

PH 0364398

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 6 1976

DATE ENTERED OCT 8 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

**

HISTORIC

Ely Homestead

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

NE of Lafayette
4106 East 200 North

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Lafayette

XX VICINITY OF Aretz Airport 2nd

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Indiana

CODE

018

COUNTY

Tippecanoe

CODE

157

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

(Mr. & Mrs.) Sheldon & Geneve (Ely) Pershing

STREET & NUMBER

4106 East 200 North

CITY, TOWN

Lafayette

XX VICINITY OF Aretz Airport

STATE

Indiana

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Tippecanoe County Courthouse, Recorder's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street at 4th Street

CITY, TOWN

Lafayette

STATE

Indiana

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Founder's Day Preservation Award

DATE

May 25, 1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Tippecanoe County Historical Association

CITY, TOWN

909 South Street, Lafayette

STATE

Indiana

7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ely Homestead is located in a rural agricultural setting two miles northeast of Lafayette. It sits on the highest rise in an area of gently rolling hills, and commands an impressive view to the northwest across the Wabash River Valley. It sets approximately 125 yards back from the road with a double entry drive and is shaded by several large maple trees. Behind the house is a two-acres, man-made farm pond. The modern farm buildings associated with the property are located nearby, but not so close as to detract from the classic beauty of the home's structure.

Built in 1847 the home exhibits the clean, beautifully balanced lines of the Federal style of architecture. It is built of softly textured brick burned on the site. The interior walls are of the original plaster except for the ceilings which have been replaced with new sheetrock. Chair-rails, window casings and wood trim are mostly original. The small amount which has been replaced matches well. All floors are the original random width oak wood and are in excellent condition.

Fireplaces, with original mantles, function well in the four front rooms. Modern dampers have been installed behind and above the firebrick.

After suffering several years of neglect, the home was purchased in 1971 by the present owners (great-granddaughter and husband of the original builder) and restored during 1972. The brick was gently cleaned and re-pointed (so called "Irish-weather-tuck"). Paint was removed from the bricks by hand with the assistance of an electric rotary sander. The front entrance had to be replaced, and after much searching, one of the same style and approximate age was found, retaining the small pane paneled casing. The dental trim at the top matches the gutter fascia or eve plate design. Cedar sawed shingles were procured for reroofing. Small pane (plastic inserts) give the windows their original appearance. The stairway in the entrance hall had been extremely steep and was rebuilt with a gentler incline and a square turn landing. Treads, rises and the cherry hand rail were carefully stripped, refinished and reused in the "new" stairs.

A single story wing which had extended at right angles from the rear of the home had been removed by previous owners. Using old photographs and remaining architectural clues, this wing was rebuilt, taking care to recreate the original proportions. This presented the opportunity to add modern kitchen and bath facilities to the total layout. A small brick patio on the west was added but is screened from view by attractive landscaping. A wooden deck porch to the rear, overlooking the pond is also screened from view by the main bulk of the house.

All rooms in the home have been attractively furnished with both modern and antique pieces, several of which are Ely family pieces original to the home.

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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ely Homestead is an excellent example of Federal style architecture as practiced in Indiana during the first half of the nineteenth century. Care has been taken to preserve or restore the simple lines of the original structure.

The Ely Homestead is significant in local history as the home of Henry Ely, one of the first settlers in Tippecanoe County. Born in Pennsylvania in 1779, Ely ran away from home, made his way through Ohio, and settled in Indiana in 1825, one year before the creation of Tippecanoe County. Having purchased the land from the original "letters patent" holder, he built a log cabin and set about clearing the heavily wooded land. His marriage license (1826) is the third one recorded in Tippecanoe County. In 1847, after 21 years of marriage and the birth of eleven children, the Elys built this "modern" (for the day) home. Ely was a successful farmer who was respected throughout Fairfield Township for his honesty and good character. The home that he constructed reflected his high economic status in a rich agricultural area.

Except for fifteen years (1956-1971), the house has been and is now owned by descendants of the builders. It will continue to be an example of a Federal structure in a rural setting.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Biographical Record and Portrait Album of Tippecanoe County, Lewis Publishing Co., Chicago, 1888, pp. 385-386. Copies are available at the Indiana State Library and the Tippecanoe County Historical Association.
 Tippecanoe County Historical Association Archives, marriage records and tax records.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A

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| 4 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 0 |
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

A five (5) acre rectangular tract located in the West half (1/2) of the Southwest quarter (1/4) of Section Twelve (12), Township Twentey-three (23) North, Range Four (4) West, described as follows: beginning twenty-five (25) rods West of the Southeast corner of said West half of the Southwest quarter and running thence West on the South line thereof twenty-five (25) rods; thence North and parallel to the East line thereof thirty-two (32); rods; thence East and parallel to the South line thereof twenty-five (25) rods; thence South on the East line thereof thirty-two (32) rods to the place of beginning, containing

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John M. Harris, Director

ORGANIZATION

Tippecanoe County Historical Association

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

909 South Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Lafayette,

STATE

Indiana

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 March 31, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Acting DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 2/8/96

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 9/29/76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

| | |
|------------------|------------|
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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Verbal Boundary Description continued

five (5) acres, in Fairfield Township, Tippecanoe County, Indiana.