

100-1001-0018  
EXP. 12/31/84

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

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

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

For NPS use only  
received **SEP 28 1982**  
date entered

**1. Name**

historic Maier, Peter Augustus, House  
and/or common Maier - Pollard House

**2. Location**

street & number 707 South Sixth Street N/A not for publication  
city, town Evansville N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~  
state Indiana code 018 county Vanderburgh code 163

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<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
	<u>N/A</u>	<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 Francis William Pollard  
street & number 707 South Sixth Street  
city, town Evansville N/A vicinity of state Indiana 47713

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of Recorder, Vanderburgh County Courthouse  
street & number Civic Center  
city, town Evansville state Indiana

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no  
date 1981  federal  state  county  local  
depository for survey records Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
city, town Indianapolis state Indiana

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date N/A

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Peter Augustus Maier House, a 2½ story brick Italianate style house, is situated in the center of four shady city lots at the intersection of Sixth and Gum Streets. An excellent example of Italianate style architecture, the Maier house retains its original detailing and decorative features, and appears much as it did at the time of construction.

The house has an "L" plan, with a porch in the alcove on the main, east facade (see photo #1). The one-over-one, double-hung windows have stone sills. In classic Italianate style, window and door openings on the east facade are segmental arches. Windows are decorated with hood molds, shouldered corners, and keystones with incised palmettes.

The cornice consists of brackets mounted on a paneled frieze. The stylized posts of the porch support a simplified version of the same frieze design. The porch roof is flat. In keeping with Italianate style lines, the cross gable roof is low pitched. On the east-west wing, the gable has returns. Roof material is slate.

On the north elevation, the projecting 2½ story bay has a hipped roof towards the rear (see photo #3). The windows on this bay emulate the style of windows on the main facade. Following the mode of Italianate design, the rest of the windows on the north elevation have undecorated relieving arches. These windows are four-over-four double-hung.

The interior of the house contains ten rooms with a central hall plan. In addition, there is an attic, basement, and wine cellar. There are eight cast-iron fireplaces in the home. Interior woodwork consists of oak and ash, and the floors are poplar. There is brass hardware on the doors and windows. Interior shutters on the windows have been removed and are stored in the attic.

The grounds are enclosed on three sides by an original wrought iron fence. A bricked courtyard connects the house to the carriage house on the northwest portion of the lot. The carriage house is a two story, brick, rectangular structure aligned north and south. In keeping with the design of the main house, the carriage house has Italianate detailing. At the north and south ends of the carriage house are large double doors with relieving arches, and a pair of round-headed windows capped with header coursing. Along the east and west elevations, the windows are irregularly placed. These four-over-four, double-hung windows are also capped with header coursing.

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1873                      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Peter Augustus Maier House derives its significance from its Italianate style architecture and from its association with Peter Augustus Maier, a prominent Evansville attorney and leader in the German community in that city. The house, with its segmental arched windows, decorative window hoods and molding, carved brackets, and interior fireplaces and woodwork, is a classic example of the Italianate style at its prime in Indiana.

Peter Augustus Maier was born in 1834 in Prussia and immigrated with his parents to Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1848. In 1860, Maier moved to Evansville just after he passed the state bar examinations in Ohio. He began to build a successful law practice in Evansville which lasted almost fifty years.

Through his efforts as liaison to the German consulate in Cincinnati, Maier was responsible for bringing a number of German immigrants to Evansville to settle there. By 1864, two-thirds of the city's population spoke German, so Maier started the Evansville Demokrat, a German-language newspaper which kept the German-speaking residents of Evansville informed of political affairs. He sold the publication in 1866 to the Lowenstein brothers, also of Evansville. By 1873, Maier was able to build the elegant house which still stands at the corner of Sixth and Gum.

Maier was also active in Evansville politics. In 1874, and again in 1882, he was appointed city attorney. In 1890, he was elected judge of the Superior Court of Vanderburgh County. He retired to private practice in 1894.

The house has remained in the Maier family since it was built. After Maier's death, his youngest daughter, Frances Maier Pollard, lived in the house with her family. Her son, Francis William Pollard, still resides in the house.

The Peter Augustus Maier house stands almost exactly as it did when constructed. It is significant as one of the premier examples of Italianate style architecture in Evansville, particularly because of its unaltered state. It stands in an area that was cleared by an urban renewal program in the mid-1970s, increasing its significance and visual prominence. Its salvation through being determined eligible, and the attention focused on it as being significant to Evansville's heritage, marked the end to city programs which involved the indiscriminate demolition of large tracts.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Evansville South Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A 

1	6	4	5	0	4	6	0	4	2	0	2	0	3	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 Gwendolyn F. Koch

organization Victorian Society of America date July 6, 1975

street & number 400 S.E. Riverside Drive telephone

city or town Evansville state Indiana 47713

# 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 *J. T. Costello*

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer date 9-22-82

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

*Melona Byers*  
Keeper of the National Register

date 10/29/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet Maier House

Item number 9, Biblio. Refs. Page 1

Biographical Cyclopedia of Vanderburgh County, Indiana. Evansville: Kellar Printing and Publishing Company, 1910.

Elliott, Joseph P. A History of Evansville and Vanderburgh County. Evansville: Kellar Printing Company, 1897.

History of Vanderburgh County, Indiana. Madison, Wisconsin: Brant and Fuller, 1889.

Inglehart, John. Account of Vanderburgh County. Dayton, Ohio: Dayton Historical Publishing Co., 1923.

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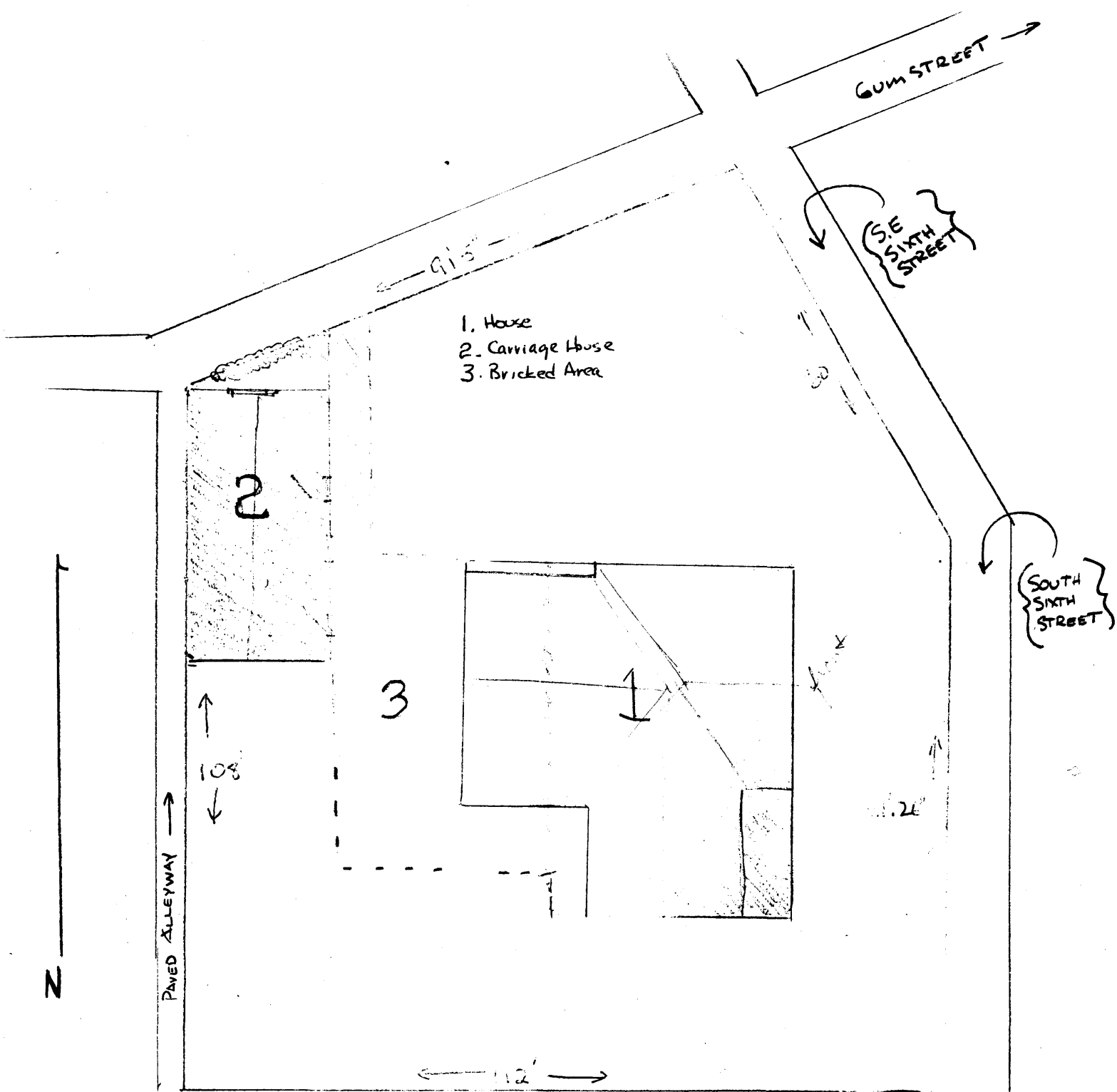
received

date entered

Continuation sheet Maier House

Item number 10, Boundary Desc. Page 2

Beginning at the intersection of Gum and Southeast Sixth Street, proceed 60 feet along the west right-of-way of Southeast Sixth Street to South Sixth Street; then 81 feet south along the west right-of-way, then 112 feet west to the alleyway, then 108 feet north to Gum Street, then 92 feet east along the south right-of-way of Gum Street to the starting point.



approximate Scale

MAIER-POLLARD HOUSE