

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received MAY - 8 1984

date entered

JUN 7 1984

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

1. Name

historic The Lewis Jones House

and/or common The Stephen and Betty Jones House

2. Location

street & number College Corner and Eliason Roads, N/A not for publication

city, town Centerville vic. X vicinity of

state Indiana code 018 county Wayne code 177

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Stephen and Betty Jones

street & number R. 2, Box 61

city, town Centerville X vicinity of state Indiana 47330

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wayne County Court House

street & number Main Street

city, town Richmond 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  
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology

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 Lewis Jones House faces south on College Corner Road in rural Center Township, one-half mile northeast of Centerville.

Federal in style, the main part of the house is a two and one-half story, common bond brick building with a five-bay facade and a side gable roof. A one and one-half story, gable roof wing extending from the west side of the rear of the main part was originally the kitchen. There is a one and one-half story frame addition, built in 1955 and re-modeled in 1974-78, extending from the east side of the rear of the house.

The entrance is located in the central bay of the front facade. It consists of the original four-panel wood door, a four-light transom, and a smooth stone sill and lintel. Windows are double-hung, with 12 lights in each sash. A sash with 12 lights is unusual for this type of house. According to the present owners, the original sash was intact in second-story windows, and restoration of first story windows was based upon those. Windows have stone sills and lintels.

There is an interior chimney, flush with the facade, on each end of the house.

The building has a molded box cornice and beaded frieze. The roof is slate. One slate was found to be dated "1860," suggesting that the roof was recovered in that year.

The end walls of the house are plain except for a small square attic vent on each, and smooth stone returns at the base of the gables.

The interior of the main part is arranged with two rooms over two, the western rooms being larger than the eastern rooms. Original woodwork is in place. There is an original, operable fireplace in each of the four rooms. Cupboards flank the fireplace in the first-story west room. In the first-story east room is an enclosed stairway which is supported by the hip of the fireplace, and which ascends to the bedroom above. A hallway off the rear of the west bedroom in the wing gives access to a staircase which descends to the original kitchen.

# 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/
<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 type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** Built ca. 1840      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Lewis Jones House is significant as a Federal style farmhouse. It is also significant as the house of Lewis Jones who, in April, 1822, made the first mail delivery to Indianapolis.

The house, which has been restored by its present owners, is a good example of an early Center Township farmhouse and of a style that is typical of its time in Wayne County. Wayne County was one of the first counties to be settled in Indiana, and therefore has a concentration of Federal structures that is significant to the state.

Lewis Jones, the original owner and possible builder of the house, came to Center Township in 1814 with his parents. In April, 1822, he made, by way of Cincinnati, the first mail delivery to Indianapolis. The saddlebags he used are housed in a Centerville museum.

Jones was a well-known fruit grower and a founding member of the Wayne County Horticulturist Society, an organization which preceded the State Society by three years.

Jones, who died in 1877, his wife, and several children are buried in Crown Hill Cemetery in Centerville.

The property was later owned by Albert and John Dunbar and families, proprietors of Centerville's early lumber company.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately 3.43 acres

Quadrangle name Richmond

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	6	6	7	3	2	2	0	4	4	1	0	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

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 Stephen Jones

organization N/A date 2-15-81

street & number R. 2, Box 61 telephone 317/855-3610

city or town Centerville state Indiana 47330

# 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. M. Redlin

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer date 4-27-84

For NPS use only

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

Delores B...  
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 6-7-84

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY--Nomination Form

Continuation Sheet    The Lewis Jones House

Item Number 9

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Fox, Henry Clay. Memoirs of Wayne County. Madison, Wisconsin: Western Historical Association, 1872.

Indianapolis Star, July 14, 1945.

Indianapolis Star, July 28, 1945.

Richmond Telegram, April 6, 1877

Wayne County Land Records.

Young, Andrew White. History of Wayne County. Cincinnati: R. Clarke and Company, 1876.

Yount, Beverly. Tombstone Inscriptions of Wayne County. Fort Wayne: Fort Wayne Public Library, 1968.

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Item Number 10

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The nominated property is bounded on the south by a line 35 feet north of College Corner Road; on the west by a line 250 feet east of Eliason Road; on the north by a line 125 feet south of the lot line of the Donald Rohe farm; and on the east by a line 140 feet west of the lot line of the Donald Rohe farm.