

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

FEB 15 1984

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Thomas Moore House

and/or common Moore/Christian House

2. Location

street & number 4200 Brookville Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Indianapolis

N/A vicinity of

state Indiana

code 018

county Marion

code 097

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 James M. and Cynthia A. O'Donnell

street & number 4200 Brookville Road

city, town Indianapolis

N/A vicinity of

state Indiana

46201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Marion County Recorder's Office

street & number City-County Building, 200 E. Washington Street

city, town Indianapolis

state Indiana

46204

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date

federal state county local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Moore-Christian House is a two-story home of Italianate design located on the east side of Indianapolis. Constructed of brick with a stone foundation, the building has an L-shaped plan and a modified hip roof line. Originally part of a large farm complex, the house now sits on a large lot on the west bank of Pleasant Run.

The home's main (south) facade is five bays wide and features a symmetrical design. The center bay on the ground floor contains the main entry, which features a panel door flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a rectangular transom. This entryway is sheltered by a gabled awning roof supported by large, ornate brackets. This awning has a raked cornice with dentils and features elaborate scrollsawn detailing in the gable area and the supporting brackets. The other four bays on the ground floor contain large, segmental-arched window openings with limestone sills. On the second floor each bay contains a slightly smaller, segmental-arched window opening with a limestone sill. The roofline is decorated with an entablature consisting of a plain wide architrave, a dentiled frieze, and a cyma recta cornice. Large, scrolled brackets used in pairs are positioned on the architrave between the bays. The hipped roof features an offset chimney at either end of the facade.

The other facades of the house lack the symmetry of the main facade, while still employing the classical entablature and the segmental-arched window openings. The rear of the house originally featured a two story, L-shaped porch, but this was removed and the porch area was developed into living space sometime in the 1940's. The smaller, rectangular windows on the rear of the house were installed at this time. Of special interest is the dinner bell, hung under the eaves on the north facade. Installed when the house was constructed, this bell is protected from the weather by an extension of the roof and was used to call the farmworkers at mealtime.

The interior of the house originally featured eight fireplaces; of these, two are still in working order and retain their original wood boxes and mantelpieces. Most of the other woodwork in the house, including the staircase and the pedimented window trim, is original. Interior walls throughout the house are of brick and measure 18" thick.

Although this home was originally part of a large farm, most of the land was sold off early in the 20th century when the City of Indianapolis expanded to engulf the area. A parcel of land slightly less than one acre was retained with this structure. None of the original outbuildings remain in existence; the only other structure on the property is a frame garage built approximately 30 years ago.

Research as to the construction date of this home has been inconclusive. Thomas Moore's 1837 will mentions a "new dwelling house" still under construction on the property, but it is unclear whether the existing house is actually the same structure or a later home. One source indicates that the structure mentioned in the will was a larger, six bedroom home, but the validity of this source is questionable. Another source, published in 1947, states that this home was built in 1841, but this source is undocumented. Because of the rural nature of the area in the mid-19th century, legal documents of the period are too vague to be of any help. Stylistically, the home's main facade shows both Italianate and Federal style traits, while the pedimented door casings and classical fireplace surrounds suggest a Greek Revival influence. Because of this ambiguity, no accurate estimate of the home's construction date is possible at this time.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Cumback, Will and J. B. Maynard, ed. Indianapolis Men of Progress, Indianapolis: The Indianapolis Sentinel Company, 1899
Dunn, Jacob Piatt, Greater Indianapolis, Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1910.
Dunn, Jacob Piatt, Indiana and Indianans, Chicago: American Historical Society, 1919.
Nowland, John H.B., Prominent Citizens of 1876, Indianapolis: Tilford and Carlon, 1877.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Indianapolis East

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	5	7	7	4	9	0	4	4	0	1	8	5	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

Lots #49, 50, 51, 52 and 53 in Christian Park Heights, an addition to the City of Indianapolis, as per plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 18, Page 177.

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 John R. Gray/James O'Donnell

organization N/A

date August 30, 1979

street & number 4200 Brookville Road

telephone 317/352-0642

city or town Indianapolis,

state Indiana 46201

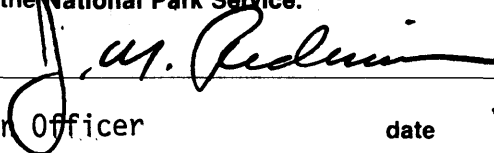
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

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 1-4-84

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the
National Register

date

3/15/84


Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration