

STATE: Indiana	
COUNTY: Clark	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUL 5 1973	

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
The Howard Steamboat Museum, Inc. & Clark County Historical Society
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Howard Steamboat Museum, the Howard Home *unrestored*

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1101 East Market Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Jeffersonville
STATE: **Indiana** 47130 CODE: **18** COUNTY: **Clark** CODE: **019**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

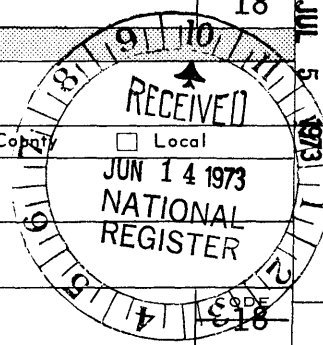
OWNER'S NAME:
Board of Directors of Howard Steamboat Museum, Inc.
STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 606
CITY OR TOWN: **Jeffersonville** STATE: **Indiana** CODE: **18**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Lots 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40 as shown in Plat Book #4 at Page 22, Recorder's Office Clark Co. Indiana**
STREET AND NUMBER: **1101 East Market Street--Recorder is at County Court House**
CITY OR TOWN: **Jeffersonville** STATE: **Indiana** CODE: **18**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Port Fulton, Indiana
DATE OF SURVEY: **July 30, 1835** Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
County Court House
STREET AND NUMBER:
East Court Avenue
CITY OR TOWN: **Jeffersonville** STATE: **Indiana**



STATE: **Indiana**
COUNTY: **Clark**
ENTRY NUMBER: _____
DATE: _____
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One) (except by fire)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1890 and with the red brick exterior still intact in its original construction and appearance, the Howard Home, now the museum, is a magnificent late Victorian structure featuring both stained and leaded glass windows. The home was built by Edmunds J. Howard, son of the founder of the yards, James Howard, who came to Jeffersonville and built his first steamboat, The Hyperion, in 1834.

Designed by Drach and Thomas, architects of New York City, much of the actual construction was supervised by the late Arthur Loomis of Jeffersonville, Indiana.

The interior of the home reflects the spirit of boat builders, both in its design and wood paneling. The main stairway from the front hall to the second floor is a replica of the stairway on the famous J.M. White, a riverboat built by the Howard yards in 1878 and considered the most palatial boat on the Ohio or Mississippi.

The house is situated on a 1.2 acre block of land which is across from the boat company that is a successor of the original Howard company and continues to make barges and tugs with a work force of nearly 1000.

In March of 1971, the house was damaged by a fire which started in the basement furnace. The fire went up from the basement through the stair hall, destroying the roof, four floors above. But except for the stairway between the first and second floors, the floors of the first and second stair halls and the paneling in the first floor stair hall which is badly charred, very little permanent damage has occurred to the structure of its collections. This conclusion is shared and stated in a field report by the NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION dated January 26, 1972.

The Museum reopened in June of 1972 with most of the work completed on the exterior and displays shown on the first floor of the 22 room dwelling.

The Museum is shown and identified on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Map, a copy of which is attached.

*Richard Sower
Kowarsgue*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Howard-home was constructed in 1890 by many of the artisans ^{who} of whom were employed in the yards. A field report completed in January, 1972 by a representative of the National Trust describes the mansion in detail and the beautiful wood-work used in the doors and paneling. Inside the museum are many models in full scale of famous river boats and also a number of the actual hull models used by the Howards in the construction of their boats. Old papers of the firms and some of the tools used also are on display.

The original Howard building firm was started in 1834 and continued in the family until 1941, when the company and its land along the Ohio River was sold to the Jeffersonville Boat Company. The Jeffersonville Boat Company is active today on the same site where the Howards started building river craft in 1834.

We have at this site a continuity of the inland boat building business in the United States, going back almost 150 years.

During the time when the Howards built river craft, they were pioneers in the change of design of these craft from the first side-wheeler to the more familiar boats with the large wooden wheel on the stern and then finally to the boats driven by propellers. Each change in design was dictated by a change in the type of cargo carried. The side-wheeler with its great deck space was designed to carry bales of cotton; then came a boat that was used to push barges rather than to carry the cargo on its own deck. Howard boats not only contributed to the economic development of the nation, but served to carry Union troops in the Civil War.

In 1898 the Howard firm sent 112 men from the Jeffersonville, Indiana and Louisville, Kentucky area to Unalaska Island to build river boats for use in the gold rush on the Yukon River.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Voices On The River, Walter Havighurt, MacMillian, 1967.
 On The River, Norbury L. Wayman, Crown, 1971.
 From Paddle Wheels to Propellers, Charles Preston
 Fishbaugh, Indiana Historical Society, 1970.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

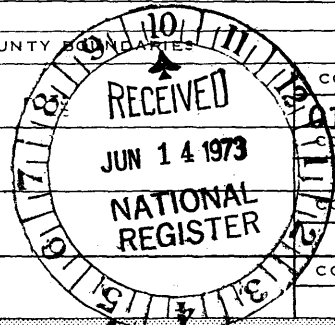
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . "	0 . "		38° 16' 52"	85° 43' 33"	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

NO UTM
CX

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Indiana	18	Clark	019
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Richard B. Wathen, President** *Richard B. Wathen*

ORGANIZATION: **Howard Steamboat Museum**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Box 606**

CITY OR TOWN: **Jeffersonville** STATE: **Indiana** CODE: **18**

DATE: **May 31, 1973**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Joseph Coland*

Title: **Indiana State Liaison Officer**

Date: **June 4, 1973**

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

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: **7/5/73**

ATTEST: *Robert M. Utley*
 Director of The National Register

Date: **July 3, 1973**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Indiana	
COUNTY Clark	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUL 5 1973	DATE

(Number all entries)

This original Howard home became a museum in 1954 when the building and block of land was purchased from the occupant, Mrs. Loretta Howard, who for some years after this date acted as a curator and guide. The museum is operated by a non-profit corporation formed under the laws of Indiana.

A complete list of the hundreds of boats, ferries, and barges built by the Howard firm is contained in the book "From Paddle Wheels to Propellers" by Charles Preston Fishbaugh and published by the Indiana Historical Society.

The Howards had the finest name in river boat building. They were known as a family of great honesty and ability who for years gave employment to hundreds of craftsmen. No statement about the Howard Museum can fail to mention the more than 800 photographic plates of many of the boats built at the Howard yard, and still in possession of the museum. So important is the Howard tradition that Indiana University has many of the company records in their University Archives.

Several months ago, President Richard Nixon sent letters of personal commendation to four of the volunteers at the museum who have given freely of their time to help repair the damage caused by the fire of 1971.

In 1972, the National Trust for Historic Preservation gave a grant to the Howard Museum to assist with the work of making this historic building ready for the public in 1973. Also, in July of this year, 1973, the Indiana Bell Telephone Company will feature a picture of the Howard Museum on the cover of their telephone book for the Jeffersonville-New Albany areas of a population of some 160,000 people.

