky, and moved with his family to Darke County, Ohio. There he met and married Nancy Douglas and they moved to Logansport in 1829. During the 1830s they lived in a cabin on Biddles Island, a small island in the middle of the Wabash River, near Logansport. In 1854 Mr. Barnett purchased 115.86 acres in Clay Township from Williamson Wright, a prominent attorney and land speculator. The construction of the house began soon thereafter. The clay for the bricks came from the field just south of the house.

Thompson Barnett died on May 1, 1855, before the house was completed. However, Nancy Barnett moved in later that year and lived there until her death in 1892. After Thompson's estate was settled in 1859, the southwest quarter of the property was divided between Mrs. Barnett and her four children, David, Isaac, Robert and Josephine.

Because the house is located adjacent to the Michigan Road it is widely believed (though undocumented) that the Barnett's sometimes opened their home to travelers. The Michigan Road was constructed between 1830 and 1840, and is the most famous of Indiana's state highways. The 265 mile road passed through 14 counties, and it is estimated that one-half of the pioneers of the northwest quarter of Indiana eventually reached their destination via this route<sup>1</sup>.

Members of the Barnett family continued to live in the house until 1919, when Josephine Barnett Chidester sold the property to Mathias Zanger. He lived there until 1964 before selling to his niece, Agnes Zanger Fosler. The present owners, Scott W. and Rosalie Riser Schafer, acquired the house in 1984. The house was listed as "outstanding" in the Cass County survey.

The use of false elements--in this case, windows--to maintain symmetry is a device more common in the eastern United States. Its use has also been seen in southwestern Ohio, where Darke County is located, but it is rare in Indiana.

<sup>1</sup>Prather, Beneal. The Building of the Michigan Road, Thesis. Indiana University, 1941

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Logansport

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	6	5	5	4	8	3	0	4	5	1	4	7	7	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please see continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rosalie Linton Riser Schafer

organization N/A date January 27, 1986

street & number R. 4, Box 38 telephone 219/753-7413

city or town Logansport state Indiana 46947

## 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 Rosalie Linton Riser Schafer

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer date 7-10-86

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 8-14-86

[Signature]  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Thompson Barnett House

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The entrance vestibule is reached through a large, 18-paned inset door surrounded by four panes on each side and seven panes across the top. All interior doors (except the bathroom, attic, and false wall bedroom doors) in the main structure are pegged, have two panels, and are framed with croisettes or "keys" at their upper corners, as are the windows and built-in dining room cabinet. Wide baseboard molding runs throughout the house. All woodwork is painted white. Unfortunately, all fireplaces were covered up in 1944, but plans are being made to have these restored.

Woodwork in the kitchen is markedly Queen Anne with narrower baseboards and decorative molding around the doors, doorway, and windows.

There are four outbuildings c. 1923 that include a one car, detached, wooden frame garage, wood frame pumphouse with built-in milk cooler, wood frame chicken shed, and wood frame barn with attached corn crib. There is a concrete slab west of the chicken shed marking the former location of the smokehouse. The outhouse was located a few feet east of the garage.

It is interesting to note that the house was without electricity, plumbing, or modern heating until 1944. Residents used the three fireplaces for heating and cooking. Around 1919 a wood burning cookstove was installed in the kitchen and used until a gas line replaced it in 1944.

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Item number 9

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Biographical and Genealogical History of Cass, Miami, Howard and Tipton Counties,  
Vol. 1 and 2, (Chicago, 1898).

Cass County Public Library, Clipping File on Maps, plats, Michigan Road.

Helm, Thomas B., History of Cass County, (Chicago, 1886).

Kingman Brothers, Atlas of Indiana, (Chicago, 1878).

Peat, Wilbur D., Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century, (Indianapolis, 1962).

Powell, Dr. Jehsu Z., History of Cass County, Vol. & 2 (Chicago and New York, 1913).

Semi-Weekly Journal (Logansport) April 28, 1896, p. 5, Col. 3.

Wright, Williamson Swift, Pasttime Sketches, (Cass County Historical Society, 1907).

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Continuation sheet Thompson Barnett House

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Starting at the southwest corner of the Thompson-Barnett House, and going west 47 feet to a point on the eastern right-of-way line of State Road 25, this being the point of beginning; thence north-northeast approximately 84 feet along the right-of-way line to an imagined line that is 20 feet north of the north wall of the garage; thence east along that line approximately 227 feet to an imaginary line that runs 20 feet east of the east side of the barn; thence south along that line 113 feet to an imaginary line that runs 20 feet south of the south side of the chicken shed; thence west along that line 227 feet to the eastern right-of-way of State Road 25; thence along that line approximately 29 feet to the place of beginning. The parcel being approximately 113 feet by 227 feet, and excluding the present right-of-way of State Road 25.